

Process Improvements in the Pesticide Program

FIFRA Section 33(e) directs EPA to identify and evaluate potential reforms to the pesticide registration process with the goal of reducing decision review times for pesticide registration applications. Section 33(k) directs the EPA to report its recommendations for process improvements in the handling of and streamlining of registration review. The EPA will not compromise the scientific quality of its assessments as a means of reducing decision times, but we have continued to make progress during the past fiscal year toward improving operations. The agency believes that the best way to gather recommendations for process improvements is through our Federal Advisory Committee, the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC).

Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee PRIA Process Improvement Workgroup

The PPDC created the PRIA Process Improvement Workgroup in FY 2004 to evaluate possible process improvements in the registration program. The workgroup is composed of members from pesticide registrant companies, pesticide trade associations, public interest groups, and EPA staff. Meetings are open to the public. Four meetings (December 13, 2010, and April 19, July 27, and September 26, 2011) were held in FY 2011. Reports of the [PPDC PRIA Process Improvement Workgroup meetings](#) are posted on the Internet.

The EPA works with all stakeholders to evaluate potential improvements in the registration and registration review processes. Through dialogues with stakeholders, the EPA identifies future projects and efforts. During Workgroup meetings, stakeholders present their priorities for process improvement and the EPA discusses the status of its improvement projects, previews new tools and proposed changes in procedures and processes, presents analyses of specific processes, and reports on its successes. During FY 2011, the Workgroup held two meetings to discuss how and when registrant data could be used in an endangered species assessment for registration review and at what points in the consultation process registrants could submit data. The other two FY 2011 meetings dealt with the registration process and included registrant presentations on what their companies were doing to improve their submissions. The EPA updated the public on its efforts to develop electronic application and analysis systems, to provide inert ingredient guidance, to implement other enhancements to help applicants develop complete and high quality applications, and to streamline the EPA's processes.