

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Office of the Secretary****20 CFR Chs. I, IV, V, VI, VII, and IX****29 CFR Subtitle A and Chs. II, IV, V, XVII, and XXV****30 CFR Ch. I****41 CFR Ch. 60****48 CFR Ch. 29****Semiannual Agenda of Regulations****AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Labor.**ACTION:** Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: The Internet has become the means for disseminating the entirety of the Department of Labor's semiannual regulatory agenda. However, the Regulatory Flexibility Act requires publication of a regulatory flexibility agenda in the **Federal Register**. This **Federal Register** Notice contains the regulatory flexibility agenda. In addition, the Department's Regulatory Plan, a subset of the Department's regulatory agenda, is being published in

the **Federal Register**. The Regulatory Plan contains a statement of the Department's regulatory priorities and the regulatory actions the Department wants to highlight as its most important and significant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Franks, Director, Office of Regulatory Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room S-2312, Washington, DC 20210; (202) 693-5959.

Note: Information pertaining to a specific regulation can be obtained from the agency contact listed for that particular regulation.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Executive Order 12866 requires the semiannual publication of an agenda of regulations that contains a listing of all the regulations the Department of Labor expects to have under active consideration for promulgation, proposal, or review during the coming one-year period. The entirety of the Department's semiannual agenda is available online at www.reginfo.gov.

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 602) requires DOL to publish in the **Federal Register** a regulatory flexibility agenda. The Department's

Regulatory Flexibility Agenda published with this notice, includes only those rules on its semiannual agenda that are likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities; and those rules identified for periodic review in keeping with the requirements of section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. Thus, the regulatory flexibility agenda is a subset of the Department's semiannual regulatory agenda.

In addition, the Department's Regulatory Plan, also a subset of the Department's regulatory agenda, is being published in the **Federal Register**. The Regulatory Plan contains a statement of the Department's regulatory priorities and the regulatory actions the Department wants to highlight as its most important and significant.

All interested members of the public are invited and encouraged to let departmental officials know how our regulatory efforts can be improved, and are invited to participate in and comment on the review or development of the regulations listed on the Department's agenda.

Thomas E. Perez,
Secretary of Labor.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION—PRERULE STAGE

Sequence No.	Title	Regulation Identifier No.
348	Bloodborne Pathogens (Section 610 Review)	1218-AC34
349	Infectious Diseases	1218-AC46
350	Reinforced Concrete in Construction and Preventing Backover Injuries and Fatalities	1218-AC51

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION—PROPOSED RULE STAGE

Sequence No.	Title	Regulation Identifier No.
351	Occupational Exposure to Crystalline Silica	1218-AB70
352	Occupational Exposure to Beryllium	1218-AB76
353	Combustible Dust	1218-AC41
354	Injury and Illness Prevention Program	1218-AC48

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION—FINAL RULE STAGE

Sequence No.	Title	Regulation Identifier No.
355	Confined Spaces in Construction	1218-AB47
356	Electric Power Transmission and Distribution; Electrical Protective Equipment	1218-AB67

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION—COMPLETED ACTIONS

Sequence No.	Title	Regulation Identifier No.
357	Occupational Exposure to Food Flavorings Containing Diacetyl and Diacetyl Substitutes	1218-AC33

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)*Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)*

Prerule Stage

348. Bloodborne Pathogens (Section 610 Review)*Legal Authority:* 5 U.S.C. 533; 5 U.S.C. 610; 29 U.S.C. 655(b)

Abstract: OSHA will undertake a review of the Bloodborne Pathogen Standard (29 CFR 1910.1030) in accordance with the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act and section 5 of Executive Order 12866. The review will consider the continued need for the rule; whether the rule overlaps, duplicates, or conflicts with other Federal, State or local regulations; and the degree to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors may have changed since the rule was evaluated.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Begin Review	10/22/09	75 FR 27237
Request for Comments Published.	05/14/10	
Comment Period End.	08/12/10	
End Review and Issue Findings.	05/00/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No.

