UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHARTER

ENDOCRINE DISRUPTOR METHODS VALIDATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Committee's Official Designation (Title):

Endocrine Disruptor Methods Validation Advisory Committee (EDMVAC)

2. Authority:

This charter establishes the Endocrine Disruptor Methods Validation Advisory Committee (EDMVAC), in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App.2 § 9 (c). EDMVAC supports the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in its scientific activities related to the validation of assays for the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program 1996 (63 FR 71542) required by the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act as amended in 1996 by the Food Quality Protection Act (21 U.S.C. § 346a(p)). The EDMVAC is in the public interest and supports EPA in performing its duties and responsibilities.

EDMVAC was originally created as the Endocrine Disruptor Methods Validation Subcommittee (EDMVS) under the auspices of EPA's National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT).

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities:

a.) EDMVAC will provide advice and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on scientific and technical aspects of the Tier I screens and Tier II assays being considered for the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP) The committee will evaluate relevant scientific issues, protocols, data and interpretations of the data for the assays during the validation process.

b.) EDMVAC will provide advice on the composition of the Tier I screening battery.

4. Description of Committee's Duties:

The duties of EDMVAC are solely advisory in nature.

5. Official(s) to Whom the Committee Reports:

EDMVAC will submit advice and recommendations and report to the EPA

Administrator, through the Director of the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program in the Office of Science Coordination and Policy, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

6. Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support:

EPA will be responsible for financial and administrative support. Within EPA, this support will be provided by the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program in the Office of Science Coordination and Policy, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Work Years:

The estimated annual operating cost of the EDMVAC is $445,000 which includes 1.5 person-years of support.

8. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

EDMVAC expects to meet approximately four (4) times a year. Meetings may occur approximately every three (3) months or as needed and approved by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). EPA may pay travel and per diem expenses when determined necessary and appropriate. A full-time, or permanent part-time, employee of EPA will be appointed as the DFO. The DFO or a designee will be present at all meetings, and each meeting will be conducted in accordance with an agenda approved in advance by the DFO. The DFO is authorized to adjourn any meeting when he or she determines it is in the public interest to do so.

As required by FACA, EDMVAC will hold open meetings unless the EPA Administrator determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with subsection c of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code. Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before the Committee as time permits, and file comments with the EDMVAC.

9. Duration and Termination:

EDMVAC will be examined annually and will exist until the EPA Deputy Administrator determines the Committee is no longer needed. This charter will be in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress. After the initial two-year period, the charter may be renewed as authorized in accordance with Section 14 of FACA (5 U.S.C. App.2 § 14).

10. Member Composition:

EDMVAC will be composed of approximately twenty-five (25) members. Most members, with the exception of members who are Federal officials, will serve as representatives of non-Federal interests. Members will be selected on the basis of their relevant scientific

expertise (e.g., endocrinology, mammalian toxicology, eco-toxicology, *in vitro* testing, biostatistics, wildlife biology, icthyology); diversity of perspectives on endocrine disruptor screening and testing methods and procedures; and standardization and validation toxicity test methods. Members will be selected from among, but are not limited to: the agrichemical and commodity chemical industries; environmental/public interest groups; industry and trade associations; Federal, State, local and Tribal governments; public health organizations; academia; and the general public.

11. Subgroups:

EDMVAC, with EPA's approval, may form subcommittees or workgroups for any purpose consistent with this charter. Such subcommittees or workgroups may not work independently of the chartered committee and must report their recommendations and advice to the EDMVAC for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered committee nor can they report directly to the EPA.

April 23, 2004
Agency Approval Date

April 28, 2004
GSA Consultation Date

May 6, 2004
Date Filed with Congress