



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAR 23 2012

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Otto C. Doering III, Ph.D.
Chairman, Integrated Nitrogen Committee
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Doering:

I offer my sincerest thanks to you and the other members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board's Integrated Nitrogen Committee for your excellent work as reflected in the report, *Reactive Nitrogen in the United States: An Analysis of Inputs, Flows, Consequences and Management Options*, dated August 2011.

I praise the committee on the thoroughness and rigor of its analysis. The report provides a comprehensive summary of the current state of science with respect to nitrogen sources, uses, losses and impacts on human health and the nation's ecosystems. I also commend the committee for its comprehensive overview of the regulatory and nonregulatory approaches we currently use for reactive nitrogen, which, while effective, could benefit from an innovative and integrated overall nitrogen-management program.

We are also reviewing the committee's proposal to establish a nationwide 25-percent reduction in reactive-nitrogen releases to the environment during the next 10 to 20 years. Without careful analysis and further discussion, I cannot commit the agency to a specific policy goal of this magnitude. However, I will ask that the proposal be discussed in the context of future intra-agency and interagency efforts.

In the meantime, I thank you and the committee once again for your excellent work and your dedicated service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa P. Jackson", written over a printed name.

Lisa P. Jackson



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THE ADMINISTRATOR

Deborah L. Swackhamer, Ph.D.
Chairwoman
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Swackhamer:

I offer my sincerest thanks to you and the other members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board's Integrated Nitrogen Committee for your excellent work as reflected in the report, *Reactive Nitrogen in the United States: An Analysis of Inputs, Flows, Consequences and Management Options*, dated August 2011.

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