

Dragon, Karen E.

From: Norgord, Justus [Justus_Norgord@fire.ci.san-diego.ca.us]
Sent: Sunday, August 29, 2004 3:37 AM
To: NIOSH Docket Office
Subject: SCBA ESLI Docket Number NIOSH - 034

August 28, 2004

Dear decision makers,

Please eliminate the federal regulation that prohibits an SCBA's low air alarm from notifying the user prior to 25%. It's very clear that firefighters are dying due to running out of air trying to exit the structure.

We have nothing to lose and so much to gain by making this change. One of the many options this change would allow is our ability to set the remaining service-life indicator at 50% on a 45 minute cylinder. By doing this, we have not changed our working time in the hazard zone but will realize a substantial increase in average exit time (6-9 min. increased to 12-18 min.). This is a massive increase in time and will result in lives being saved!

I place my full trust in your wisdom and ability to effect the needed change. By making this change, you will help tens of thousands of firefighters to return safely home to their families at the end of each shift.

Sincerely,

Justus L. Norgord

Justus L. Norgord
Firefighter/Paramedic
San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

9/3/2004