



# ORD's Office of Science Policy Science Policy Council

## *Factsheet*

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Science Policy Council (SPC) serves as a mechanism for addressing EPA's many significant science policy issues that go beyond regional and program boundaries. The Science Advisor to the Agency chairs the SPC, which is composed of senior managers from EPA programs, regions, and laboratories/centers. The SPC is supported by a Steering Committee of Agency managers and scientific staff, ad hoc workgroups formed to study specific topics, EPA's Risk Assessment Forum, and the SPC Staff. The Office of Science Policy (OSP) provides staff support to the SPC. OSP's SPC Staff supports the work of the SPC, its Steering Committee, and SPC-sponsored ad hoc workgroups.

With a goal of integrating policies that guide Agency decision makers in their use of scientific and technical information, the SPC works to implement and ensure the success of selected initiatives recommended by external advisory bodies such as the National Research Council and the Science Advisory Board, as well as others such as Congress, industry and environmental groups, and Agency staff. In this way, the SPC contributes guidance for selected EPA regulatory and enforcement policies and decisions.

The following is a listing, by no means comprehensive, of issues the Science Policy Council has addressed in the past or currently is working on:

- Peer Review Program
- Risk Characterization
- Cumulative Risk Assessment
- Program Assessment of Thyroid Follicular Cell Tumors
- Policy on Evaluating Risk to Children
- Council on Regulatory Environmental Modeling
- Interim Genomics Policy
- Handbook for Non-Cancer Health Effects Valuation
- Interim Position on Environmental Endocrine Disruption
- Framework for the Economic Assessment of Ecological Benefits
- Probabilistic Analysis in Risk Assessment

For more information on the Science Policy Council, contact SPC Staff members Kerry Dearfield at (202) 564-6486 or Ed Bender at (202) 564-6483, or visit the OSP Web Site at <http://www.epa.gov/osp>.