

Scientific Integrity at the Environmental Protection Agency

"The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and the environment. This mission is best accomplished by regulatory decisions based on reliable science. However, indications are that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may instead be using selective science in regulatory decisions. The purpose of our hearing is to review the apparent lack of scientific integrity in parts of the EPA. We will examine four specific examples: 1) a Union of Concerned Scientists report that found significant political interference in scientific work at the EPA; 2) the supposed "streamlining" of the Integrated Risk Information System ("IRIS") which actually makes it more difficult for EPA to publish scientific analyses on chemical risks; 3) the removal of Dr. Deborah Rice from a scientific peer review panel at the request of the chemical industry; and 4) the EPA's adoption of a since-discredited cleanup plan for the chemical toxaphene at a Hercules Superfund site near Brunswick, Georgia..."

Read Statement of Chairman Bart Stupak at the September 18, 2008, hearing

Also see the IRIS PROCESS - PowerPoint Chart

HEARINGS HELD

Sept. 18, 2008 -- Science Under Siege: Scientific Integrity at the Environmental Protection Agency