UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

OCT 6 2005

Michal Eldan, Ph.D, Chair
MAA Research Task Force
P.O. Box 33856
Washington, D.C. 20033-0856

Re: Request for Correction of the PPRTV Derivation Support Document for Cacodylic Acid (CASRN 75-60-5) (RFC#05003)

Dear Dr. Eldan:

This letter is in response to your Request for Correction (RFC) dated March 8, 2005, under the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) *Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Environmental Protection Agency* ("Guidelines") concerning supporting documentation of the Provisional Peer-Reviewed Toxicity Value (PPRTV) for cacodylic acid. In your letter, you request correction of the provisional oral reference dose (RfD) for cacodylic acid.

The PPRTV for cacodylic acid was retired on September 16, 2005, and is no longer available for use. Should the cacodylic acid PPRTV be needed in the future, it will undergo additional reviews to assess any new science.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some background information on the purpose and intended use of PPRTVs. The PPRTVs are developed specifically for EPA's Superfund program for use in risk assessment at contaminated sites. They use the standard EPA principles for quantification of dose-response, and they undergo both internal EPA review and external peer review. Should a PPRTV be used to support a Superfund cleanup, the public has an opportunity to comment on the appropriateness of the use of the PPRTV.

The cacodylic acid PPRTV underwent internal and external peer review. The study you cite in your request was considered by the independent external peer reviewers; however, it was determined as inappropriate for deriving the reference dose because the study did not focus on non-cancer endpoints.

The Agency is re-evaluating both organic arsenic (including cacodylic acid) and inorganic arsenic toxicity information and has commissioned a Science Advisory Board (SAB) panel to help in this re-evaluation. The EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Arsenic Review Panel met September 12 and 13, 2005 to consider science issues related to these compounds. For further information regarding the status of this review, the contact for the SAB meeting is Tom Miller at 202-343-9697. After the SAB deliberations are complete, EPA will determine whether or not a revised cacodylic acid PPRTV file is needed. If so, any new file will take into account the outcome of the SAB review.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may submit a Request for Reconsideration (RFR). EPA recommends that this request be submitted within 90 days of the date of this letter. To do so, send a written request to the EPA Information Quality guidelines Processing Staff via mail (information Quality Guidelines Processing Staff, Mail Code 2811R; U.S. EPA; 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20460), electronic mail (quality@epa.gov), or fax (202-565-2441). The RFR should reference the request number assigned to the original Request for Correction (RFC #05003). Additional information that should be included in the request is listed on the EPA Information Quality Guidelines Web Site (www.epa.gov/quality/informationguidelines).

Sincerely,

Barry N. Breen
Deputy Assistant Administrator