

The *Forest Industry Health Research Program (FIHRP)* has completed a literature review of toxicological and epidemiological research on chlorine and chlorine dioxide. A report is now available to members titled "**Chlorine/ Chlorine Dioxide: Review of Health Effects**". To request a copy, phone **Agi Lee** at the Pulp and Paper Forum at (604) 777-1533, send a fax to (604) 777-1567 or E-mail alee@paperforum.com. Non-members of the Forum may be charged for the reports.

This review was undertaken to examine the rationale of recent (1993) reductions in the Workers' Compensation Board of B.C. (WCB) chlorine exposure limits, and also to assess the possibility of chronic effects due to short term exposures to chlorine and chlorine dioxide.

The review is divided in 7 sections. Section 1 describes chlorine and chlorine dioxide sources and uses. Section 2 presents data on respiratory health effects due to chlorine and chlorine dioxide exposure. In this section, acute and chronic health effects are discussed as well as chronic health effects following peak exposures. Occupational exposure studies, and human and animal studies were reviewed for that purpose. In section 3, data on the interaction of chlorine and chlorine dioxide with other chemicals are reviewed and discussed. In section 4, a brief review of the data on other health effects such as chloracne, cancer, and reproductive health effects is presented. Section 5 highlights exposure limits and guidelines of several international jurisdictions and compares with new WCB limits.. A discussion of some of the data is presented in section 6 and conclusions are made in section 7.

CHLORINE/CHLORINE DIOXIDE: A REVIEW OF HEALTH EFFECTS

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