

MEETING LOG

WHAT: National Particleboard Association (NPA)
WHEN: May 21, 1996 9:30 AM
WHERE: CPSC Headquarters
ATTENDEES:

CPSC Staff

Lori Saltzman, EH
Murray Cohn, EXIS
Kailash Gupta, EH
Val Schaeffer, EH
Bob Franklin, EC
Ken Giles, EXPA

Industry Representatives

Brock Landry, Jenner and Block Attorneys at Law, NPA Lawyer
Rich Margosian, Executive VP NPA
Dan Hare, Technical Director, NPA

Other

Maureen Cislo, Product Safety Letter

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared

No Mfrs/PrvtLblrs or
Products Identified

____ Excepted by _____

____ Firms Notified,
Comments Processed.

5/31/96
MSB

Mr. Landry requested the meeting to update CPSC staff about industry activities related to formaldehyde emissions from particleboard and medium density fiberboard (MDF). In 1986, the Commission suspended mandatory regulatory activities and instructed the staff to work on voluntary standards. Over the years, NPA has provided CPSC with updates on industry activities. At this time, they especially wanted to share with CPSC staff the results of the NPA-EPA pilot home study on formaldehyde emissions in conventional housing, final report issued in March 1996. Details of the study were summarized by Mr. Hare. In 1993, EPA first proposed a 108 home study. After extensive discussions, the plan was modified to an initial pilot study and a more elaborate main study. Financial constraints limited the study to pilot testing in a conventional home (Cape Cod style) at one medium and two high product loadings. Testing in manufactured housing (medium and high product loadings) and one medium product loading in the conventional home were not conducted as originally planned in the pilot study. Results of the pilot study indicated that indoor concentrations of formaldehyde were below the 0.1ppm level of concern. Mr. Margosian reported that the industry is conducting exposure modeling to predict indoor concentrations in manufactured housing. They believe that modeling will also indicate low levels of formaldehyde. Mr. Margosian indicated that manufactured housing uses less formaldehyde emitting products than in the past, and is now largely limited to decking and cabinets. Mr. Margosian mentioned the current ANSI standards and believed that the vast majority of products that consumers would be purchasing would have been manufactured with materials that met the standards. The group discussed consumer information. CPSC staff discussed the existing formaldehyde booklet (1990) and Ken Giles mentioned the concept of updating

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applied REg 1512.6e CPSC

dates of manuf. 10/88 to 1/89 import 11/88 to 3/89
also sold retail and s distrib this time.\

20,500 Hardrocks
800 Rockhioppers

21,300 total pieces.

8,700 w/ distributors hense ltr.
12,500 w/ consumers and retailers.

no injuries first discovered materials problem in 2/15 and
reproted.

sd recieved 3 complaints by retailers of failure of stem cap
washer when torqued down tight.

Firm awaited our approval on parts "fix" and on letter. done on
3/3/89 o.k. now >M>onitor and reports of % corrected....