

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

April 23, 2015

Jennifer K. Wagner, J.D., Ph.D. AAAS Congressional Fellow Office of Senator Edward J. Markey 218 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ms. Wagner,

We are in receipt of your letter dated March 31, 2015 containing questions relative to implementation of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (AHERA) in the state of Idaho. Unfortunately, we are able to provide answers to very few of them.

In 1988, by executive order of then-Governor Cecil D. Andrus, Idaho established within the Department of Labor and Industrial Services an AHERA compliance program, adopting the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) template establishing definitions, training, examinations, continuing education, qualifications, recordkeeping, deaccreditation, reciprocity, and electronic reporting as set forth in 40 C.F.R. Pt. 763, SubPt. E, App. C. The program was renewed in 1992 by Executive Order 92-21, again by the Andrus administration.

In 1995, incoming Governor Phil Batt chose not to renew the Andrus executive order and all responsibility for administration of the AHERA compliance program was assumed by the Region X offices (Seattle) of the EPA, where the program resides to this day.

According to state record retention policies, the majority of Idaho's AHERA program records have either been purged or archived. Due in no small part to the passage of 20 years, the archived records would be extremely difficult to access. My best suggestion would be to pose your questions to Region X EPA, which no doubt has the most accurate answers.

Please feel free to contact this office if we can be of further help in this matter.

As Always - Idaho, "Esto Perpetua"

C.L. "Butch" Otter Governor of Idaho