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November 29, 2012 PPDC 21st Century Toxicology/New Integrated Testing Strategies Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Time: 12:00 – 1:15 PM (EST)

Summary

On the first day of the general PPDC meeting, November 29, 2012, the PPDC 21st Century Toxicology / New Integrated Testing Strategies Workgroup met for a working lunch to discuss ongoing projects and the presentation to the PPDC the following day. The beginning of the meeting focused on a renewed interest in a proposal to develop metrics for measuring OPP's movement towards in vitro and other alternative testing methods. This discussion allowed for workgroup members who are not part of the Metrics Subgroup to comment on the project. The second part of the meeting focused on the proposal for a Spring 2013 one day, non-technical workshop to explore the regulatory application of AOP-based tools. The workshop will focus on available tools and case studies, present the benefits and challenges to non-animal safety testing and discuss building confidence in alternative safety testing methods for application in a regulatory context. The workshop is anticipated to be held the day before or the day after the Spring PPDC meeting. Lastly, the group briefly discussed current activities on biomarkers including definitions developed by the Agency at the request of the PPDC and progress on convening an expert group of scientists and public health professionals charged with establishing prioritization criteria and making recommendations on pesticides that should be the focus of further biomarker research and development. The first meeting of the expert group will be held in January 2013.

On November 30, 2012, the Workgroup presented their accomplishments of the last 6 months to the general PPDC. The presentation included general information on the workgroup, an overview of past workshops, the charge to the workgroup as a result of the October 2011 workshop on biomarkers, information on the biomarker definitions, a brief outline of the proposed agenda for the Spring 2013 workshop and an overview of the metrics proposal. A copy of the presentation will made available at http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ppdc/testing/index.html.

Workgroup Attendees

Non-EPA: Caroline Cox, Cheryl Cleveland, Erik Janus, Matthew Keifer, Thomas Kellner, Amy Liebman, Cynthia Palmer, Joel Patterson, Gary Patterson, Pat Quinn, Virginia Ruiz, Jennifer Sass, Valentin Sanchez, Kristie Sullivan, Dave Tamayo, Clare Thorp

EPA: Jennifer McLain, Lisa Austin, Vicki Dellarco, Stephen Edwards, Rebecca von dem Hagen

Non-Workgroup Attendees

Non-EPA: Jack Fowle, Geoff Calvert, Susan Kegley, Jan Dhonau, Diane Boesenberg, Bill McCormick

Non-EPA (Press): Puneet Kollipara (Inside EPA), Chris Knight (Pesticide & Chemical Policy)

EPA: Mary Manibusan, Don Bergfelt, Zoe Layton

Next Meeting

The first workgroup meeting of 2013 will be held on Wednesday, January 16 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM EST. The bi-monthly workgroup meetings in 2013 will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 PM EST on the 3rd Wednesday of every other month beginning in January.