Message

From: Elizabeth Erwin [Erwin.ElizabethLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]
Sent: 10/1/2012 5:11:46 PM
To: Kadry, Abdel-Razak [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=acb325507bf7451b9735813cfde5e417-Kadry, Abdel-Razak]; Sasso, Alan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8cb867519abc4dcea88149d12ef3e8e9-Sasso, Alan]; Allan Marcus [Marcus.AllanLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Davis, Allen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a8ecee8c29c54092b969e9547ea72596-Davis, Allen]; Boone, Amanda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=304ccd01957044a1bd50a366d1cd76d4-Boone, Amanda]; Persad, Amanda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fd13fdf1bd814755baac109c2ab990a0-Persad, Amanda]; AmandaM Evans [Evans.AmandaMLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Hotchkiss, Andrew [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=10f01ccc8611401bb34d16b71a87d3d5-Hotchkiss, Andrew]; Kraft, Andrew [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4a94a4f199b247778abb02285a51b927-Kraft, Andrew]; Anne Grambsch [Grambsch.AnneLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Gatchett, Annette [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f12d699a71f84e21bddbb876dae7f96c-Gatchett, Annette]; Jarabek, Annie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8b1de54d48e1429c8129f6499211dbdb-Jarabek, Annie]; Luke, April [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b98bf69c14b142d3ac8e0e9132ee36ed-Luke, April]; Galizia, Audrey [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b9b75d310aba41448cef769d77486e7c-Galizia, Audrey]; Buckley, Barbara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4bb6dedc12624295b9e8e5f835a1f166-Buckley, Barbara]; Glenn, Barbara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7a2dc9210d2d4d02a623b33f87f49436-Glenn, Barbara]; Barbara Wright [Wright.BarbaraLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Clark, Becki [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a906e07f1cd143b9a3c2ddab813b8140-Clark, Becki]; Hawkins, Belinda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=075561d171e845828ec67a945663a8e6-Hawkins, Belinda]; Zwayer, Bette [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=79830e38edb14034b7e47e29ed213dab-Zwayer, Bette]; Bob Frederick [Frederick.BobLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Bob Sonawane [Sonawane.BobLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Brenda Carmichael [Carmichael.BrendaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Gibbons, Catherine [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac775a35a0945718edc7e02f50e6c12-Gibbons, Catherine]; Charles Ris [Ris.CharlesLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Brinkerhoff, Chris [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d96248a62bd42db9a6cd12e5adedaa5-Brinkerhoff, Chris]; Cubbison, Christopher [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e1b702ba5f394a15a49c5efad199035a-Cubbison, Christopher]; Christina Bonanni [Bonanni.ChristinaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Parsons, Christy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bf0dabe0c058478294128cb3f842573d-Powers, Christina]; Cai, Christine [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8e5901665d14498983704fd9eeda0dd8-Cai, Christine]; Christine Ross [Ross.ChristineLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Christopher Sheth [Sheth.ChristopherLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; CN=Connie Kang/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA; Petersen, Dan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=05e14a620a164436adfae701533b4cd5-Petersen, Dan]; Moore, Danielle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=979ea3cb9c2f4da4ac701d93cb24c17d-Moore, Danielle]; Bussard, David [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cf26b876393e44f38bdd06db02dbbfe5-Bussard, David]; Segal, Deborah [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bcdd984267644f3fb89ea65f65e6f422-Segal, Deborah]; Debra Walsh