Agency Contact: Jens Svenson, Deputy Director, Directorate of Evaluation and Analysis, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3641, Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-2400, *Fax:* 202 693-1641, *Email:* svenson.jens@dol.gov, *RIN:* 1218-AC34

349. Infectious Diseases

Legal Authority: 5 U.S.C. 533; 29 U.S.C. 657 and 658; 29 U.S.C. 660; 29 U.S.C. 666; 29 U.S.C. 669; 29 U.S.C. 673; * * *

Abstract: Employees in health care and other high-risk environments face long-standing infectious diseases hazards such as tuberculosis (TB), varicella disease (chickenpox, shingles), and measles (rubeola), as well as new and emerging infectious disease threats, such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and pandemic influenza. Health care workers and workers in related occupations, or who are exposed in other high-risk environments, are at increased risk of contracting TB, SARS, Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*

(MRSA), and other infectious diseases that can be transmitted through a variety of exposure routes. OSHA is concerned about the ability of employees to continue to provide health care and other critical services without unreasonably jeopardizing their health. OSHA is considering the need for a standard to ensure that employers establish a comprehensive infection control program and control measures to protect employees from infectious disease exposures to pathogens that can cause significant disease. Workplaces where such control measures might be necessary include: health care, emergency response, correctional facilities, homeless shelters, drug treatment programs, and other occupational settings where employees can be at increased risk of exposure to potentially infectious people. A standard could also apply to laboratories, which handle materials that may be a source of pathogens, and to pathologists, coroners' offices, medical examiners, and mortuaries.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Request for Information (RFI).	05/06/10	75 FR 24835
RFI Comment Period End.	08/04/10	
Analyze Comments.	12/30/10	
Stakeholder Meetings.	07/29/11	
Initiate SBREFA ..	01/00/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: William Perry, Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3718, Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-1950, *Fax:* 202 693-1678, *Email:* perry.bill@dol.gov, *RIN:* 1218-AC46

350. Reinforced Concrete in Construction and Preventing Backover Injuries and Fatalities

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 655(b)

Abstract: OSHA published an RFI (77 FR 18973; March 29, 2012) that sought information on two subjects: 1) preventing backover injuries; and 2) hazards and risks of reinforcing concrete operations in construction, including post-tensioning.

Backing vehicles and equipment are common causes of struck-by injuries and can also cause caught-between injuries when backing vehicles and equipment pin a worker against an

object. Struck-by injuries and caught-between injuries are two of the four leading causes of workplace fatalities. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that in 2011, 75 workers were fatally backed over while working. While many backing incidents can prove to be fatal, workers can suffer severe, non-fatal injuries as well. A review of OSHA's IMIS database found that backing incidents can result in serious injury to the back and pelvis, fractured bones, concussions, amputations, and other injuries. Emerging technologies in the field of backing operations may prevent incidents. The technologies include cameras and proximity detection systems. The use of spotters and internal traffic control plans can also make backing operations safer. The Agency has held stakeholder meetings on backovers and is conducting site visits to employers. Current rules regarding reinforcing steel and post-tensioning activities may not adequately address worker hazards in work related to post-tensioning and reinforcing steel. Both are techniques for reinforcing concrete and are generally used in many types of construction. OSHA's IMIS data indicates that 31 workers died while performing work on or near post-tensioning operations or reinforcing steel between 2000 and 2009.

