



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

AUG 09 2010

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Deborah L. Swackhamer
Chair
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Swackhamer:

I offer my sincerest thanks to the Science Advisory Board Drinking Water Committee for its significant efforts to improve the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's draft *Protocol for Microbial Risk Assessment to Support Human Health Risk Assessment for Water-Based Media*.

Working with recommendations the Committee provided in its June 18, 2010, formal review document, the EPA Office of Water's Office of Science and Technology intends to make significant technical and editorial improvements to the final document. The Committee's advice on improving the overall approach to microbial risk assessment and the clarity of the document will result in a product that is much more useful to the risk-assessment community.

The Office of Water is changing the title of the final MRA protocol document to better reflect its desired use. The document will be retitled *Microbial Risk Assessment Tools, Methods, and Approaches for Water Media*. It will be edited carefully to reduce redundancies within and between chapters and to establish better linkages between the chapters so that users will have an easier time transitioning between them and will have a better understanding of necessary products from each chapter for their application to subsequent chapters. In addition, further examples of successful MRAs, process-flow diagrams and other illustrative materials will be provided so users will have better understanding of the procedures and processes for conducting assessments.

The EPA continues to strive to make MRA tools, methods and approaches more robust and easier to use successfully in future research and risk-science efforts. We recognize that development of a detailed MRA protocol would be very useful to risk assessors, risk managers and contractors and possibly to states, universities and non-governmental organizations as well.

I truly appreciate the all of the SAB Drinking Water Committee's hard work in helping the Agency establish the best possible approaches, tools and methods for conducting its

microbial risk assessments. We look forward to providing the final product of this effort in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa P. Jackson', with a large, stylized initial 'L'.

Lisa P. Jackson



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

THE ADMINISTRATOR

AUG 09 2010

Dr. Joan B. Rose
Former Chair
Drinking Water Committee
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Rose:

I offer my sincerest thanks to the Science Advisory Board Drinking Water Committee for its significant efforts to improve the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's draft *Protocol for Microbial Risk Assessment to Support Human Health Risk Assessment for Water-Based Media*.

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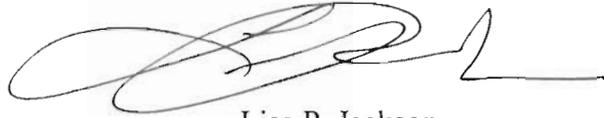
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Lisa P. Jackson



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AUG 09 2010

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Jeffrey Griffiths
Chair
Drinking Water Committee
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Griffiths:

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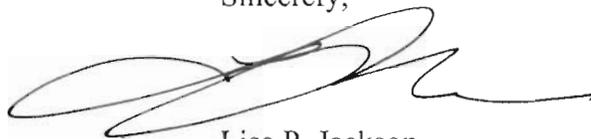
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Lisa P. Jackson