



THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 31 2012

David T. Allen, Ph.D.
Melvin H. Gertz Regents Chair in
Chemical Engineering and Professor
Department of Chemical Engineering
Cockrell School of Engineering
University of Texas at Austin
200 E. Dean Keeton Street Stop C0400
Austin, Texas 78712-1589

Dear Dr. Allen:

I offer my sincerest appreciation to you and the members of the Science Advisory Board for your extensive work to evaluate science integration at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Your report makes clear that the Science Advisory Board and the Committee on Science Integration for Decision Making were very thoughtful in your efforts and sought participation from professionals throughout the agency. Science integration in decision making continues to be a high priority for me and for Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe.

I believe we are making great strides to increase science integration in the EPA, as evidenced by the Office of Research and Development's new process to align research efforts with the needs of the programs and regions. As the agency moves forward with implementing recommendations from the National Research Council's *Science and Decisions* report and considers the *Sustainability and the U.S. EPA* report, we also will continue to make progress on the issues you have identified.

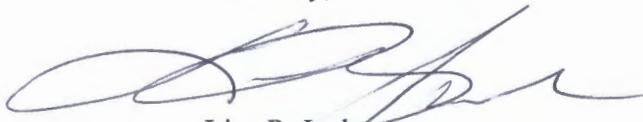
For example, the EPA is working hard to better formulate risk assessments and improve their utility for decision making. Indeed, a draft *Framework for Human Health Risk Assessment*, recently released by the Risk Assessment for external peer review, is much like the ecological risk-assessment framework cited in your report. This document includes planning and scoping, problem formulation and analysis planning to ensure that the information generated from the risk assessment can be used more effectively during the decision-making process.

I am asking Dr. Glenn Paulson, my science advisor, to consider your findings and recommendations and determine short-term and long-term actions to further integrate science within the agency. It would be helpful to Dr. Paulson to hear directly from you on the report findings and recommendations to ensure

the EPA can fully benefit from your work. To schedule a meeting, please contact Sharnett Willis at (202) 564-7866 or willis.sharnett@epa.gov.

In the meantime, I thank you once again for your efforts.

Sincerely,



Lisa P. Jackson

cc: Dr. Glenn Paulson,
Science Advisor

*This is such a important
set of recommendations.
Thanks!*



THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 17 2012

Thomas A. Burke, Ph.D.
Chairman
Committee on Science Integration for Decision Making
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Burke:

I offer my sincerest appreciation to you and the members of the Committee on Science Integration for Decision Making for your extensive work in evaluating science integration at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Your report makes clear that the committee and Science Advisory Board were very thoughtful in your efforts and sought participation from professionals throughout the agency. Science integration in decision making continues to be a high priority for me and for Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe.

I believe we are making great strides to increase science integration in the EPA, as evidenced by the Office of Research and Development's new process to align research efforts with the needs of the programs and regions. As the agency moves forward with implementing recommendations from the National Research Council's *Science and Decisions* report and considers the *Sustainability and the U.S. EPA* report, we also will continue to make progress on the issues you have identified.

For example, the EPA is working hard to better formulate risk assessments and improve their utility for decision making. Indeed, a draft *Framework for Human Health Risk Assessment*, recently released by the Risk Assessment for external peer review, is much like the ecological risk-assessment framework cited in your report. This document includes planning and scoping, problem formulation and analysis planning to ensure that the information generated from the risk assessment can be used more effectively during the decision-making process.

I am asking Dr. Glenn Paulson, my science advisor, to consider your findings and recommendations and determine short-term and long-term actions to further integrate science within the agency. It would be helpful to Dr. Paulson to hear directly from you on the report findings and recommendations to ensure

the EPA can fully benefit from your work. To schedule a meeting, please contact Sharnett Willis at (202) 564-7866 or willis.sharnett@epa.gov.

In the meantime, I thank you once again for your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lisa P. Jackson', written in black ink.

Lisa P. Jackson

cc: Dr. Glenn Paulson,
Science Advisor

Thanks so much Tom.