

**Dragon, Karen E. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)**

---

**From:** paul.corso@fairfaxcounty.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 2:35 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

Name

Paul Corso

Organization

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Dept.

Email

[paul.corso@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:paul.corso@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Address

2700 16th St. S #658  
Arlington, VA 22204  
USA

Comments

For the safety of all emergency personnel NIOSH need 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.