Currently, workers performing steel reinforcing suffer injuries caused by unsafe material handling, structural collapse, and impalement by protruding reinforcing steel dowels, among other causes. Employees involved in post-tensioning activities are at risk for incidents caused by the misuse of post-tensioning equipment and improper training. The Agency is continuing to seek information about injuries and hazards of reinforcing steel operations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Request for Information.	03/29/12	77 FR 18973
Comment Period End.	07/27/12	
Analyze Comments (Concrete).	04/00/14	
Initiate SBREFA (Backovers).	06/00/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: Jim Maddux, Director, Directorate of Construction, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N-3468, FP Building, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-2020, *Fax:*

202 693–1689, Email: maddux.jim@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218–AC51

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

Proposed Rule Stage

351. Occupational Exposure to Crystalline Silica

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 655(b); 29 U.S.C. 657

Abstract: Crystalline silica is a significant component of the Earth's crust, and many workers in a wide range of industries are exposed to it, usually in the form of respirable quartz or, less frequently, cristobalite. Chronic silicosis is a uniquely occupational disease resulting from exposure of employees over long periods of time (10 years or more). Exposure to high levels of respirable crystalline silica causes acute or accelerated forms of silicosis that are ultimately fatal. The current Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) permissible exposure limit (PEL) for general industry is based on a formula proposed by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) in 1968 (PEL=10mg/cubic meter/(% silica + 2), as respirable dust). The current PEL for construction and shipyards (derived from ACGIH's 1970 Threshold Limit Value) is based on particle counting technology, which is considered obsolete. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and ACGIH recommend 50µg/m³ and 25µg/m³ exposure limits, respectively, for respirable crystalline silica. Both industry and worker groups have recognized that a comprehensive standard for crystalline silica is needed to provide for exposure monitoring, medical surveillance, and worker training. ASTM International has published recommended standards for addressing the hazards of crystalline silica. The Building Construction Trades Department of the AFL–CIO has also developed a recommended comprehensive program standard. These standards include provisions for methods of compliance, exposure monitoring, training, and medical surveillance.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Completed SBREFA Report.	12/19/03	

Action	Date	FR Cite
Initiated Peer Review of Health Effects and Risk Assessment.	05/22/09	
Completed Peer Review.	01/24/10	
NPRM	09/12/13	78 FR 56274
Extension of Deadline for Submitting Notices of Intention to Appear at Public Hearing.	10/31/13	78 FR 65242
Extension of Comment Period.	10/31/13	
Scheduling of Public Hearing.	10/31/13	
NPRM Comment Period End.	12/11/13	
Extension of Comment Period End.	01/27/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: William Perry, Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N–3718, Washington, DC 20210, Phone: 202 693–1950, Fax: 202 693–1678, Email: perry.bill@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218–AB70

352. Occupational Exposure to Beryllium

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 655(b); 29 U.S.C. 657

Abstract: In 1999 and 2001, OSHA was petitioned to issue an emergency temporary standard by the United Steel Workers (formerly the Paper Allied-Industrial, Chemical, and Energy Workers Union), Public Citizen Health Research Group, and others. The Agency denied the petitions but stated its intent to begin data gathering to collect needed information on beryllium's toxicity, risks, and patterns of usage. On November 26, 2002, OSHA published a Request for Information (RFI) (67 FR 70707) to solicit information pertinent to occupational exposure to beryllium, including: current exposures to beryllium; the relationship between exposure to beryllium and the development of adverse health effects; exposure assessment and monitoring methods; exposure control methods; and medical surveillance. In addition, the Agency conducted field surveys of selected worksites to assess current exposures and control methods being used to

reduce employee exposures to beryllium. OSHA convened a Small Business Advocacy Review Panel under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) and completed the SBREFA Report in January 2008. OSHA also completed a scientific peer review of its draft risk assessment.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Request for Information.	11/26/02	67 FR 70707
Request For Information Comment Period End.	02/24/03	
SBREFA Report Completed.	01/23/08	
Initiated Peer Review of Health Effects and Risk Assessment.	03/22/10	
Complete Peer Review.	11/19/10	
NPRM	04/00/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: William Perry, Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N–3718, Washington, DC 20210, Phone: 202 693–1950, Fax: 202 693–1678, Email: perry.bill@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218–AB76

