



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

JUN 06 2017

OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Lamar Smith
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith:

Thank you for your letter of May 22, 2017 concerning the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) upcoming Scientific Integrity Stakeholder Meeting scheduled for June 14, 2017.

The Agency agrees that invitees to the EPA Scientific Integrity Stakeholder meeting should include a balanced representation of those organizations having an interest in scientific integrity at the EPA. Past stakeholder meetings included representatives of both non-governmental organizations and the regulated community. In response to your request, we recently sent invitations to additional organizations representing the regulated community and state governments.

As you aptly state in your letter, science does indeed provide the underpinnings of EPA's decision making, and it is of utmost importance that our scientific integrity programs are both accessible and transparent to all with an interest in EPA activities. We will strive to ensure the make-up of those attending this, and future, Scientific Integrity Stakeholder meetings is balanced and includes a representative cross-section of all stakeholders with an interest in scientific integrity at the EPA.

Again, thank you for your letter. As requested, we will provide you with an update of the meeting after it occurs. If you have any further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Christina Moody in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at moody.christina@epa.gov or 202-564-0260.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Kavlock".

Robert J. Kavlock, Ph.D.
Acting Assistant Administrator
for the Office of Research and Development