



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

MAR 13 2003

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. William H. Glaze
Dr. C. H. Ward
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Glaze and Dr. Ward:

Thank you for your recommendations to improve the Agency's Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards Program and for your positive assessment of the quality of the papers nominated this year.

As you know, EPA made a number of changes to streamline future competitive cycles and enable applicants and their nominating organizations to receive feedback in a more timely manner. With this new schedule, it will be easier to implement and evaluate any additional improvements to the process.

A number of your recommendations will be easy to implement. Those concerning review articles and the need for nominations to reflect the value of the work to the Agency can be incorporated into the guidance issued for the next competition.

Some of your recommendations will be more difficult to address. With regard to advertising the program to increase participation, the call for nominations for the last two years was e-mailed to every EPA employee and contained a hyperlink to a complete set of instructions, guidance, and forms. If participation by non-ORD organizations continues to be lower than expected, then we may need to use other announcement vehicles. While I announce the winners, the actual presentation of the awards occurs within the respective nominating organization. This year we will be holding a reception for the winners at the 2003 EPA Science Forum in May.

Again, thank you for your thoughtful recommendations. My best wishes to you both.

Sincerely yours,

/Signed/

Christine Todd Whitman