Message

From: Flowers, Lynn [Flowers.Lynn@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/17/2015 11:20:54 PM
To: D'Amico, Louis [DAmico.Louis@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Potency Review of select PAHs - Health Canada project with TERA

I know. I struggled with that too and tried to make a delineation that was really clear.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 17, 2015, at 6:15 PM, D'Amico, Louis <DAmico.Louis@epa.gov> wrote:

Yeah. Not sure I love the enthusiasm of "EPA would be very happy to entertain efforts.." but no biggie.

I was trying to figure what the odds would be that she would just copy and paste (including everything above the response you wrote!). At least that bullet was dodged!

Louis D'Amico, Ph.D.
Acting Communications Director, ORD/NCEA
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O: (703) 347-0344 M: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Flowers, Lynn
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 6:12 PM
To: D'Amico, Louis <DAmico.Louis@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Potency Review of select PAHs - Health Canada project with TERA

Boy she edited that back a bit!!! But directionally correct!!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 17, 2015, at 6:01 PM, Flowers, Lynn <Flowers.Lynn@epa.gov> wrote:

Very good!! Keep us posted!!! And thanks again for sharing!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 17, 2015, at 5:52 PM, Pratt, Margaret <pratt.margaret@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Louise,

Thank you for getting in touch and for sharing the information on how you are proceeding with your plans to re-evaluate PAHs.

We are currently very focused on releasing our revised assessment for public comment and additional SAB review as quickly as possible, perhaps in early 2016, and this the earliest time that we would be able to share information with you. We are optimistic that our assessment will finalized in 2017. Hopefully this is useful information for you.

EPA would be very happy to entertain efforts to work together collaboratively on projects and we should both be thinking about opportunities as we move forward with assessment work. We just released the updated IRIS Multi-Year agenda this week (http://www.epa.gov/iris/iris-agenda) and it would be great to hear about any overlapping projects for the new chemicals that we are undertaking in the next few years.

Thanks again and we will be in touch as we get closer to public release.

Best regards,

Margaret Pratt, PhD, Toxicologist
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From: Louise White [mailto:louise.white@hc-sc.gc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 4:14 PM
To: Pratt, Margaret <pratt.margaret@epa.gov>
Cc: Haber, Lynne (haberlt) <haberlt@ucmail.uc.edu>; Luigi Lorusso <luigi.lorusso@hc-sc.gc.ca>
Subject: Potency Review of select PAHs - Health Canada project with TERA

Hi Margaret,

Lynne Haber indicated that she spoke to you recently at the SRA conference about our project. I thought I would give you some background on our project and check with you if there is a possibility of a collaborative effort between the EPA and Health Canada..

I work for Health Canada Contaminated Sites Division. One of our responsibilities is to develop Soil Quality Guidelines for use at contaminated sites. We are currently undertaking a critical review of our soil guideline for carcinogenic PAHs. After reading the IRIS draft review of PAH potency (2010), our group felt it necessary that we critically review our potency approach for our soil guideline. The guideline uses a potency approach to determine guideline criteria for eight carcinogenic PAHs in addition to Benzo[a]pyrene.

In our guideline, PAH cancer Potency Equivalence Factors (PEFs) were adapted from one of the relative potency schemes described by the World Health Organization, with minor modifications (Kalberlah et al. 1995 cited in WHO/IPCS 1998. Relative potency schemes were based on the order of magnitude cancer potency. The current CCME approach is based on estimates derived 20 years ago and consequently, a review /update of PAH potency approach was needed.

We have contracted TERA to critically review 8 carcinogenic PAHs (listed in Table A. in the attached proposal) with the aim to use the approach suggested by EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB, 2011) review of the draft IRIS document (2010). In our next fiscal year, we will be examining an additional 9 -10 PAHs which include a couple of alkyl-PAHs and other PAHs whose potency is potentially equal to or greater than B[a]P..In all, we plan to critically review approximately 20 PAHs.

We are hoping that you may be open to some collaboration on this project. We would be more than happy to share our spreadsheets and final report on the eight chemical listed below.

Benzo[a]anthracene
Benzo[b]fluoranthene
Benzo[j]fluoranthene
Benzo[k]fluoranthene
Benzo[g,h,i]perylene
Chrysene
Dibenzo[a,h]anthracene
Indeno[1,2,3-cd]pyrene

Because of issues with the falling Canadian dollar relative to the US$, awarding of the contract has been delayed. Consequently, TERA will only have 3 months to undertake the contract. We are hoping that should you be willing, the timeline would be more reasonable if TERA may be able to build on work already undertaken in the 2010 IRIS report. Specifically we are hoping for some assistance on the following with regards to the 8 PAHs listed above:

1. The updated literature searches undertaken by EPA as part of revising and updating the IRIS assessment in response to the SAB comments. Even better would be a list of identified relevant studies for the 8 PAHs for the update. The emphasis on TERA's searches would be from 2004 forward and the materials being requested here would only constitute a backup for TERA's searches
2. The underlying EXCEL spreadsheets used to support potency estimate calculations, especially C1, C6, and, if possible the spreadsheets showing how the RPFs were calculated from the BMD output.

I am hoping we could chat about this in the next couple of days. I am off for 2 weeks starting next week except I will be in the office the morning of Christmas Eve. However, I can make myself available next week if that fits better with your timetable.

Looking forward to talking with you.

Sincerely,

Louise

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(See attached file: TERA proposal - scope of work Dec 2015.docx)