



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**National Center for Environmental Assessment**  
**Washington, DC 20460**

14 January 2015

OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Additional Information Requested by SAB CAAC-Ethylene Oxide Panel

**FROM:** Jennifer Jinot, Chemical Assessment Manager for Ethylene Oxide, NCEA

**THRU:** David Bussard, Director, Washington Division, NCEA

**TO:** Aaron Yeow, EPA Science Advisory Board

This memorandum provides information regarding the recent requests from the SAB Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee (CAAC) panel augmented for the review of the draft IRIS assessment of ethylene oxide (CAAC-Ethylene oxide panel). Several members of the panel requested access to data from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) relating to the NIOSH ethylene oxide (sterilizer workers) mortality cohort study (published in brief by Steenland et al., 2004) and the breast cancer incidence study that was nested within the larger cohort study (published in brief by Steenland et al., 2003).

EPA does not have the requested information or the authority to share it; however, the data can be obtained directly from NIOSH. According to NIOSH, there is a request process that must be followed. Interested individuals must complete a data use agreement (DUA). Additionally, an official from the individual's institution with authority for signing such agreements would need to sign the DUA form. Each requestor should contact the following individual at NIOSH for additional information, the DUA form, and instruction: Dr. Brian Curwin (513-841-4432; bcurwin@cdc.gov).

**Additional information of note:**

EPA learned from NIOSH that each requestor can be provided access to analysis data files for the mortality study, and the files would include sufficient death certificate information to conduct statistical analyses of mortality outcomes. It is EPA's understanding that some data from the breast cancer incidence study may be available for analysis, but these would not include sufficient data for detailed analysis because NIOSH cannot release personally identifiable information regarding living individuals, according to the Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).