

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

From: Alerding, Linda (alerdilr) [ALERDILR@UCMAIL.UC.EDU]
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2008 4:59 PM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Subject: emergency response

To Whom it May Concern:

I read with interest the eight strategic goals and applaud the agency for leading this effort. The following comments are offered:

A. Could the first goal of 'Achieve a better safety climate' have training added as an element. This is critical to hazard recognition and avoidance.

B. Three aspects that might be included in the current framework:

1. a national registry of trained emergency responders and skilled support personnel

This would provide a pool of qualified workers for any event, in any geographical area

2. improved site security and entry/exit logs

This could be part of 'Improved engineering controls, technology and tools' but needs to be explicitly written as the prerequisite to limiting exposures.

3. improved understanding of alerting systems and evacuation plans

This would require a partnership for NIOSH with other leaders in public health and public policy; however, this is critical if workers are to be able to work effectively. It could be considered a foundation for the overall improved safety culture, or one of the tools to minimize exposure.

Thank you for considering these brief comments.

Carol Rice, Ph.D., CIH
Professor
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
Department of Environmental Health
PO Box 670056
Cincinnati OH 45267-0056

513-558-1751
513-558-1722 (fax)