



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

April 3, 2009

The Honorable Robert Wexler
House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wexler:

Thank you for your letter of April 2, 2009, regarding the presence of Chinese made drywall in recently constructed residential homes in Florida and the potential health impacts from exposure to the chemicals in those homes.

The Florida Department of Health, through the State Toxicologist and Indoor Air Programs Coordinator, has performed a preliminary assessment of a small number of homes in south Florida, collecting samples of drywall for laboratory analysis. The preliminary analysis of these materials confirmed the presence of several chemicals capable of causing corrosion in the complaint homes, which at sufficient concentrations could pose a public health hazard.

These findings suggest that testing of indoor air samples to determine occupant exposure to corrosive gasses should be performed. Enclosed please find attached a letter I sent earlier today, requesting assistance from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop and implement chemical testing strategies in homes that are experiencing severe copper corrosion associated with Chinese made drywall. Specialized resources within the two federal agencies capable of evaluating the corrosive gasses emitted from Chinese made drywall will greatly assist Florida in assessing any potential health hazard.

We will keep you apprised of the response from the federal agencies.

Sincerely,


Charlie Crist

CC/pk
Enclosure

Thanks so much my friend!