Marianne Dreger

From: Delclos, George [GDelclos@sph.uth.tmc.edu]
Sent: Sunday, June 16, 2002 2:10 PM
To: Harber, Philip M.D.; Marianne Dreger ; 'Carson, Arch I' ; 'Cowl, Clayton T' ; 'Delclos, George' ; 'Eschenbacher, William, MD' ; Harber, Philip M.D.; 'Jolly, Athena' ; 'Jonathan Borak' ; 'Larry Lindesmith MD' ; 'Lockey, James' ; 'Markham, Thomas' ; 'McKay, Roy T., PhD' ; 'Raymond, Lawrence' ; 'Sherson, David' ; 'Smith, Dorsett D., MD' ; 'Stuart M. Brooks, MD' ; 'Townsend, Mary C' ; 'Velez, Henry' ; 'Wintermeyer, Stephen E'
Cc: Debbie Paddack
Subject: RE: Lung Committee Review of Position Statement on Indoor Mold

I strongly support Phil's comments. In Texas we are facing many of the same issues. The whole process, caveats and contingencies included, should be made clear before a statement such as this is launched into the public domain.

Thanks - George.

-----Original Message-----

From: Harber, Philip M.D. [mailto:PHarber@mednet.ucla.edu]
Sent: Sat 6/15/2002 11:05 AM
To: 'Marianne Dreger '; "Carson, Arch I' "; "Cowl, Clayton T' "; "Delclos, George' "; "Eschenbacher, William, MD' "; Harber, Philip M.D.; "Jolly, Athena' "; "Jonathan Borak' "; "Larry Lindesmith MD' "; "Lockey, James' "; "Markham, Thomas' "; "McKay, Roy T., PhD' "; "Raymond, Lawrence' "; "Sherson, David' "; "Smith, Dorsett D., MD' "; "Stuart M. Brooks, MD' "; "Townsend, Mary C' "; "Velez, Henry' "; "Wintermeyer, Stephen E' '
Cc: 'Debbie Paddack '
Subject: RE: Lung Committee Review of Position Statement on Indoor Mold

Thank you for sending this for review. A clear, written summary of background and purpose we greatly facilitate review. As most of you know, many consider this issue to be the "asbestos of the decade". Here in California, there are an enormous number of lawsuits involving stachybotrys, and this has become the new issue for Erin Bronkovich. The Los Angeles Times reported that the number of water damage claims has doubled and that many insurers will no longer cover mold damage.

I believe it is therefore essential that the process of development and review be carefully considered. Many of you may recall that the plaintiff bar sued officers of the American Thoracic Society when they released the statement on "diagnosis of non-malignant disease due to asbestos". .

Because of the extensive litigation, it is inevitable that our representatives will be subject to subpoena to describe the process.

Therefore, before we focus on the (more important) scientific issues, I hope we can define the process. Specifically: 1. Who appointed this committee? 2. Was this proposed statement developed in response to a request from the Board or Committee, or was the committee approached by its authors? 3.

Recognizing the "political" controversy, are we assured that the committee was appointed with attention to balance of viewpoints? 4. Will the document be reviewed by the Industrial Hygienists, since their organization has a somewhat different position statement? (not necessarily a correct one!) 5. Will ACOEM indemnify us as commentators if we are sued in the course of our organizational service? 6.. Should we request disclosure of