OSHA Submits RFI for Revisions to Silica Standard for Construction

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In the August 15, 2019, *Federal Register*, OSHA released a Request for Information (RFI), seeking information which could assist OSHA in possibly revising its standards for respirable crystalline silica exposure. OSHA is interested in gathering information on the effectiveness of engineering and work practice controls not currently included for the tasks and equipment listed in Table I in its construction industry standard. The agency is also requesting information on tasks and equipment involving exposure to respirable crystalline silica that are not currently listed in Table 1, along with information on the effectiveness of engineering and work practice control methods in limiting worker exposure to respirable crystalline silica when performing those tasks. Finally, OSHA is requesting information and comment on whether there are additional circumstances where it would be appropriate to permit employers covered by the Respirable Crystalline Silica standards for general industry and maritime to comply with the silica standard for construction. This RFI requests comment and information, including exposure data, which could assist the agency in assessing whether revisions to the standards may be appropriate. Submissions in response to the RFI are due October 15.

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