



Request for Information

Impact of Proposed Heat Stress Rule on Signatory Contractors' Business

Date: 11/15/23

Submitted by:

Need By: 12/1/23

Date:

[Link to Proposed Rule Text](#) | [OSHA's Questions Regarding the Rule its Seeking Feedback On](#)

RFI Description

OSHA is moving forward with a proposed heat stress rule that introduces measures for protecting workers from both indoor and outdoor heat hazards. The rule proposes mandatory heat illness prevention plans and underscores the importance of gradual acclimatization for new and returning workers to high-temperature conditions. For outdoor work, the rule introduces specific precautions starting at 80°F, such as mandatory rest breaks, access to shade and sufficient hydration. For indoor work environments, OSHA is considering the use of wet bulb globe temperature (WBGT) as a metric to assess heat hazards.

The “Rule of 20 Percent” within the proposed rule recommends acclimatizing new workers to heat by gradually increasing exposure: starting with 20% of the usual duration of work in heat on the first day (1.5 hours out of an 8-hour shift), followed by a 20% increase each subsequent day. The rule also proposes categorizing work into four levels of physical demand, which are: light (activities like sitting, standing, light arm/hand work, occasional walking), moderate (tasks involving normal walking, moderate lifting and pushing or pulling), heavy (intense arm and trunk work, carrying heavy materials, shoveling), and very heavy (very intense activity at fast to maximum pace, lifting more than 50 pounds regularly).

FCA International is gathering information on this proposed rule’s impact on our members to provide the FCA workforce committee as it considers the need to submit comments on this rule. **Please share what impact you believe (if any) this rule will have on your operations.**

RFI Response