

Email Comments from Sarah McLallen, American Chemistry Council and DFO Response
March 2, 2011 9:14 a.m.

Dear Dr. Armitage:

On behalf of the American Chemistry Council, I write to thank you for facilitating participation in the EPA Dioxin Review Panel SAB conference call on March 1, 2011. However, there is one area of concern that it is requested you share with Dr. Buckley in advance of the second session on March 2, 2011.

In opening remarks on the conference call, the FACA process and opportunities for public participation through written and oral comments were described. It was noted during public comments that several organizations, in addition to providing oral comments, had also submitted written comments for SAB review. However, at no time during the in ensuing SAB discussions on charge questions 1-4, was there any mention made of issues raised in the written public comments. As you know, the solicitation of public comments is not a box checking exercise but an essential piece of EPA's peer review process. While it is certainly not expected the SAB would accept all the comments submitted, some discussion of the merits of the public comments among the panel would strengthen the transparency and scientific integrity of the SAB review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Best, Sarah McLallen

DFO Response - March 2, 2011, 11:10 a.m.

Dear Ms. McLallen,

As you know, all written public comments received for the March 1 and 2 teleconferences of the SAB Dioxin Review Panel were posted on the SAB website at the following URL for the Panel's consideration. I also informed the Panel about the public comments that were received.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/a84bfee16cc358ad85256ccd006b0b4b/2a487aa3750e94008525780d00597054!OpenDocument&Date=2011-03-01>

Given your concern, I will forward your email comments to the Panel and post your comments and my response on the SAB website.

Sincerely,

Tom Armitage

Thomas Armitage, Ph.D.
Designated Federal Officer