

**Miller, Diane M. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)**

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**From:** tramirez@fire.lacounty.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2011 8:07 PM  
**To:** NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)  
**Cc:** Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR)  
**Subject:** 147 - Reevaluation of the NIOSH policy on emergency escape support breathing system or buddy-breather device used with open-circuit self-contained breathing apparatus Comments

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**Comments**

For the safety of all emergency personnel NIOSH needs to eliminate the 1984 prohibition on buddy breathing. The changes in technology have increased the efficiency and safety of using a buddy breathing device.

Exposure to IDLH is eliminated and allows for rescue options that other systems do not offer. NIOSH approval of a buddy breathing system will initiate NFPA testing procedures, training and operational use standards.