

Role of the Scientific Guidance Panel and
Public Participation and Environmental
Justice Elements at Panel Meetings

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California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program Scientific Guidance Panel Meeting

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Agenda item

Role of Scientific Guidance
 Panel in CECBP

 Public Participation and Environmental Justice Elements at Panel meetings

Role of Scientific Guidance Panel

(SB 1379, H&SC Chapter 8 Section 105449(a))

"regarding design and implementation of the Program...

the Panel shall...

- Provide scientific peer review
- Make recommendations
- "including specific recommendations for
 - Chemicals that are priorities for biomonitoring in California

Program Elements – Priorities for SGP Peer Review and Recommendations

- Chemical/Analyte and Biospecimen Selection
- Study/Sampling Design
- Results Analysis and Reporting
- Research
- Communication of Results
- Public Participation

Early SGP Guidance Needed on Chemical/Analyte Selection

Two Step Process

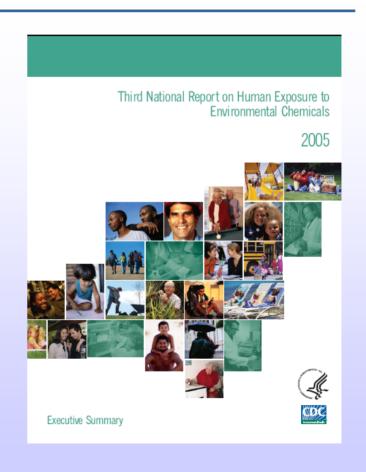
Identify
"Designated
Chemicals"



Recommend
Priorities for
Biomonitoring in
California

"Designated Chemicals" = CDC NHANES + SGP Additions

- CDC NHANES
 - Currently >300 chemicals
 - CDC list is evolving
- Panel Additions
 - Chemicals of interest in California
 - Criteria in statute



Chemical Priorities for Biomonitoring in California

- Criteria specified in SB 1379
- SGP plays crucial role
- Priorities expected to change over time, with program capacity and other factors
- More discussion later today...

Scientific Guidance Panel and Public Participation

Per SB 1379,

- panel meetings shall be open to public and subject to Bagley-Keene
- panel activities shall provide opportunities for...
 - public participation
 - community capacity building

with meaningful stakeholder input



Context for Cal/EPA Environmental Justice Activities

Environmental Justice CECBP Element



"As appropriate, the program shall utilize the principles of the agency's **Environmental Justice** Strategy and **Environmental Justice** Action Plan..." (H&SC Ch 8; SB 1379)

Cal/EPA EJ Strategy Mission Statement – Quoted in SB 1379

- To accord the highest respect and value to every individual and community,
- by developing and conducting our public health and environmental protection programs, policies, and activities
- in a manner that promotes equity and affords fair treatment, accessibility, and protection for all Californians
- regardless of race, age, culture, income, or geographic location.

Cal/EPA EJ Strategy Goals

- 1. Ensure meaningful public participation and promote community capacity building to allow communities to effectively participate...
- 2. Integrate EJ into ... environmental policies
- Improve research and data collection to promote and address EJ related to the health and environment of communities of color and low-income populations
- 4. Ensure effective cross-media coordination and accountability in addressing EJ issues.



Some Public Participation Considerations in SGP Activities

- Meeting and workshop venue
- Public participation in meetings
- Public input before and after meetings
- Ways of handling public input on chemical selection
- Communication of SGP recommendations
- Community capacity building