Qs & As - 60 Minute Briefing
August 10, 2009

1. What is the 2002 risk assessment?

The 2002 assessment was a screening study made by an independent contractor on Coal ash exposure. EPA then used this study to inform its own 2007 Risk analysis. **EPA is currently revising the 2007 risk assessment based on peer review and public comments.**

2. Why did EPA withhold the 2002 risk assessment?

EPA cited the 2002 Screening Study in the 2007 Risk Analysis, but inadvertently left it out of the docket. EPA sent the 2007 Risk Analysis out for peer review. One of the peer reviewers pointed out to us that the 2002 Screening Study wasn't in the docket, so we corrected that oversight. The information was released in early March 2009. We are currently revising the 2007 Risk Analysis based on the peer review and public comments.

In the interest of transparency and full disclosure, EPA makes research pertinent to its rulemakings publicly available in the docket. The 2002 screening assessment, the draft 2007 risk assessment and associated public and peer review comments, and other background documents in support of coal combustion residual rulemaking efforts can be found on www.regulations.gov