



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

THE ADMINISTRATOR

DEC 22, 1993

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Creation of a Science Policy Council

TO: Assistant Administrators
Associate Administrators
Regional Administrators

Today, I am announcing the establishment of an Agency mechanism to address the many significant science policy issues that go beyond regional or program boundaries. Building on the Agency's previous experience with organizations such as the Risk Assessment Council, I am establishing a Science Policy Council with a broader mission as a replacement.

The goal of the new Council will be to integrate policies that guide Agency decision makers in their use of scientific and technical information. The Council will help address the concerns raised by the Agency Science Advisory Board, the National Research Council, and other groups about how the Agency integrates policy and science in decision making. It will also act as the principal interagency contact on major science policy issues. Attached is a Framework describing the Science Policy Council and the Steering Committee that will help the Council do its work.

The new Science Policy Council will draw on the perspectives of my appointees as well as career scientists and managers from throughout the regions and programs. I am pleased to announce that the Council will be chaired by Deputy Administrator Robert Sussman and the Vice-Chair will be Lynn Goldman, Assistant Administrator, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances (OPPTS). The members of the Council for the initial term will be:

- Lynn Goldman, Assistant Administrator, OPPTS
- Margo Oge, Director, Office of Radiation and Indoor Air in the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR)
- Gary Foley, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Research and Development (ORD)
- Karl Hausker, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy Planning and Evaluation (OPPE)
- Paul Keough, Acting Regional Administrator, Region 1
- William Muszynski, Acting Regional Administrator, Region 2
- Tudor Davies, Director, Office of Science and Technology in the Office of Water (OW)
- Michael Shapiro, Director, Office of Solid Waste in the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER)
- Donald Barnes, Director of the Science Advisory Board (ex officio)
- William Raub, Administrator's Science Advisor (ex officio)
- Sylvia Lowrance, Associate Deputy Administrator

Until an Assistant Administrator for ORD is confirmed, I have asked Gary Foley to represent that Office on the Science Policy Council. Similarly, I have asked Paul Keough and Bill Muszynski to represent the regions until my full team of Regional Administrators is confirmed.

As one of its initial tasks, the Council will designate a Steering Committee of career scientists and managers who will assess science policy needs on an ongoing basis, plan for meetings of the Science Policy Council, resolve issues that do not need the Council's attention, and oversee and evaluate the success of programs and regions in implementing new and existing Agency science policies. The Council will recommend candidates for the Steering Committee to the Deputy Administrator from nominations we have already received from the regions and programs or from among other individuals whom they may identify.

The Steering Committee members will be selected based upon their breadth of experience and expertise in science policy, ability to frame and communicate science policy issues for decision makers, and effectiveness in marshaling resources for identified projects. Bill Raub, in his role as my Science Advisor, will chair the Steering Committee. The members of the Steering Committee are expected to serve staggered terms to provide continuity and a constant influx of new expertise.

I am asking the Council to meet immediately after the first of the year to initiate activities. Its first charge comes in response to the urgency of the issues before us: to identify the highest priority issues for resolution and develop a process for resolving them. The Council will report back to me on these priorities within the first 60 days of operation. They must also work quickly to define their relationships with a number of group within the Agency, such as the Council of Science Advisors and Risk Assessment Forum, which have been working on issues related to risk assessment, peer review, and other science policy concerns. Similarly, it must work quickly to define its process for identifying science policy issues with other agencies.

To ensure that the Council and its Steering Committee have adequate resources, the Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation and the Office of Research and Development will provide staff support for both the Council and Steering Committee.

I urge you to give the Council and Steering Committee your full support because I believe their actions will provide enormous benefit to the way our programs work to protect human health and environmental well being.

/s/

Carol M. Browner

cc: Members of the Science Policy Council