

**Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Annual Peer Review Report**  
**Fiscal Year 2007 (October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007)**

**Purpose**

This annual report is a requirement under the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review. The report provides information for peer reviews that EPA conducted in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 that were subject to reporting under the Bulletin.

**Background**

On December 16, 2004, OMB issued its Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review. This Bulletin asks all federal agencies to submit an annual report to OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs providing information on peer reviews that were subject to the Bulletin and conducted during the previous fiscal year. The Bulletin establishes minimum peer review provisions for all non-exempt "influential scientific information" and "highly influential scientific assessments." The Bulletin defines "influential scientific information" as "scientific information the agency reasonably can determine will have or does have a clear and substantial impact on important public policies or private sector decisions." A scientific assessment is an evaluation of a body of scientific or technical knowledge that typically synthesizes multiple factual inputs, data, models, assumptions, and/or applies best professional judgment to bridge uncertainties in the available information. The Bulletin considers a "scientific assessment" to be "highly influential" if the agency or OMB determines that the dissemination could have a potential impact of more than \$500 million in any one year on either the public or private sector, or that the dissemination is novel, controversial, precedent-setting, or has significant interagency interest. More information on the Bulletin can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy2005/m05-03.pdf> or in the *Science Policy Council Peer Review Handbook, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* at <http://www.epa.gov/peerreview/>.

**Section I:** Summary Page for Department (if Applicable) **Section I is not applicable to EPA.**

**Section II.** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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URL for Agency's Peer Review Agenda [http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si\\_pr\\_agenda.cfm](http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si_pr_agenda.cfm)

- What pathway(s) can a member of the public use to find the Agency's peer review agenda if she/he did not have this URL?
  - Link from Departmental or Agency home page – Link to Peer Review home page, which then links to Peer Review Agenda
  - Link from Information Quality home page – Yes  
<http://www.epa.gov/quality/informationguidelines/index.html>
  - Link from science, research, or regulatory pages - Yes
    - Office of Research and Development/Office of Science Policy home page <http://www.epa.gov/osp/>
    - Science Inventory Home Page <http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/>
  - Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the agenda provide links to the peer review plans for upcoming peer reviews? Yes
- Does the agenda provide links to peer review reports for all completed peer reviews? Yes

Number of peer reviews conducted subject to the Bulletin in FY07 (note: include all peer reviews conducted, regardless of whether the peer review report has been completed):

Number of influential scientific information peer reviews (ISI) (not including highly influential scientific assessments): 8

Number of highly influential scientific assessments (HISA): 7

### Peer Reviews Conducted in FY2007 of Influential Scientific Information

	Title	Product Completed	PR Report Completed
ORD	IRIS HEALTH ASSESSMENT OF 2,2',4,4'-TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER (BDE-47) CASRN 5436-43-12, 2',4,4',5-PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER (BDE-99) CASRN 60348-60-92, 2',4,4',5,5'-HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER (BDE-153) CASRN 68631-49-22, 2',3,3',4'4',5,5',6,6'-DECABROMODIPHENYL ETHER (BDE-209) CASRN 1163-19-5	No	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR 1,1,1 - TRICHLOROETHANE	Yes	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR BROMOBENZENE	No	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR NITROBENZENE	No	Yes
ORD	EPA'S 2007 REPORT ON THE ENVIRONMENT	No	No
ORD	CHILD-SPECIFIC EXPOSURE FACTORS HANDBOOK	No	Yes
ORD	SEDIMENT TOXICITY IDENTIFICATION EVALUATION (TIE) PHASE I,II,III GUIDANCE DOCUMENT	Yes	Yes
OW	TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENT VOLUME 3: DEVELOPMENT OF SITE-SPECIFIC BIOACCUMULATION FACTORS	Yes	Yes

### Peer Reviews Conducted in FY2007 of Highly Influential Scientific Assessments

	Title	Product Completed	PR Report Completed
OAR	REVIEW OF NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS (NAAQS) FOR OZONE – EXPOSURE ANALYSIS	Yes	*
OAR	REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS (NAAQS) FOR OZONE – HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT	Yes	*
OAR	REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS (NAAQS) FOR OZONE (O3) STAFF PAPER	Yes	*
OAR	LEAD NAAQS RISK ASSESSMENTS	Yes	*
OAR	SECOND GENERATION MODEL	No	Yes
ORD	NATIONAL COASTAL CONDITION REPORT III	No	No
ORD	EVALUATION OF AN ALTERNATIVE ASBESTOS METHOD FOR BUILDING DEMOLITION	No	No

\*Due to the iterative nature of the process for developing NAAQS, a separate peer review report is not produced for each stage of the review. The Science Advisory Board Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) review process for each NAAQS is thoroughly documented on the CASAC website: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabpeople.nsf/WebCommittees/CASAC> .

An alternative procedure was used once (commissioned NRC report).

There were no Waivers, Deferrals, or Exemptions invoked.

No peer reviews included a least one peer reviewer appointed pursuant to any exception to the applicable independence or conflict of interest standards of the Bulletin, including determinations by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary pursuant to Section III (3) (c).

Number of peer review panels that held public meetings:

Number of ISIs (not including highly influential scientific assessments): 6

Number of HISAs: 6

Number of peer review panels that allowed public comment:

Number of ISIs (not including highly influential scientific assessments): 6

Number of HISAs: 6

Number of public comments provided on the agency's peer review plans during FY 07, regardless of whether the peer review was actually completed during FY 07: 4

Number of times EPA specifically solicited peer reviewer nominations from professional societies: 3

If such nominations were solicited, were any recommendations provided? Yes