



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 05 2010

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Waxman:

As you know, beginning April 22, 2010, EPA's Lead, Renovation, and Repair Rule (LRRP) will require contractors that disturb lead based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built prior to 1978 to be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. Recently, concerns have been raised that there will be an inadequate number of trainers or renovators certified in lead safe work practices by the April 22 deadline.

I am pleased to report that our current numbers indicate a considerable increase in trained renovators and providers. As of March 29, there are 190 approved training providers, which include a number of national organizations that are providing training at multiple locations across the country. This has resulted in more than 4,400 courses offered to date. Moreover, an estimated 100,000 renovators have already been trained. Based on the current trends, EPA projects that an additional 1,200 training courses will be completed, and an additional 26,000 renovators will have been trained by April 22, 2010.

EPA estimated in the LRRP rule that approximately 200,000 renovators would need to be trained over the course of the first year of the rule's implementation. The Agency is well on track to meet this target. EPA has considerable efforts underway to both expedite the training, certification, and accreditation process and to further increase outreach efforts to renovators and contractors, as well as the general public. This includes a print and radio public service announcement (PSA) campaign which will highlight the benefits of hiring lead-safe certified firms. As a result, we are certain that the training capacity will increase significantly as the April 22 implementation date approaches, and that greater numbers of renovators will continue to be trained after that date.

For your information and use, attached please find a fact sheet that will prove useful to you as you respond to constituent concerns. We appreciate your support for this rule, which will result in greater protection for children and others from the debilitating effects of lead poisoning.

Sincerely,



Arvin R. Ganesan
Deputy Associate Administrator

Attachment

Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule

March 25, 2010

Background

- On April 22, 2008, EPA issued a rule requiring the use of lead-safe work practices aimed at preventing lead poisoning in children.
- On April 22, 2010, the rule becomes effective and firms performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified, individual renovators must be trained by an EPA-accredited training provider, and the firms and renovators must follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.
- Renovators are required to take 8 hours of training of which 2 hours must be hands-on training. This training is good for 5 years.
- Renovation firms must be certified by EPA. Certification is good for 5 years.

Training

- EPA has approved 184 training providers. Of these training providers, more than 90 are accredited to provide training in multiple states.
- A number of industry organizations are accredited training providers and are expected to train large numbers of renovators in their industry sector. For example:
 - *Pella Corporation* (a large window manufacturer and installer) is an EPA accredited training provider and has scheduled trainings in multiple states.
 - *The National Center for Healthy Housing* is an EPA accredited training provider and has conducted trainings in more than 10 states.
- Even states such as Arizona that do not have fixed training providers in their state have had training in their state. There have been 35 renovator training classes offered in Arizona, 18 in South Dakota, 19 in Montana, and 32 in Louisiana.
- As of March 22, 2010, training providers have reported that there have been more than 3,500 training courses offered and EPA estimates that more than 60,000 renovators have been trained.
 - 17 states have each had more than 100 training classes.
 - California, Massachusetts, Michigan and New York have each had more than 200 classes.
- EPA projects that by April 22, 2010, there will have been more than 5,600 training classes offered and more than 100,000 contractors and renovators trained.
- EPA continues to evaluate training provider applications and this number will continue to grow.
 - In particular, EPA has been working with the Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA) to accredit their local affiliates as RRP training providers. LiUNA has estimated that they can easily train more than 50,000 additional renovators.
- EPA's estimate of more than 200,000 renovators that will conduct renovation jobs in pre-1978 housing and in child-care facilities and schools is based on the total number of renovation jobs that EPA projected would occur between April 22, 2010 and April 22, 2011.
- EPA expects that even greater numbers of renovators will seek and obtain training once the rule has been implemented, and that any delay in the implementation date would likely result in far fewer renovators making a decision to complete a training program.