Government Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency's final Risk Management Plan (RMP) Rule

EPA's <u>final rule</u> incudes a requirement intended to discourage (read that: phase out) the use of HF alkylation technology which many refiners use to make gasoline and other high octane fuels.

EPA says that the new rule finalizes stronger safety standards to protect at-risk communities from chemical accidents.

According to the American Petroleum institute (API) ... The EPA has failed to demonstrate a need for its rigid approach in this new rule, which could have adverse impacts to workers and consumers alike. Restricting the use of this proven technology could have significantly impact refiners' ability to produce the fuels that American consumers' rely on every day.

Fed-OSHA and National Demolition Association renew alliance -

to protect safety, health of demolition industry workers

January 18, 2024 - During the five-year agreement, the alliance will address industry hazards by developing safety and health training resources, and seminars that focus on building component reuse, repurposing, recycling and waste management

Cal/OSHA Standards Board Approves Revisions to Lead Standards

Proposed changes to California's lead standards were approved by the Cal/OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board on Feb. 15. This change will affect both General Industry Safety Orders Section 5198 and Construction Safety Orders Section 1532.1

- 8-hr TWA PEL from 50 μ g/mg³ to 10 μ g/mg³ and
- 8-hr Action Level from 30 μ g/mg³ to 2 μ g/mg³

The proposed rule was designed to maintain workers' blood lead levels (BLLs) below 10 μ g/d. The rule is not expected to become effective before Jan. 1, 2025.

Heat Illness Prevention in Indoor Places of Employment

Occupational Safety & Health Standards Board -GENERAL INDUSTRY SAFETY ORDERS, New Section 3396 3rd comment period ended mid-January 2024. Any news ???

February 28, 2024

Fed-OSHA and Restaurant Union discuss impacts of indoor heat in the restaurant industry.

The discussion highlighted experiences of restaurant workers with ways extreme indoor heat affects their health, safety and livelihood. OSHA officials discussed the agency's commitment to addressing heat hazards in both outdoor and indoor environments, prevention methods to mitigate risks.

Scientists Highlight Growing Risks From Humid Heat to Outdoor Workers in the Tropics

Yes ... According to the scientists, hot humid heat is a feature of daily life in the tropics and for the one billion outdoor workers in these regions, hot conditions exact a significant toll on worker health and labor productivity. As climate change threatens to bring more extreme heat and adverse impacts for these workers, a new study explores pathways to boost workers' resiliency to warming.