September 27, 2012

Catherine M. Crispi, Ph.D.
UCLA Cancer Prevention & Control Research
Fielding School of Public Health
Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center
650 Charles Young Drive South
A2-125 CHS, Box 956900
Los Angeles, California 90095-6900

PEER REVIEW OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OF SURVEY APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY TO ESTIMATE MERCURY THERMOSTATS BECOMING WASTE IN CALIFORNIA

Dear Professor Crispi:

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is developing regulations to implement the Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2008. As part of this rulemaking, DTSC is required to develop "...a methodology for ... [calculating] ... the number of out-of-service mercury-added thermostats becoming waste annually." DTSC proposes to use the results of a study of California households and businesses as the basis for this methodology. The study is summarized in Attachment 1 and laid out in greater detail in Attachment 4. DTSC is requesting external peer review of the study's general approach and methodology.

My letter today is intended to initiate the next phase of the external review – the actual review itself. Enclosed with this letter are the following:

- The September 17, 2012 request for external reviewers, signed by me, including eight attachments:
  2. Description of Scientific Conclusions to be addressed by Peer Reviewers.
3. List of Project Participants.


Comments on the foregoing:

1. You have been sent the request letter during the solicitation process for reviewer candidates conducted by the University of California.

2. Attachment 2 (Description of Scientific Conclusions to be addressed by Peer Reviewers) provides focus for the review. I ask that you address all topics, as expertise allows, in the order listed.

3. The January 7, 2009 supplement provides guidance to ensure the review is kept confidential through its course. The Supplement notes that reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third-parties after reviews have been submitted. *We recommend they do not.* All outside parties are provided opportunities to address a proposed regulatory action through a well-defined regulatory process: Please direct third-party inquiries to me.

Please return your review directly to me. Questions about the review, or review material, should be for clarification, in writing—email is fine—and addressed to me. My responses will also be in writing. Please do not contact the State Water Resources Control Board. All of this information will be posted on DTSC’s program website and on the State and Regional Water Board’s Scientific Peer Review website.
My sincere thanks for accepting this review assignment. I would appreciate your completed review by November 3, 2012. My contact information is kpalmer@dtsc.ca.gov or 916-445-2625.

Sincerely,

Karl Palmer, Chief
Toxics in Products Branch
Office of Pollution Prevention and Green Technology
Department of Toxic Substances Control

Attachments

cc: Gerald Bowes, Ph.D.
Supervising Staff Toxicologist
Office of Research, Planning and Performance
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Mr. Andre Algazi
Supervising Hazardous Substances Scientist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

Neena Sahasrabudhe, Ph.D.
Hazardous Substances Scientist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806
September 27, 2012

Nicholas P. Jewell, Ph.D.
Professor of Biostatistics and Statistics
School of Public Health
University of California, Berkeley
108 Hazel Lane
Piedmont, California 94611

PEER REVIEW OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OF SURVEY APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY TO ESTIMATE MERCURY THERMOSTATS BECOMING WASTE IN CALIFORNIA

Dear Professor Jewell:

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