General Hydronics Plumbing, LLC

We are a small business in the New Mexico's construction industry, writing to express my concerns about the proposed Heat Injury and Illness Prevention in Outdoor and Indoor Work Settings rule.

While I recognize the importance of safeguarding workers from heat-related hazards, I am concerned that the proposed requirements may inadvertently harm both employers and employees in our region.

Specifically, the mandates for paid rest breaks, acclimatization protocols, and additional training could significantly reduce productive work hours. This reduction may lead to decreased earnings for workers who rely on hourly wages, potentially impacting their livelihoods.

Moreover, many construction workers in New Mexico are already acclimated to our state's climate and have developed effective strategies to manage heat exposure. Imposing a one-size-fits-all federal standard may not account for regional adaptations and could place undue burdens on small businesses like ours.

I urge OSHA to consider flexible guidelines that acknowledge regional climates and the existing practices of local industries. Collaborating with small business owners to develop practical solutions will ensure worker safety without compromising economic stability.

Thank you for considering my perspective.