

**Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Annual Peer Review Report**  
**Fiscal Year 2008(October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008)**

**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) 2008 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.

For the purposes of this report, a peer review was considered completed if the reviewers' final comments were received in FY2008, regardless of whether the Agency has completed the response to the comments or incorporated revisions based on the comments into the final product.

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/>.

I. Summary Page for Department (if Applicable) (Section I is not applicable.)

II. Agency Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agency U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Agency Contact for Implementation of the Peer Review Bulletin

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URL for Agency's Peer Review Agenda [http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si\\_public\\_pr\\_agenda.cfm](http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si_public_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 peer review reports for all completed peer reviews?

Yes

INFORMATION ABOUT REVIEWS CONDUCTED

Number of peer reviews conducted subject to the Bulletin in FY 08.

Number of influential scientific information peer reviews (ISI) (not including highly influential scientific assessments): 14

List the title of each ISI. Indicate whether the Peer Review Report has been completed (Y/N) *add more lines as needed*

Office	Title	PR Report Completed
ORD	SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF THE CAUSES OF THE FORMATION AND PERSISTENCE OF HYPOXIC CONDITIONS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR PROPIONALDEHYDE	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXOCOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMETNS FOR CERIUM OXIDE (STABLE) AND COMPOUNDS	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR 1,2,3-TRICHLOROPROPANE	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR BERYLLIUM	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR CARBON TETRACHLORIDE	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR ETHYLENE GLYCOL MONOBUTYL ETHER	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR 2-HEXANONE	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR CHLORDECONE	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR TETRAHYDROFURAN	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR THALLIUM	Yes
OAR	EMISSION INVENTORIES FOR OCEAN-GOING VESSELS USING CATEGORY 3 PROPULSION ENGINES IN OR NEAR THE U.S.	No
OSWER	MATERIALS SUPPORTING THE STANDARDS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COAL COMBUSION WASTES PART 1 AND 2	No
OSWER	RISK ASSESSMENT SUPPORTING THE FINAL RULE FOR SOLVENT-CONTAMINATED WIPES	Yes

Number of highly influential scientific assessments (HISA): 17

List the title of each HISA. Indicate whether the Peer Review Report has been Completed (Y/N) *add more lines as needed*

Office	Title	PR Report Completed
ORD	INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT FOR OXIDES OF NITROGEN - HEALTH CRITERIA (FINAL REPORT)	Yes
ORD	INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT (ISA) FOR SULFUR OXIDES - HEALTH CRITERIA (FINAL) - ANNEXES	Yes
ORD	SCIENCE ASSESSMENT FOR THE OXIDES OF NITROGEN	Yes
ORD	INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT (ISA) FOR SULFUR OXIDES - HEALTH CRITERIA (FINAL REPORT)	Yes
ORD	INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT FOR OXIDES OF NITROGEN - HEALTH CRITERIA (SECOND EXTERNAL REVIEW DRAFT)	Yes
ORD	INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT (ISA) FOR SULFUR OXIDES - HEALTH CRITERIA (SECOND EXTERNAL REVIEW DRAFT)	Yes
ORD	ANNEXES FOR THE INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT FOR OXIDES OF NITROGEN - HEALTH CRITERIA	Yes
ORD	OXIDES OF NITROGEN - INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT	Yes
ORD	INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT (ISA) ON HEALTH EFFECTS FOR SULFUR DIOXIDE (PRIMARY NAAQS REVIEW)	Yes
ORD	INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT (ISA) FOR SULFUR OXIDES – HEALTH CRITERIA ANNEXES (SECOND EXTERNAL REVIEW DRAFT)	Yes
ORD	NITROGEN DIOXIDE SECONDARY NAAQS REVIEW: INTEGRATED SCIENCE ASSESSMENT	Yes
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR ACRYLAMIDE	No
ORD	IRIS TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS FOR ETHYLENE DIOXIDE	Yes
OAR	A STUDY OF POTENTIAL EFFECTIVENESS OF CARBON DIOXIDE REDUCING VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES BY PERRIN QUARLES ASSOCIATES AND ITS CONTRACTOR RICARDO, INC.	Yes
OAR	COASTAL SENSITIVITY TO SEA LEVEL RISE: A FOCUS ON THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION (CCSP 4.1)	Yes
OAR	SYNTHESIS AND ASSESSMENT PRODUCT 4.6. ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTS OF GLOBAL CHANGE ON HUMAN HEALTH AND WELFARE AND HUMAN SYSTEMS	Yes
OAR	SYNTHESIS AND ASSESSMENT PRODUCT 4.4: PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF ADAPTATION OPTIONS FOR CLIMATE SENSITIVE ECOSYSTEMS AND RESOURCES	Yes

\*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> .

Provide the titles of ISIs and HISIs for which Waivers (W), Deferrals (D), or Exemptions (E) were invoked or Alternative Procedures used (A). *If deferral is marked, please indicate the duration of the deferral.*

No waivers, deferrals, or exemptions were invoked.

Number of peer reviews that included at 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)? 0

Number of peer review panels that held public meetings:

Number of ISIs (not including highly influential scientific assessments): 11

Number of HISAs: 16

Number of peer review panels that allowed public comment:

Number of ISIs (not including highly influential scientific assessments): 11

Number of HISAs: 14

Number of public comments provided on the agency's peer review plans during FY 08, regardless of whether the peer review was actually completed during FY 08: 3

Number of times agency specifically solicited peer reviewer nominations from professional societies. 12\*

If such nominations were solicited, were any recommendations provided? No

\*Nominations were solicited from the public, including professional societies.