National Advisory Committee (NAC)
for Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGLs) for Hazardous Substances
Final Meeting 9 Highlights
Old Post Office, M09
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.
March 10-12, 1998

INTRODUCTION

The highlights of the meeting are noted below, and the meeting agenda (Attachment 1) and attendee list (Attachment 2) are attached. Highlights of the NAC Meeting 8 (December 8-10, 1997) were reviewed and approved as presented (Appendix A).

Dr. George Rusch (Chair) provided brief introductory remarks including the fact that the Standing Operating Procedures (SOP) were of high priority and that Dr. Falke would be presenting an overview of the SOP Working Group efforts later in the meeting. Dr. Morawetz (ICWUC) expressed concerns regarding the AEGL-3 values for carbon tetrachloride and that they may not be protective of alcoholics (Attachment 3). He also circulated a report pertaining to an accident involving the deaths of four workers following exposure to hydrogen cyanide that was generated by the interaction of muriatic acid and zinc cyanide during the cleaning of a vat (Attachment 4).

Dr. Paul Tobin (EPA-DFO) mentioned that plans were being made for a joint meeting with the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Toxicology for the June NAC/AEGL meeting.

REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS AND GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS

Standing Operating Procedure (SOP) Working Group

Dr. Ernest Falke (EPA) provided a summary of the SOP Working Group efforts. As previously stated by Dr. Garrett (Project Director), the SOP Working Group in addition to interpreting and expanding on the NAS guidelines (NAS, 1993), is documenting approaches used thus far in AEGL development. The SOP document currently addresses three major areas: (1) calculation of AEGL values, (2) format and content of technical support documents, and (3) development of information and data for technical support documents. Efforts pertaining to the first are on-going and include endpoints for AEGL levels as well as guidance for uncertainty factor and modifying factor application, time scaling, scientific rationale, policies for carcinogenic risk, use of NOAELs and LOAELs, and reconstruction modeling. This section also serves as a "living document" to capture approaches used by the NAC/AEGL in their development of AEGL values. The second area establishes format and consistency guidelines for the technical support documents, summary tables, rounding of AEGL values, and multiplication of uncertainty factors. The third major area provides guidance on assessing the quality of available data, and outlines the responsibilities and tasks of the chemical manager, chemical reviewer, and staff scientists developing draft AEGL values.