

**EPA Scientific Integrity Policy**  
Mass Mailer to: All EPA Employees

02/16/2012 05:04 PM

From: Mass Mailer  
To: All EPA Employees,



**MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: EPA Scientific Integrity Policy  
FROM: Bob Perciasepe, Deputy Administrator  
TO: All EPA Employees

Dear Colleagues:

Science is the backbone of EPA's decision-making, and the Agency's ability to pursue its mission to protect human health and the environment depends upon the integrity of the science on which it relies. As such, I am pleased to announce the enactment of a new Scientific Integrity Policy that builds on our long history of scientific safeguards and further ensures that sound science drives Agency decision making.

On March 9, 2009, President Obama issued an executive memorandum that articulated the need for sound science to inform and guide agency decisions on a wide range of issues, including improvement of public health, protection of the environment, increased efficiency in the use of energy and other resources, mitigation of the threat of climate change, and protection of national security. In response, the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) provided foundational principles and specific expectations for scientific integrity in the Federal government. In particular, OSTP asked the Federal agencies to develop scientific integrity policies that included four areas: scientific integrity in government, public communications, use of Federal Advisory Committees, and professional development of government scientists and engineers.

The final policy incorporates stakeholder input from the EPA Science and Technology Policy Council, OSTP, the public, and our Agency scientists. It also establishes a Scientific Integrity Committee to implement this policy and provide an annual report. In advance of completing the annual report, the Scientific Integrity Committee will conduct an Agency-wide annual meeting on scientific integrity that will include the involvement of senior EPA leadership, reports from offices and programs, and an opportunity for input from the EPA scientific community.

The environmental policies, decisions, guidance, and regulations that impact the lives of all Americans every day must be grounded, at a most fundamental level, in sound, high quality science. When dealing

with science, it is the responsibility of every EPA employee to conduct, utilize, and communicate science with honesty, integrity, and transparency, both within and outside the Agency.

The Scientific Integrity Policy and its implementation have my full support, as well as the support of the Administrator, Science Advisor, and all Assistant and Regional Administrators. It is effective immediately and will ensure that science continues to drive our efforts to protect human health and the environment.

The complete policy is available at:

[http://www.epa.gov/osa/pdfs/epa\\_scientific\\_integrity\\_policy\\_20120115.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/osa/pdfs/epa_scientific_integrity_policy_20120115.pdf)