

Joan Denton, M.S., Ph.D.
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[Joan E. Denton](#) M.S., Ph.D.

Dr. Denton has been the Director of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) since November 1997.

The Director of OEHHA is responsible for the performance of the scientific risk assessments for the regulation of chemicals in the environment, and for providing information about the health and environmental risks of chemicals to government agencies and the public. The Director is also responsible the oversight of activities for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986.

Dr. Denton earned a bachelor's degree in zoology from the University of San Francisco and a master's degree in biology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She earned a Ph.D. in biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Before her appointment Dr. Denton was a Senior Air Pollution Specialist for the California Air Resources Board where she worked to plan and implement the various programs of the toxic air contaminant identification program and managed the technical staff who develop reports on exposure to toxic air contaminants. Previously, she was a Research Specialist for the Air Resources Board Executive Office, Stationary Source Division and the Research Division.

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