Message

From: Brazauskas, Joseph [Joseph.Brazauskas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: 4/23/2018 9:51:37 PM
To: Ringel, Aaron [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1654bdc951284a6d899a418a89fb0abf-Ringel, Aar]
Subject: RE: For Review: Science Transparency News Release

Will coordinate with our press team, thank you.

From: Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 5:48 PM
To: Brazauskas, Joseph <Joseph.Brazauskas@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Fwd: For Review: Science Transparency News Release

Think we could get a statement from the Chairman we could add?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Bowman, Liz" <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
> **Date:** April 23, 2018 at 5:37:19 PM EDT
> **To:** "Woods, Clint" <woods.clint@epa.gov>, "Bolen, Brittany" <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>, "Yamada, Richard (Yujiro)" <yamada.richard@epa.gov>, "Baptist, Erik" <Baptist.Erik@epa.gov>, "Beck, Nancy" <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>
> **Cc:** "Gordon, Stephen" <gordon.stephen@epa.gov>, "Letendre, Daisy" <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>, "Konkus, John" <konkus.john@epa.gov>, "Beach, Christopher" <beach.christopher@epa.gov>, "Ringel, Aaron" <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>, "Palich, Christian" <palich.christian@epa.gov>, "Jackson, Ryan" <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>
> **Subject: For Review: Science Transparency News Release**
>
> Attached, and below, please find a draft press release, based on the talking points and including the statements of support Clint gathered. I am adding Christian/Aaron, to see if they have any additional support statements from Members of Congress that we could add. I wasn't sure about the quotes from scientific journals, but I think they add weight to the announcement. Also, assuming that this will link to the proposal. The current plan is to release shortly following the event, with photos. The event will be live streamed. Please add anyone else I forgot to copy who should be in the loop. Thank you – Liz
>
> **EPA ADMINISTRATOR PRUITT PROPOSES RULE TO STRENGTHEN SCIENCE USED IN EPA REGULATIONS, ENDS 'SECRET SCIENCE'**
>
> WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt signed a proposed rule to strengthen the science used in regulations issued by EPA. The rule will ensure that the regulatory science underlying Agency actions is fully transparent, and will require that the underlying scientific information be publicly available, in a manner sufficient for independent validation.
>
> "The era of secret science at EPA is coming to an end," said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. "The ability to test, authenticate, and reproduce scientific findings is vital for the integrity of

rulemaking process. Americans deserve to assess the legitimacy of the science underpinning EPA decisions that may impact their lives."

This proposed rule is in line with the scientific community's moves toward increased data sharing to address the "replication crisis," in which a significant proportion of published research may be false or not reproducible. Examples of the current data access provisions for authors publishing in major scientific journals:

- *Science*: "All data used in the analysis must be available to any researcher for purposes of reproducing or extending the analysis."
- *Nature*: "This policy builds upon our long-standing policy on data availability, which requires that authors make materials, data, code, and associated protocols promptly available to readers without undue qualifications. The preferred way to share large data sets is via public repositories."
- *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*: "To allow others to replicate and build on work published in PNAS, authors must make materials, data, and associated protocols, including code and scripts, available to readers."

EPA's proposal is consistent with President Trump's executive orders on regulatory reform and energy independence:

- **Executive Order 13777**, issued in March 2017, explains that regulatory reform efforts shall attempt to identify "those regulations that rely in whole or in part on data, information, or methods that are not publicly available or that are insufficiently transparent to meet the standard of reproducibility."
- **Executive Order 13783**, also issued in March 2017, states "It is the policy of the United States that necessary and appropriate environmental regulations comply with the law, are of greater benefit than cost, when permissible, achieve environmental improvements for the American people, and are developed through transparent processes that employ the best available peer-reviewed science and economics."

"The proposal represents a major scientific step forward by recognizing the widespread occurrence of non-linear dose responses in toxicology and epidemiology for chemicals and radiation and the need to incorporate such data in the risk assessment process," **said Dr. Edward J. Calabrese, Professor, Environmental Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts**

"I believe that transparency and independent reproducibility of analyses and conclusions are bedrock principles of sound science," **said Dr. Louis Anthony (Tony) Cox, President, Cox Associates; Member, National Academy of Engineering; and Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Risk Analysis*.** "Some commentators have expressed concerns that making the data behind policy conclusions and recommendations accessible and transparent might threaten the privacy of individuals. But this concern can be fully met by applying current privacy-protection techniques for data analysis. These techniques have been developed and used successfully for years at the Census Bureau and elsewhere. Thus, we can have the scientific benefits of accessible data while protecting individual privacy."

"EPA's proposed rule, Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science, is badly needed," **said Dr. Jason Scott Johnston, Director, Olin Law and Economics Program, University of Virginia School of Law.** "Best practice among peer-edited scientific journals is to require that data and statistical routines used in published papers be posted online and/or made publicly available.

To apply the same standards to research that EPA says justify regulations affecting billions of dollars in economic activity and millions of human lives is essential for those regulations to truly be scientifically based."

"IDEM supports transparency in rulemaking," **says Bruno Pigott, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM**). "Good, sound science leads to better regulations."

"In the development of regulations based on environmental studies, numerous subjective assumptions and choices must be made regarding the selection of data and models that have a profound impact on the strength of any statistical associations and even whether the associations are positive or negative. The appropriateness of the assumptions and choices are not adequately evaluated in the standard peer review process. That is why it is essential that the data and models be placed in the public domain for a more rigorous evaluation by qualified experts. The proposed regulation, Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science, will provide an opportunity for such evaluations," **said Dr. George Wolff, Principal Scientist, Air Improvement Resource, Inc., and former Chairman of EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (1992 – 1996).**

###