



Template for Final Public Comments on OSHA's Proposed Emergency Response Standard

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is proposing a new Emergency Response Standard to replace the existing Fire Brigades Standard. This proposed standard imposes numerous requirements that could shut down numerous volunteer fire departments across the country.

OSHA held a public hearing on the proposed standard between November 12 and December 4. During this hearing OSHA heard from 400+ witnesses and it became even more clear that OSHA needs more hard data and numbers from volunteer departments to assist them in receiving a clear understanding of the nation's volunteer fire service to minimize any harm done by the proposed standard.

OSHA is conducting a public comment period now through January 17, 2025, that will allow you to submit this data [HERE](#) in the public docket. Below is a template to assist you in submitting this data.

Do not worry if you cannot provide all of this information or are not comfortable making all of this information public. Please submit as much of this information as possible.

Tell Your Department's Story: Submit as Many of these Data Points as Possible

- Name of Department/District/Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)
- Type of Department/District/AHJ (Volunteer/Combination/Career)
- Address (City, State)
- Annual budget
 - If you can, also tell OSHA what percent of your current budget is expended on fixed costs such as debt repayment, insurance, utilities, fuel, equipment and training.
- Type of service entity (Fire/EMS/Rescue)
- Annual call volume
- Number of volunteer members
- Number of paid employees
- Number of interior firefighters
- Population served
- Square miles covered