



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

OCT 11 2002

OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

J. Routt Reigart, MD
Chair, Children's Health Protection
Advisory Committee
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina 29425

Dear Dr. Reigart:

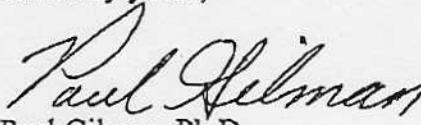
Thank you for your letter of August 9, 2002, regarding EPA's work to develop approaches to cumulative risk assessment.

I greatly appreciate your comments, as well as the copy of the technical background paper entitled, *The Children's Health Risk Matrix*. Your experience in working through the examples for asthma and neurodevelopmental abnormalities, as outlined in the paper, will be very valuable to us as we move toward the development of risk assessment guidelines for children's health. Also, it may interest you to know that the ideas discussed in your technical background paper are very much in tune with our thinking about consideration of a life stage approach to risk assessment. This approach was outlined in an EPA draft report, *A Review of the Reference Dose and Reference Concentration Processes*. This draft report recently underwent external peer review and public comment and we are currently in the process of addressing the comments received. A copy of this draft report is enclosed for your convenience.

We would be very interested in meeting with you and discussing these issues further. As you mentioned in your letter, you have requested that EPA's Office of Children's Health Protection (OCHP) set up a meeting that would include members of the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee, OCHP staff, and my office. I look forward to that meeting.

Again, thank you for your letter.

Sincerely yours,


Paul Gilman, Ph.D.
Assistant Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Joanne Rodman, OCHP