353. Combustible Dust

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 655(b); 29 U.S.C. 657

Abstract: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has commenced rulemaking to develop a combustible dust standard for general industry. The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) completed a study of combustible dust hazards in late 2006, which identified 281 combustible dust incidents between 1980 and 2005 that killed 119 workers and injured another 718. Based on these findings, the CSB recommended the Agency pursue a rulemaking on this issue. OSHA has previously addressed aspects of this risk. For example, on July 31, 2005, OSHA published the Safety and Health Information Bulletin, "Combustible Dust in Industry: Preventing and Mitigating the Effects of Fire and Explosions." Additionally, OSHA implemented a Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program (NEP) March 11, 2008, launched a new Web page, and issued several other guidance documents. However, the Agency does

not have a comprehensive standard that addresses combustible dust hazards.

OSHA will use the information gathered from the NEP to assist in the development of this rule. OSHA published an ANPRM October 21, 2009. Additionally, stakeholder meetings were held in Washington, DC, on December 14, 2009, in Atlanta, GA, on February 17, 2010, and in Chicago, IL, on April 21, 2010. A webchat for combustible dust was also held on June 28, 2010 and an expert forum was convened on May 13, 2011.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	10/21/09	74 FR 54333
Stakeholder Meetings.	12/14/09	
ANPRM Comment Period End.	01/19/10	75 FR 10739
Stakeholder Meetings.	02/17/10	
Stakeholders Meetings.	03/09/10	
Initiate SBREFA ..	04/00/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: William Perry, Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3718, Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-1950, *Fax:* 202 693-1678, *Email:* perry.bill@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218-AC41

354. Injury and Illness Prevention Program

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 653; 29 U.S.C. 655(b); 29 U.S.C. 657

Abstract: OSHA is developing a rule requiring employers to implement an Injury and Illness Prevention Program. It involves planning, implementing, evaluating, and improving processes and activities that protect employee safety and health. OSHA has substantial data on reductions in injuries and illnesses from employers who have implemented similar effective processes. The Agency currently has voluntary Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines (54 FR 3904 to 3916), published in 1989. An injury and illness prevention program rule would build on these guidelines as well as lessons learned from successful approaches and best practices under OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program, and similar industry and international initiatives such as American National Standards Institute/American Industrial Hygiene

Association Z10 and Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series 18001.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Stakeholder Meetings.	06/03/10	75 FR 35360 and 75 FR 23637
Initiate SBREFA .. NPRM	01/06/12 09/00/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: William Perry, Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3718, Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-1950, *Fax:* 202 693-1678, *Email:* perry.bill@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218-AC48

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

Final Rule Stage

355. Confined Spaces in Construction

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 655(b); 40 U.S.C. 333

Abstract: In 1993, OSHA issued a rule to protect employees who enter confined spaces while engaged in general industry work (29 CFR 1910.146). This standard has not been extended to cover employees entering confined spaces while engaged in construction work because of unique characteristics of construction worksites. Pursuant to discussions with the United Steel Workers of America that led to a settlement agreement regarding the general industry standard, OSHA agreed to issue a proposed rule to protect construction workers in confined spaces.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
SBREFA Panel Report.	11/24/03	72 FR 67351
NPRM	11/28/07	
NPRM Comment Period End.	01/28/08	73 FR 3893
NPRM Comment Period Extended.	02/28/08	
Public Hearing	07/22/08	73 FR 3893
Close Record	10/23/08	
Final Rule	02/00/14	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: Jim Maddux, Director, Directorate of Construction, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N-3468, FP Building, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-2020, *Fax:* 202 693-1689, *Email:* maddux.jim@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218-AB47

