Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Comments on the Interagency Science Discussion Draft IRIS Assessment of 1,4-Dioxane (Inhalation) (dated June 2013)

Date: July 26, 2013

General Comments

Thank you to EPA for the opportunity to provide these comments consistent with the IRIS process. We have developed these comments based on the redline version of the toxicological review for 1,4-dioxane (file name: 1,4-Dioxane AR-IASD Draft Tox Review Redline). Page, table, and figure numbers referred to in our comments are derived from the redline toxicological review.

Overall, EPA adequately responded to the public comments and the external peer reviewer comments.

Specific Comments

- On page xvii, the names of specific public commenters are listed. We question the necessity of listing the public commenters, and recommend that readers be referred to an appropriate website where the comments are listed.
- It would be extremely helpful to include some brief information about environmental (air and water) levels of the chemical so as to orient the reader on the toxicity values in relation to current environmental levels. Though we recognize that the purpose of the toxicological review is to evaluate the scientific evidence for development of toxicity reference values and cancer slope factors and not address risk management issues, we urge EPA to consider including environmental data to provide context to the toxicity values. We note that this was a consistent request by a number of the peer reviewers.
- In sections addressing dose-response modeling using the BMD approach, it would be helpful to include a limited number of the key graphs (BMD curves) in the body of the toxicological review so that the reader does not have to search and find the curves provided later in the appendices.