



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

February 9, 2004

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
EPA SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

EPA-SAB-RAC-CON-04-001

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Subject: Second Consultation on Multi-Agency Radiation Site Survey Investigation Manual (MARSSIM) Supplements for Materials & Equipment (MARSAME): A Science Advisory Board Notification of a Consultation

Dear Administrator Leavitt:

The Radiation Advisory Committee (RAC) of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) met on October 21 and 22, 2003 to conduct a second consultation with staff from the EPA's Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA), and the Federal MARSSIM Work Group, comprised of members of the U.S. EPA, Department of Energy, Department of Defense, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to review the progress to date and future plans for creating a technical manual for the MARSSIM Supplement for Materials & Equipment (MARSAME). It is important to note that the Federal MARSSIM Work Group came back to the SAB's RAC for this consultation as a follow-up to suggestions made by the SAB's RAC in a review of MARSSIM in 1997 (See EPA-SAB-RAC-97-008, dated September 30, 1997). We conducted the first consultation on this topic on February 25-27, 2003, resulting in a notification of a consultation (EPA-SAB-RAC-CON-03-002) dated February 27, 2003.

The SAB has developed the Consultation as a mechanism to advise the Agency on technical issues that should be considered in the development of regulations, guidelines, or technical guidance before the Agency has taken a position. A Consultation is conducted under the normal requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which include advance notice of the public meeting in the Federal Register.

As is our customary practice, there will be no formal report from the SAB as a result of this Consultation, nor do we expect any formal response from the Agency. However, the

Committee looks forward to a full peer review of this MARSSIM supplement (MARSAME) as a separate subject matter from this exercise when the Federal MARSSIM Work Group is ready with their written draft within a year or so.

Sincerely,

/Signed/

Dr. William Glaze, Chair
EPA Science Advisory Board

/Signed/

Dr. Janet A. Johnson, Chair
Radiation Advisory Committee
EPA Science Advisory Board

NOTICE

This report has been written as part of the activities of the EPA Science Advisory Board, a public advisory group providing extramural scientific information and advice to the Administrator and other officials of the Environmental Protection Agency. The Board is structured to provide balanced, expert assessment of scientific matters related to problems facing the Agency. This report has not been reviewed for approval by the Agency and, hence, the contents of this report do not necessarily represent the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor of other agencies in the Executive Branch of the Federal government, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute a recommendation for use.

Distribution and Availability: This EPA Science Advisory Board report is provided to the EPA Administrator, senior Agency management, appropriate program staff, interested members of the public, and is posted on the SAB website (www.epa.gov/sab). Additional copies and further information are available from the SAB Staff [US EPA Science Advisory Board (1400A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; 202-564-4533].

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¹ Dr. Vetter was unable to participate in this consultation, due to a schedule conflict.

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