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To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Cc: Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR)
Subject: 221 - NIOSH Regulatory Agenda for updating 42 CFR Part 84 Comments

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Comments

It is important for fire rescue services to be able to purchase replacement SCBA cylinders from various sources to ensure that we continue to have a reliable supply chain as well as receiving competitive pricing to conserve tax dollars. Anytime one has to purchase an item from a sole source, that pricing is generally far more expensive than on the open market. While SCBA manufacturers don't generally build their own cylinders and purchase them from cylinder manufacturers, the end user should be able to purchase them from several sources (it is the American way). Giving any manufacturer a sole source status adversely affects the taxpayers and contributors who fund fire rescue services. Additionally, there are other services that utilize SCBA (utilities, water plant operators, etc.) and need to purchase replacement cylinders with tax dollars. NIOSH should resist all efforts to narrow our purchasing power to only specific manufacturers.

Thank you for your assistance and consideration in maintaining an open market for efficient and effective government purchasing policies.