

James Chapman

While I agree that emphasis needs to be put on Heat illness and prevention, I don't believe that this is a good remedy for the State of New Mexico. We have a very unique climate that can change drastically from day to day and trying to stay in line with the proposed changes would be very difficult to achieve for anyone. Not to mention the sizable impacts it will have on the cost of doing business and loss of production. I have been working in the EH&S field for the same company for 18 years and during that time we have not experienced a heat related illness. I attribute this to the strict company policies supported by the highest levels of management and proactive safety approaches taken on this very subject. I feel that this proposed rule would be devastating to some smaller companies who are already facing worker shortages and rising costs. I think that having a very strong, but not over the top, heat illness and prevention policy in place, to include training, routine site audits, and internal statistical data to support that it is working well, would be sufficient to keep our workers safe from hot indoor and outdoor climates. Speaking as a company in the construction industry, this proposed plan is only going to increase the cost of doing business and decrease production to the point that future projects will be put on hold or cancelled completely because it will just be too expensive to complete and thus will put families in a bad place due to the lack of available work. Please reconsider what you are doing as there are other less impactful ways to achieve improvement.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Chapman