

Where Are OSHA's COVID Standards?

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John Ho was quoted in *EHS Today* discussing why Secretary Walsh has chosen to hold back on publishing the ETS. Walsh has said the ETS is being suspended because the proposed standard did not “reflect the latest scientific analysis of the state of the disease.” John’s analysis of this statement is: “The focus on the state of the disease suggests Secretary Walsh and his team at OSHA realize that there is no longer an emergency due to the rate of vaccinations throughout the country, and many of the U.S. population will be vaccinated in a matter of months.” John believes that this particular eventuality presents a significant roadblock for OSHA because the Occupational Safety and Health Act does not permit the agency to issue an emergency standard unless the hazard the standard addresses poses a “grave danger” when it is issued.

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