

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC)

The LGAC is chartered to provide advice and recommendations to EPA on:

- a. Encouraging flexibility and innovation to accommodate local needs without compromising environmental performance, accountability, or fairness;
- b. Improving program management and the regulatory process by involving local governments more effectively as partners in environmental management;
- c. Strengthening local capacity to promote environmental quality, manage environmental programs, increase public access and community right-to-know;
- d. Helping local governments deal with the challenge of financing environmental protection infrastructure; and
- e. Developing policies and programs that consider all significant impacts on local government.

Agency's Charge:

EPA's charge to the LGAC is to provide advice and recommendations on the following Administrator priorities:

- ***Expanding the Conversation-*** The Administrator emphasizes outreach and protection for communities historically underrepresented in EPA decision-making. The LGAC will address issues of how best to engage and deliver environmental protection to underserved and disadvantaged local governments.
- ***Air, Climate, and Energy-*** Climate change will pose many challenges for local governments - especially those in disadvantaged socioeconomic sectors and coastal ecosystems. The LGAC will provide advice on how EPA can best assist localities. The LGAC will also address other important air issues including: compliance with national air quality standards (such as for ozone) regulation of greenhouse gases, and air toxics.
- ***Cleaning Up Our Communities-*** A centerpiece of the President's agenda is fulfilling the promise of clean and safe communities and sustainability in a new green economy. The LGAC will explore how the Partnership for Sustainable and Livable Communities and other EPA programs such as brownfields and industrial area / military community clean-ups can aid local efforts to promote sustainability.
- ***Protecting America's Waters-*** Improving and maintaining water quality, protecting drinking water and addressing water infrastructure needs are priorities for EPA. The LGAC will provide advice on: 1) water infrastructure needs; 2) local strategies (including green infrastructure) for addressing nonpoint source pollution, including stormwater runoff; and 3) protecting great water bodies and neglected urban rivers.

- ***Gulf Restoration Task Force-*** The workgroup will explore how local governments concerns should be integrated into the Gulf Coast Strategy. The LGAC will provide advice on what role local governments in Gulf Coast restoration should play, and what unique local government concerns may affect the restoration effort.
- ***Executive Steering Committee-*** The Executive Committee has governance over all activities of the Committee. Charge is defined in LGAC By-law's. (High profile cross-cutting issues on fast track sometimes are addressed by the Executive Committee).

LGAC's Small Community Advisory Subcommittee (SCAS)

SCAS is chartered to strengthen the capacity of small communities (<10,000 pop.) to improve and protect the health and the environment in which they live.

Agency's Charge:

- SCAS will make recommendations to promote sustainable water infrastructure for small communities (including on-site technologies) and how best to serve small water systems, including building capacity for programs that support small communities.
- SCAS will find opportunities to strengthen partnerships by advising on the appropriate means of assistance for small communities.
- SCAS will work with the EPA to expand the conversation on Environmental Justice to smaller localities across the nation.
- SCAS will advise EPA on increasing the transparency and public access of TSCA related chemical information and compliance information for small communities.