

Submitted by email on May 23, 2016

Dear Dr. White,

Can you please submit the following questions to be asked regarding the Synthetic Turf/Crumb Rubber Research Program to the June 15th NTP Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) Meeting?

1) I did not see if your study would include metabolites of the biofluid-leachate from crumb rubber. Will likely metabolites (known and unknown) of potential toxicants from recycled tire-based crumb rubber be tested for toxicity (cancer and non-cancer endpoints)? If not, why?

2) Can you explain how your tests translate to a human child's chronic exposure to recycled tire-based crumb rubber for play surfaces?

3) On May 19, 2015 the chair of the CPSC, in a testimony to Congress said there was a "political effort" to say something different than what the data suggested regarding the safety of recycled tire-based rubber for use in playground and artificial turf in their 2008 study. The following is a link to that testimony: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7crcxR8aYjo> (see the 1:30 to 1:50 marks). How can scientists guard against "political efforts" that may misinterpret or misrepresent their findings as was done to the scientists that worked on the CPSC 2008 study on recycled tire-based rubber products for play surfaces? I'm asking because there appears to be an effort going on to ensure recycled tire-based products for play surfaces are continued to be used regardless of the presumably deemed high-valued apprehension by the 2008 CPSC scientists surrounding its chemical safety. This is likely a much bigger question that scientists, in general, need to deal with, as scientists are often viewed as having an agenda if they publicly advocate any position, regardless of how much the current data supports their viewpoint, especially if the issue is highly politicized or if their viewpoints run counter to a politically influential lobby.

Thank you,
Judd

--

Judd Larson, P.E.