





INTENT TO COLLABORATE

The purpose of this document is to initiate research collaboration among the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the United Kingdom's (UK) Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), and the Environment Agency for England and Wales (EA) on exposure science and its applications to protect and enhance health of the public and the environment.

This collaboration is proposed in recognition of the health, welfare, and economic impacts of atmospheric pollution, and, in particular, the problems from ground-level ozone, fine particles, acid deposition, global climate change, nitrogen eutrophication, mercury and other air contaminants. We share the goal of promoting and conducting atmospheric and air quality research to help develop high-quality scientific products and modeling tools for support of environmental policy decisions. Working together, we can improve our scientific understanding on the nature and magnitude of the problem of airborne pollution and its consequences. At this time, it is proposed that our cooperation include:

- 1. Collaboration on exposure science in environmental and public health decision-making to improve the utilization of exposure science in regulatory applications
- 2. Collaboration on the development, evaluation, and application of the air quality modeling tools with emphasis on the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) Model to aid environmental decision-making.
- 3. Meeting once a year to review research accomplished and plan future activities to conduct collaborative scientific research.
- 4. Exchange of relevant data, models, products, and tools in a timely manner to support environmental decision-making by national and Federal Agency officials, State, regional and local institutions and the public, providing technical assistance as appropriate.

This collaboration recognizes the benefit of defining a research enterprise that involves joint interests, and lays the foundation for a co-sponsored program that would improve efficiencies, and avoid redundant research activities and products. If the evolution of our collaboration necessitates, a formal memorandum of understanding or agreement may be developed in the future to provide the necessary legal mechanisms for implementing and expanding any joint research, development, and application of science in this environmental field. Likewise, if the evolution of the collaboration involves resource allocations (such as intellectual property, financial and

confidential information or data), or exchange of resources, then appropriate financial and programmatic commitments will be addressed with our respective organizations. The USEPA, the Environment Agency and Defra have agreed that this collaboration is not intended to be legally binding and this letter should not be construed as such.

The following people will serve as points of contact for this collaboration:

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Concurrence indicates commitment to collaboration on exposure science so the involved parties can better protect and enhance health of the public and the environment.

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