



THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

NOV 15 2012

David T. Allen, Ph.D.  
Chairman  
Science Advisory Board  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Allen:

I offer my sincerest thanks for the September 28, 2012, review of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ecological assessment action plan. We are grateful for the critical thought and effort you invested, and we are pleased that you found the action plan responds to the Science Advisory Board's earlier recommendations.

We consider it very helpful to know that the Ecological Processes and Effects Committee and the SAB find the agency's strategy to better integrate ecological risk assessment with decision making consistent with good scientific reasoning. The EPEC's insights and recommendations for implementation of the plan are greatly appreciated and are in the best tradition of the SAB's approach to adding value to the EPA's science enterprise.

I am instructing the EPA's science advisor and the Risk Assessment Forum to work with your recommendations to further develop the action plan. When the plan has been revised to address the EPEC's recommendations, it will be presented to the agency's Science and Technology Policy Council for comment and approval. These steps will ensure the action plan receives the attention of the agency's senior managers and should enhance the value and skillful use of ecological assessments at the EPA.

Thank you once again for your diligence and for bringing valuable expertise to the review of the agency's ecological assessment action plan.

Sincerely,

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

Lisa P. Jackson



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Ingrid Burke, Ph.D.  
Chairwoman  
Ecological Processes and Effects Committee  
Science Advisory Board  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Burke:

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