

**Miller, Diane M. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)**

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**From:** david.hines@wilmingtonnc.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 22, 2009 7:32 AM  
**To:** NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)  
**Cc:** Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR)  
**Subject:** 083-B - Supplied Air Respirators (SAR) Comments

**Name**  
David Hines

**Organization**  
Wilmington Fire Department

**Email**  
david.hines@wilmingtonnc.gov

**Address**  
801 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
USA

**Comments**

It is my opinion that cylinders for SARS should be tested independent of the air packs. DOT currently regulates this testing and in my opinion overregulates. It does not matter to me who does it as long as we ensure that they are safe and that the end user is safe. Including it as part of the SAR unit does nothing except tie us to those cylinders for that pack forever. Fire departments need to be able to shop and have competing vendors for the replacement cylinders. Our experience shows that if we could shop for bottles rather than being tied to the vendors cylinder, we could save a couple of hundred dollars per cylinder for a comparable product. Just do whats in our best interest and not whats in the best interest of the manufacture of the SARs. Thanks for listening. Please feel free to contact me at above e-mail if needed.