




**CHERIE K. BERRY**  
COMMISSIONER

**SCOTT MABRY**  
ASSISTANT DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION

**MEMO**

**To:** OSH Division  
**From:** Scott Mabry, Assistant Deputy Commissioner   
**Date:** June 25, 2018  
**Re:** Enforcement Launch for the Respirable Crystalline Silica Standards in General Industry and Maritime is June 23

On June 7, 2018 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a memorandum on the initial enforcement of the standards on Occupational Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica in general industry and maritime under 29 CFR 1910.1053 and 29 CFR 1915.1053, respectively.


During the first 30 days of enforcement, the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Division will assist employers that are making good faith efforts to comply with the requirements of this standard. If compliance officers determine during an inspection that the employer has made no efforts to comply with the standard, the supervisor will be contacted to determine whether to conduct air monitoring. In addition, citations should be considered for non-compliance with any other provisions of this standard. Any citations issued during the initial 30-day period will require review by the Bureau Chief and Director's Office prior to issuance.

Per this memorandum, the OSH Division of the North Carolina Department of Labor adopts the above-mentioned OSHA enforcement procedure for use in North Carolina. The referenced memorandum is attached.



JUN 07 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS

FROM:   
GALEN BLANTON  
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Enforcement Launch for the Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard  
in General Industry and Maritime, 29 CFR § 1910.1053

Most provisions of the Respirable Crystalline Silica standard for general industry and maritime, 29 CFR § 1910.1053, become enforceable on June 23, 2018. The standard establishes a new 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) permissible exposure limit (PEL) of  $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , an action level (AL) of  $25 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , and associated ancillary requirements.

During the first 30 days of enforcement, OSHA will assist employers that are making good faith efforts to meet the new standard's requirements. If upon inspection, it appears an employer is not making any efforts to comply, compliance officers should conduct air monitoring in accordance with Agency procedures, and consider citations for non-compliance with any applicable sections of the new standard. Any proposed citations related to inspections conducted in this 30-day time period will require National Office review prior to issuance.

Additionally, to ensure effective implementation and uniform enforcement of the new standard, OSHA has developed interim inspection and citation guidance to be released in the coming weeks. Regional offices are advised to contact the Office of Health Enforcement at (202) 693-2190 with any questions regarding enforcement of the new silica rule.