



COMMISSIONER  
Jon Weizenbaum

January 10, 2013

To: Adult Day Care Facilities, Assisted Living Facilities, Freestanding Hospice Inpatient Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Related Condition and Nursing Facilities

Subject: **Provider Letter 13-01** – Renovations that Pose a Potential Risk of Asbestos Exposure

The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services is issuing this letter to ensure providers are aware that an asbestos survey must be conducted prior to renovation activities that pose a potential risk of asbestos exposure to residents, staff or visitors of a facility, as required by the:

- [Texas Asbestos Health Protection Rules](#) in Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 295, Subchapter C; and
- [National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants](#) in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 40, Part 61, Subpart M.

On the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Asbestos Program home page <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/asbestos/default.shtm>, you will find a link to the TAC and CFR references bulleted above. You will also find a link titled "[Locate Asbestos Licensees](#)." This links to a public directory of licensed entities that can perform an asbestos survey and design an asbestos abatement project, if required. A plan for an asbestos abatement project must address preventing resident exposure to airborne asbestos or settled asbestos fibers that could be disturbed by normal facility operations.

For more information about the risks of asbestos as a carcinogen, you may review the fact sheet titled "ASBESTOS CAS #1332-21-4" issued by the Public Health Service Agency of Toxic Substances and Disease Registry of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, dated September 2001, at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts61.pdf>.

If you have questions about asbestos, please contact DSHS at (512) 834-6770 or (800) 572-5548. If you have questions about this letter, please contact an architect in the Architectural unit at (512) 438-2371 or a Life Safety Code policy specialist in the Policy, Rules and Curriculum Development section at (512) 438-3161.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Veronda L. Durden  
Assistant Commissioner  
Regulatory Services

VLD