

Agenda

Public Meeting to Seek Comments on the Current NIOSH Policy to Classify Carcinogens and Establish Recommended Exposure Limits (RELs)

Monday, December 12, 2011, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM ET

Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Room 800

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

200 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20201

(Maximum Occupancy = 135)

9:00 – 9:40 **Welcome, Introductions, and Overview** **Paul Schulte, Ph.D.**
and panel (T.J. Lentz, Ph.D.; Kathleen MacMahon, DVM; Faye Rice, MPH; Ralph
Zumwalde, MS)

9:40 – 12:10 **Discussion of 5 Questions Below** *(50 minutes maximum allotted for each question)*

10:25 – 10:40 **Break**

Question 1: *Should there explicitly be a carcinogen policy as opposed to a broader policy on toxicant identification and classification (e.g. carcinogens, reproductive hazards, neurotoxic agents)?*

Question 2: *What evidence should form the basis for determining that substances are carcinogens? How should these criteria correspond to nomenclature and categorizations (e.g., known, reasonably anticipated, etc.)?*

Question 3: *Should 1 in 1000 working lifetime risk (for persons occupationally exposed) be the target level for a recommended exposure limit (REL) for carcinogens or should lower targets be considered?*

Question 4: *In establishing NIOSH RELs, how should the phrase “to the extent feasible” (defined in the 1995 NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit Policy) be interpreted and applied?*

Question 5: *In the absence of data, what uncertainties or assumptions are appropriate for use in the development of RELs? What is the utility of a standard “action level” (i.e., an exposure limit set below the REL typically used to trigger risk management actions) and how should it be set? How should NIOSH address worker exposure to complex mixtures?*

12:10 – 1:30 **Break for Lunch** (on your own)

1:30 – 3:50 **Continue Discussion of 5 Questions Followed by Open Public Comment Period** -
prepared comments by those who signed up in advance (5 minutes each), and if time
allows other persons in attendance can offer comment

3:50 – 4:00 **Closing Comments and Next Steps** **Paul Schulte, Ph.D.**