



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
EPA SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

August 21, 2009

John C. Hall
Hall & Associates
Suite 203
1101 15th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-5004

Dear Mr. Hall:

This is to respond to your letter of August 17, 2009 to Administrator Jackson. You requested that a two hour block of time be allotted to four public speakers representing the Municipal Coalition at the U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Ecological Processes and Effects Committee (EPEC) for the review of Nutrient Criteria Guidance.

Public input is a critical part of SAB advisory process. The SAB encourages members of the interested public to provide detailed written comments for the SAB's consideration in their discussion and deliberation. The SAB routinely provides the public an opportunity to make oral statements to highlight key written comments. The general practice is to allow each public speaker about 5 minutes to ensure that as many speakers who wish to present their oral statements to the SAB committee can be accommodated. Given the national importance of the EPA's guidance on nutrient criteria, the SAB is extending the public comment period to two hours.

I have forwarded your letter to Dr. Judy Meyer, Chair of SAB EPEC and Dr. Thomas Armitage, SAB Designated Federal Officer. The SAB meeting agenda will be finalized by the Chair who conducts the public meeting. We encourage you to submit written comments to Dr. Armitage at your earliest convenience for the Chair's consideration. Factors that will affect the chair's decision include the total number of individuals who request time to speak, as well as time considerations necessary to ensure completion of the committee's business.

Please contact Dr. Thomas Armitage at armitage.thomas@epa.gov should you have any further questions regarding the public input process.

Sincerely,

Vanessa T. Vu, Ph.D.
Director