NAS Committee on Federal Research Regulations and Reporting Requirements:
A New Framework for Research Universities in the 21st Century

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EPA Research at a Glance

• $538 million budget for EPA Office of Research and Development
  – 1,755 full time staff
  – 13 lab or research facilities
  – $52 million extramural research grant program (STAR)
  – $9 million STAR fellowship program

(FY 2014 Interim Operating Plan)
Aligning Research with EPA Strategic Goals

Cross-Agency Strategies
- Sustainable Future
- Visible Difference in Communities
- New Era of Partnerships
- High-Performing Organization

EPA Goals 2014-2018
- Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality
- Protecting America’s Waters
- Cleaning Up Communities and Advancing Sustainable Development
- Ensuring the Safety of Chemicals and Preventing Pollution
- Enforcing Laws, Ensuring Compliance

Research Programs
- Air, Climate & Energy
- Safe and Sustainable Water Resources
- Sustainable and Healthy Communities
- Chemical Safety for Sustainability
- Human Health Risk Assessment
- Homeland Security
NCER Budget

TOTAL OPERATION PLAN BUDGET ($ IN MILLIONS)

FUNDING YEAR


119.9 133.7 133.9 124.1 126.1 109.6 95.7 76.0 70.7 68.6 78.2 88.8 84.4 73.1 73.6 62.7
EPA Research Grants to Universities

266 current grants in total (counts by state include primary and secondary Institutions)

$52 million extramural research grants + $9 million fellowships (FY 2014 Enacted Budget)
More than 1,000 peer-reviewed publications
More than 70% of the top 25 NCER-funded human health publications are from EPA/NIEHS Children’s Centers

These publications were in the top 1% (based on the number of citations)
Average number of citations from these publications is 225 and several have been cited by other publications between 300-530 times
Research Findings that Improve Public Health Knowledge

- Use of air cleaners can result in a significant reduction in indoor PM concentration and a significant increase in symptom-free days

- Children exposed to phthalates commonly found in personal care and plastic products (DEP and BBzP) have elevated risk of asthma-related airway inflammation

- Association between exposure to BPA, allergic inflammation and asthma in children
  Donohue et al, J Allergy Clin Immunol, 2013
NCER RFA
Example of Statutory Requirements

A. Introduction
B. Background
C. Authority and Regulations
   The authority for this RFA and resulting awards is contained in the Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10, 15 U.S.C. 2609, and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Section 20, 7 U.S.C. 136r
D. Specific Areas of Interest/Expected Outputs and Outcomes
E. References
F. Special Requirements
Reporting Requirements

• Consistent with other Federal funding
• Data and Publication Access
  – Public Access to Research Data
  – 2 CFR 200.3.15 establish Fed Govt right to obtain data produced under a Federal Award
• Scientific Integrity Policy
• Dual Use Research of Concern for national security
• Financial Reporting
• Performance Reports (Interim and Final)
Future Directions for EPA and Grantees

• Making research data publically available
  – Data formatting (usability)
  – Ensuring Personally Identifiable Information is removed
  – Ensuring Data can be accessed (in perpetuity?)

• Support for research data management and access