

NDA to Request Extension of Comment Period for OSHA Emergency Response Rule

Today, NDA will be submitting comments to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requesting a ninety-day extension of the comment period for the agency's proposed [Emergency Response Standard rulemaking](#) to September 20, 2024. OSHA's new proposal would implement a new safety and health standard for emergency response workers, including technical search and rescue workers.

The proposed rule includes changes in protective clothing and equipment requirements and would require employers to obtain baseline medical screening for all emergency responders and ensure continued medical surveillance for responders when they are exposed to the byproducts of fires and explosions more than 15 times annually.

Due the complex nature of the rule, NDA believes more time is needed for stakeholders to provide meaningful data and feedback on the proposal as well as for OSHA to engage stakeholders directly on their perspectives.