356. Electric Power Transmission and Distribution; Electrical Protective Equipment

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 655(b); 40 U.S.C. 333

Abstract: Electrical hazards are a major cause of occupational death in the United States. The annual fatality rate for power line workers is about 50 deaths per 100,000 employees. The construction industry standard addressing the safety of these workers during the construction of electric power transmission and distribution lines is nearly 40 years old. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has developed a revision of this standard that will prevent many of these fatalities, add flexibility to the standard, and update and streamline the standard. OSHA also intends to amend the corresponding standard for general industry so that requirements for work performed during the maintenance of electric power transmission and distribution installations are the same as those for similar work in construction. In addition, OSHA will be revising a few miscellaneous general industry requirements primarily affecting electric transmission and distribution work, including provisions on electrical protective equipment and foot protection. This rulemaking also addresses fall protection in aerial lifts for work on power generation, transmission, and distribution installations. OSHA published an NPRM on June 15, 2005. A public hearing was held from March 6 through March 14, 2006. OSHA reopened the record to gather additional information on minimum approach distances for specific ranges of voltages. The record was reopened a second time to allow more time for comment and to gather information on minimum approach distances for all voltages and on the newly revised Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers consensus standard. Additionally, a public hearing was held on October 28, 2009.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
SBREFA Report ..	06/30/03	

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/15/05	70 FR 34821
NPRM Comment Period End.	10/13/05	
Comment Period Extended to 01/11/2006.	10/12/05	70 FR 59290
Public Hearing To Be Held 03/06/2006.	10/12/05	70 FR 59290
Posthearing Comment Period End.	07/14/06	
Reopen Record ...	10/22/08	73 FR 62942
Comment Period End.	11/21/08	
Close Record	11/21/08	
Second Reopening Record.	09/14/09	74 FR 46958
Comment Period End.	10/15/09	
Public Hearings ...	10/28/09	
Posthearing Comment Period End.	02/10/10	
Final Rule	11/00/13	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: William Perry, Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3718, Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-1950, *Fax:* 202 693-1678, *Email:* perry.bill@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218-AB67

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

Completed Actions

357. Occupational Exposure to Food Flavorings Containing Diacetyl and Diacetyl Substitutes

Legal Authority: 29 U.S.C. 655(b); 29 U.S.C. 657

Abstract: On July 26, 2006, the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) petitioned DOL for an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) for all employees exposed to diacetyl, a major component in artificial butter flavoring. Diacetyl and a number of other volatile organic compounds are used to manufacture artificial butter food flavorings. These food flavorings are used by various food manufacturers in a multitude of food products, including microwave popcorn, certain bakery goods, and some snack foods. Evidence indicates that exposure to flavorings containing diacetyl is associated with adverse effects on the respiratory system, including bronchiolitis obliterans, a debilitating and potentially fatal lung disease. OSHA denied the petition on September 25, 2007, but has initiated 6(b) rulemaking. OSHA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) on January 21, 2009, but withdrew the ANPRM on March 17, 2009, in order to facilitate timely development of a standard. The Agency subsequently initiated review of the draft proposed standard in accordance with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA). The SBREFA Panel Report was completed on July 2,

2009. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is currently developing a criteria document on occupational exposure to diacetyl. The criteria document will also address exposure to 2,3-pentanedione, a chemical that is structurally similar to diacetyl and has been used as a substitute for diacetyl in some applications. It will include an assessment of the effects of exposure as well as quantitative risk assessment. OSHA intends to rely on these portions of the criteria document for the health effects analysis and quantitative risk assessment for the Agency's diacetyl rulemaking.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Stakeholder Meeting.	10/17/07	72 FR 54619
ANPRM	01/21/09	74 FR 3937
ANPRM Withdrawn.	03/17/09	74 FR 11329
ANPRM Comment Period End.	04/21/09	
Completed SBREFA Report.	07/02/09	
Withdrawn	08/22/13	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes.

Agency Contact: William Perry, Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-3718, Washington, DC 20210, *Phone:* 202 693-1950, *Fax:* 202 693-1678, *Email:* perry.bill@dol.gov.

RIN: 1218-AC33

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