

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Information Sheet

Dioxin: Reassessment Information

CONTENT RECORDS CTR	04 00
Centennial Manager	
17.7	
AJ 317	

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) is progressing toward completion of its comprehensive reassessment of dioxin exposure and human health effects entitled, *Exposure and Human Health Reassessment of 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-Dioxin (TCDD) and Related Compounds*. The next major step is public review of key sections of the reassessment, specifically a new draft chapter entitled *Toxicity Equivalence Factors (TEF) for Dioxin and Related Compounds* and the revision of the draft *Integrated Summary and Risk Characterization for 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-Dioxin (TCDD) and Related Compounds*. Also, the Agency has recently completed a dose-response assessment of the toxicity of dioxin and related compounds to aquatic wildlife. This work is preliminary to a reassessment of the ecological risks of dioxin to aquatic wildlife. In addition, the Agency is working on a parallel effort to develop the EPA Cross-Media Dioxin Strategy, an EPA-wide policy response to the reassessment science, and is continuing to actively implement a broad program of dioxin regulatory control efforts.

EPA has prepared five information sheets to provide background information on the reassessment, the development of dioxin strategy, and EPA's ongoing dioxin regulatory programs. The information sheets are listed below with a short description of their purpose and contents. All of these information sheets, as well as the draft reassessment documents, are available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/dioxin.htm>.

1) *Dioxin: Summary of the Dioxin Reassessment Science*

This information sheet provides an abbreviated summary of the science in the draft dioxin reassessment. A more in-depth discussion can be found in the companion piece entitled *Dioxin: Scientific Highlights from Draft Reassessment (2000)* (Information Sheet 2). Information Sheet 1 is meant to provide a less technical discussion of the science than Information Sheet 2, and is aimed at the general public.

2) *Dioxin: Scientific Highlights from Draft Reassessment (2000)*

This document provides a more detailed and technical discussion of the science issues and exposure and source information included in the comprehensive reassessment. The discussion of mechanisms of action and dose-response is of particular interest. It is meant to be of use to risk assessors in EPA regions, to State and other environmental health professionals, and to readers already familiar with dioxin science.

3) *Dioxin: Reassessment Process - EPA is Moving Toward Completion of the Dioxin Reassessment*

This information sheet briefly describes the process that EPA has used in developing the final reassessment and includes a discussion of the remaining steps of peer review and public comment that are being taken to insure the quality of the final product.

4) *Dioxin: Summary of Major EPA Control Efforts*

This information sheet provides background information on the broad set of dioxin regulatory and risk management activities that EPA is pursuing through its major programs areas. Collectively, these actions address all of the major industrial dioxin sources so far identified in the reassessment. Many of these EPA dioxin control efforts were initiated while the dioxin reassessment was being developed.

5) *Dioxin: EPA Cross Media Dioxin Strategy*

This information sheet describes a parallel activity to the reassessment; the development of an agency-wide dioxin strategy. This strategy will integrate EPA's diverse set of dioxin activities into a comprehensive program that is consistent with and responsive to the findings of the dioxin reassessment.