From: (b) (6) [redacted] on behalf of Lee Benda
To: Armitage, Thomas
Subject: Re: Agenda for SAB Connectivity Panel Teleconferences on April 28th and May 2nd
Date: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 4:22:11 PM

Hello Tom, I have received the draft report and will be on the conference calls. Regards, Lee

On Wed, Apr 2, 2014 at 1:20 PM, Armitage, Thomas <Armitage.Thomas@epa.gov> wrote:

> Dear Panel Members,
>
> Attached is the agenda for the upcoming teleconferences on April 28th and May 2nd (1:00 -5:00 p.m. Eastern Time) to discuss the Panel's draft report. The purpose of the calls is to discuss the draft report and reach agreement on any changes needed. The call-in number for both teleconferences is 1-866-299-3188 and the conference code is 2023439995# . Please send me your comments on the Panel's draft report by April 18th.
>
> Please also send me a reply confirming that you have received the draft report (sent to you in my email of March 26) and the teleconference agenda. Thanks very much.
>
> Regards,
>
> Tom Armitage
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> **********
>
> Thomas Armitage Ph.D.
>
> Designated Federal Officer
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> EPA Science Advisory Board Office
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> 202-564-2155 (phone/voice mail)
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From: Armitage, Thomas
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 10:53 AM
Cc: 'adr79@cornell.edu'; Brennan, Thomas; Goodman, Iris; Armitage, Thomas
Subject: Action requested: Please review the SAB Connectivity Panel's draft report

Dear SAB Connectivity Panel Members,

Dr. Rodewald has asked me to send you the attached draft of the SAB Connectivity Panel's report for review. The charge question responses developed by the lead writers have been incorporated into the report and a draft letter to the EPA Administrator and executive summary have been included. Please review the draft report and send me your comments by **Friday, April 18th**. I will compile the Panel's comments for your discussion on the public teleconferences to be held on April 28th and May 2nd (1:00 -5:00 p.m. Eastern Time). The call-in number for both teleconferences is 1-866-299-3188 and the conference code is 2023439995#.

On the upcoming teleconferences we will discuss the draft report and focus on substantive issues that: may lack consensus, be inaccurate or problematic, need additional explanation or context, or need to be added. We will also discuss the executive summary and the letter to the Administrator. The letter to the Administrator is usually read by EPA senior managers, the executive summary is usually read by technical managers, and the body of the of the report is read by the EPA technical staff. In your review, please consider whether the appropriate points are included, with the appropriate level of detail, in those respective parts of the report. Please also consider whether the recommendations listed as bullets at the end of each section of the report represent the Panel's key recommendations. I have attached both PDF and Word files containing the draft report. If you wish to provide editorial comments that do not have to be discussed, please also send them to me so they can be incorporated into the report.

After the Panel reaches consensus on its draft report, the report will be sent to the chartered SAB for quality review. The chartered SAB quality review is focused on four areas: whether the charge questions were adequately answered, whether there were any technical errors or omissions in the report or issues that were inadequately dealt with, whether the report was clear and logical, and whether the conclusions and recommendations were supported by the body of the report. After the chartered SAB approves the report, it will be transmitted to the Administrator.

The EPA has released its proposed rule clarifying the definition of waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act and, as indicated at the Panel meeting in December, we are providing it to you. The proposed rule is available on the EPA website at the following URL: www.epa.gov/uswaters .

I will send you the agendas for the upcoming teleconferences and any public comments that are submitted for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Regards,

Tom Armitage

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Thomas Armitage Ph.D.

Designated Federal Officer

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