[Walsh.DebraLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Shaw, Denice [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=556182b3879649039b11d36e5e09d9aa-Shaw, Denice]; Corona, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=18d86fb8269b4557b5d06622b3a941af-Corona, Elizabeth]; Elizabeth Erwin [Erwin.ElizabethLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Eva McLanahan [McLanahan.EvaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Lehmann, Geniece [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=949a2f9c9f9f484581c3d00b118193e6-Lehmann, Geniece]; Woodall, George [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a617aad87171414a8b9fca5ce395a899-Woodall, George]; Perovich, Gina [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6e3c19d7f4db41bfa2477aa27ad83945-Perovich, Gina]; Suter, Glenn [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=86ff3a58b76b40e4a75d9441bd584153-Suter, Glenn]; Harlal Choudhury [choudhury.harlalLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; CN=Helen Knecht/OU=CI/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA; Hui-Min Yang [Yang.Hui-MinLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Ila Cote [Cote.IlaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Avery, James [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b0fc9e70467647709fa9377dfb987f10-Avery, James]; James Ball [Ball.JamesLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Strong, Jamie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ea753aafefb74c268550fe6a2c187838-Benedict, Jamie]; Gamble, Janet [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9f345a4a1e5e45fdbb51817c8d129f95-Gamble, Janet]; Lee, Janice [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b5d72226848849279376f33f6d0b9845-Lee, Janice]; Frithsen, Jeff [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e3743bd6f3c345baaae407c1d6f78e92-FRITHSEN, JEFF]; Jennifer Jinot [Jinot.JenniferLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Vandenberg, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=dcae2b98a04540fb8d099f9d4dead690-Vandenberg, John]; Reid, Jon [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ca086bff39cf47e08b2467276e49ee1c-Reid, Jon]; Kaiser, Jonathan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d8d90ca09c2744f080d333034ee08fe7-Kaiser, Jonathan]; Karen Hammerstrom [Hammerstrom.KarenLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Hogan, Karen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=eb7dc31713d443f0a322f0163d8d7c73-Hogan, Karen]; Kate Guyton [Guyton.KateLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Deener, Kathleen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b9a2ff1c086249ea8f6414afde8a5e54-Deener, Kathleen]; Newhouse, Kathleen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5f019c8179304045acd61bc05b571fb0-Newhouse, Kathleen]; Raffaele, Kathleen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cc48281bbab34bf5bf3ab1a63780d5ca-Kathleen Raffaele]; Salazar, Keith [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fd610df1d0c4db0b97eb0e00231461e-Salazar, Keith]; Kelly Serfling [Serfling.KellyLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Kenneth Olden [Olden.KennethLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Krista Christensen [Christensen.KristaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Alexander, Laurie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1b0c420c5c71464b922e50788a1c22de-Alexander, Laurie]; Kopylev, Leonid [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=abfe6798809e4c8c8a27452ec86726d8-Kopylev, Leonid]; Lisa Vinikoor-Imler [Vinikoor-Imler.LisaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; D'Amico, Louis [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=78a91f83c4414910be286efe02004dbc-D'Amico, Louis J.]; Lucy Curtis [Curtis.LucyLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Flowers, Lynn [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a4411c874d041b9a8badfc32b91bd70-Flowers, Lynn]; CN=Madalene Stevens/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA; Field, Malcolm [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d12938447d14c7babcf431d75d745f6-Field, Malcolm]; Pratt, Margaret [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8eda90b62a874c7ea9d857903ac1fd14-Pratt, Margaret]; Maria Spassova [Spassova.Maria@epa.gov]; Marian Rutigliano [Rutigliano.MarianLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Martin Gehlhaus [Gehlhaus.MartinLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Ross, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative

Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=98359cd1f66f46ec91d327e99a3c6909-Ross, Mary]; Gwinn, Maureen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4bdc5237a5c440a7b664518e23eb5647-Gwinn, Maureen]; Johnson, Maureen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bcd265492be044379eafedd1fb0cff1e-Johnson, Maureen]; Michael Slimak [Slimak.MichaelLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Troyer, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=847b0020dd0e457e85f994a1ad64b26d-Troyer, Michael]; Wright, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0087b3fe163145869deead8b626fbfa3-Wright, Michael]; Keshava, Nagalakshmi [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d125c2980ab348ec828ba8f513b95049-Keshava, Nagalakshmi]; Nina Wang [Wang.NinaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Birchfield, Norman [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c910f2fd28414e819b6afe6dda525e9f-Birchfield, Norman]; CN=Patricia Gillespie/OU=RTP/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA; Murphy, Patricia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4e02a7540f8042fda07eed1248addaf7-Murphy, Patricia]; Schlosser, Paul [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=121cf759d94e4f08afde0ceb646e711b-Schlosser, Paul]; White, Paul [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4e179825823c44ebbb07a9704e1e5d16-White, Paul]; Peter Preuss [Preuss.PeterLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Sams, Reeder [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d5b479ccd894cea99ae55df20de6971-Sams, Reeder]; Jones, Samantha [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=eac77fe3b20c4667b8c534c90c15a830-Jones, Samantha]; CN=Samantha Walker/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA; Barone, Stan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a4f8618acbba418da24c110f3123a2af-Barone, Stan]; Stella Spyropoulos [Spyropoulos.StellaLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Vulimiri, Suryanarayana [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a4f972302434ec6a04b015b14845a9d-Vulimiri, Suryanarayana]; Makris, Susan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7654051d8d1240a39dfa9463c9b0b7e5-Makris, Susan]; Rieth, Susan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=00aac63cc995489188b8a449aaa18f5e-Rieth, Susan]; CN=Suzanne Martos/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA; Berner, Ted [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f1949c9653024d3cb4aa4c2bd69c4fde-Berner, Ted]; Teneille Walker [Walker.TeneilleLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Bateson, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=29bfdde020bf4e93b431b9a72d9d230f-Bateson, Thomas]; Blessinger, Todd [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f5240ca690c84f8fb20bac6fd7273fd5-Blessinger, Todd]; Long, Tom [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7526c52b77aa4516b9ac197536e5a6a0-Long, Tom]; Cogliano, Vincent [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=51f2736376ac4d32bad2fe7cfef2886b-Cogliano, Vincent]; Weihsueh Chiu [Chiu.WeihsuehLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Sanchez, Yolanda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=473c34ae73994a4a8acafe6f03e0baeb-Sanchez, Yolanda]

