

From: "Johnson, Katrina M."  
To: IRISInterAgency  
Cc: Lynn Flowers, Norman Birchfield, "Dearfield, Kerry" >, "Bittleman, Sarah"  
Date: 05/18/2010 02:03 PM  
Subject: RE: NCEA Interagency Communication #68 (draft revised charge for dioxin SAB review)

Norman/Lynn,

The US Department of Agriculture does not have any edits/comments on the charge questions as they deal primarily with technical aspects of the document.

However, we do have an additional charge question we feel needs posed to the EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB). The following question would fit as the 9th question in section 4 of the charge questions:

9) While the National Research Council of the National Academies recommended the derivation of a reference dose (RfD), can the SAB please comment on whether the establishment of such a value is the best approach (i.e., truly necessary) for reduction of risk given that many efforts from many U.S. government agencies have focused on reducing sources of dioxins in the food and environment? If so, please comment why it is truly necessary.

a. These reduction efforts stem from the recommendations found in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies report "Dioxins and Dioxin-like Compounds in the Food Supply: Strategies to Decrease Exposure" (2003) and in the Codex Alimentarius "Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Dioxin and Dioxin-like PCB Contamination in Food and Feeds" (2006).

Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Katrina

**Katrina Johnson** | Office of Budget and Program Analysis |

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US Department of Agriculture |