Subject: NEWS UPDATES: EPA Advisors Call For Clarity, Priorities In Asbestos Peer Review Report (Inside EPA)

EPA Advisors Call For Clarity, Priorities In Asbestos Peer Review Report

Posted: October 1, 2012

EPA's top science advisors are seeking a reorganization of a draft peer review of the agency's risk assessment for Libby amphibole (LA) asbestos to clarify the reviewers' backing of the agency's controversial non-cancer critical endpoint and distinguish between short- and long-term data needs, but the advisors are stopping short of questioning the scientific soundness of the document's conclusions.

The Chartered Science Advisory Board (SAB) has asked that the "Review of EPA's Draft Assessment Entitled Toxicological Review of Libby Amphibole Asbestos" be reorganized and other changes made by the chair of the work group conducting the peer review. Those changes will then be reviewed by key members of the SAB before it is sent on to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson.

At issue is that the report "is so comprehensive -- I lost count at about 61 recommendations and there are many other recommendations nested in sections . . . [that] it is very difficult to determine whether these are generic recommendations" for the study

of asbestos fibers, "or whether they are really relevant to the issue at hand and the development of this [Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS)] process," Thomas Burke, a professor at the Johns Hopkins University school of public health and a member of the Chartered SAB, said during a Sept. 25 call to discuss the work group's report. "There needs to be a clearer bottom line to the report."

EPA's draft assessment for LA sets a first-time non-cancer inhalation reference concentration (RfC) at 0.00001 fibers per cubic centimeter (f/cc) based on the presence of localized pleural thickening (LPT) and asbestosis. The agency describes LPT as growths "of fibrous tissue within the sack that surrounds the lung," and asbestosis as "an illness of progressive scaring of lung tissue."

The study assesses risks from LA, a substance that is present in insulation in homes and industrial sites throughout the country and is believed to be responsible for widespread illness and death, particularly in the Montana town where it was mined. The risk assessment is intended to serve as the basis for a cleanup at that site.

The assessment has been closely followed by industry, which is concerned that the methods will be used in crafting assessments of other asbestos fibers.

The use of LPT as the critical endpoint has been controversial since it does not necessarily have negative consequences. As a result, LPT is "inconsistent with basic definition of critical end point," Elizabeth Anderson, a consultant with the environmental firm Exponent, told the Chartered SAB during the Sept. 25 call. "If we commence a policy of setting RfCs and [reference doses] by biomarkers, we will be lead down the road of overly precautionary" risk assessments, Anderson added.

Work Group's Draft Letter

In its draft letter to EPA on the agency's IRIS review of LA, the work group concludes that EPA is correct in using LPT as the endpoint of concern for the non-cancer assessment of the fibers, but notes that the condition is "associated with" the development of lung cancer mesothelioma and other diseases.

Agnes Kane, chair of the Libby peer review work group and a professor at Brown University, said on the call that she agreed that organizational changes could enhance the document, but defended the report's conclusions relating to the use of LPT as the endpoint of concern and the inclusion of recommendations for additional research needs.

"EPA requested we comment on other major scientific issues" related to the toxicity of asbestos and how to resolve them, so "that's whats lead us to include all this additional information," Kane told the SAB. While LPT is an unconventional critical end point, the work group agreed with EPA that without a clear mode of action, using LPT was the best alternative. Although the work group made recommendations on what studies are needed to better understand the asbestos fiber's mode of action "we certainly can't sit around and wait for these kinds of studies to be done because it will take a long time," during which more Libby exposures will occur. The risk assessment will be used to frame a clean up for the Libby site.

Kane further rejected SAB members' calls to recommend that EPA use more data from studies of different types of asbestos fibers to fill in data gaps on LA. "Yes, there are amphibole fibers that are similar" to LA, Kane said, but there is little data on how things like potency compare and so "we don't know how similar they are in their effects."

Kane will make changes to the panel's document, with input when necessary from other panel members, before sending it back to the chair of the Chartered SAB for final approval.

-- *Jenny Hopkinson*(jhopkinson@iwpnews.com)

Elizabeth Erwin
National Center for Environmental Assessment
Office of Research and Development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office: (703) 347-0205
Blackberry: (571) 247-3051