

## Genna Reed

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2019 8:50 AM  
**To:** Genna Reed; Press  
**Subject:** RE: Question about NACEPT

Hi Genna,

Please see our statement below in regards to your inquiry.

### **Attributable to an EPA Spokesperson**

In compliance with Executive Order 13875, EPA conducted a thorough evaluation of its Federal Advisory Committees and recommended the termination of the Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB) and the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT).

Neither of these committees are mandated by statute. In evaluating the potential impact of terminating these committees, EPA identified other available opportunities to continue receiving expert advice on topics of interest to both ELAB and NACEPT.

EPA has expressed its appreciation for the work of the advisors on ELAB and NACEPT for their service and has encouraged them to seek membership opportunities on other advisory committees. EPA will continue to engage with experts through all available avenues to ensure its work is sound and responsive to the American people that it serves.

EPA is not reviewing any other committees for termination as part of the response to EO 13875.

### **Background**

**NACEPT** was established in 1988 to provide policy advice on general environmental management.

- Since then, several more specialized FACs and collaborative groups have been established that provide advice on the EPA's media-specific regulatory actions and policies, thus limiting EPA's focus for NACEPT charges.
- NACEPT's work in the last four years has focused on only two issues: citizen science (reports provided in December 2016 and April 2018) and assumable waters (report provided in June 2017). Although the work products have been valuable, the work has been somewhat limited in terms of overall impact to EPA programs in comparison with the other eligible FACs.
- In evaluating the potential impact of terminating NACEPT, EPA identified other available opportunities for continuing to receive expert advice on topics of interest to NACEPT.

**ELAB** was established in 1995 to solicit consensus advice from the environmental laboratory community on the formation of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference process and standards.

- Since then, the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program has become self-sufficient through the formation of a nonprofit organization, The NELAC Institute, in 2006.
- When the committee's focus was subsequently narrowed, the overall impact of ELAB's work on EPA operations became limited in comparison with the other eligible FACs under the review required by EO 13875.

- In the last four years, no ELAB work products were used by EPA to drive changes to analyses, regulatory actions, priorities, or resource allocations and ELAB's charter expired in July 201
- In evaluating the potential impact of terminating ELAB, EPA identified other available opportunities for continuing to receive expert advice related to laboratory issues.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Office of Public Affairs  
Office of the Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Genna Reed <GReed@ucsusa.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 23, 2019 2:13 PM  
**To:** Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Question about NACEPT

Hello- I am following up on the email I sent yesterday that was forwarded to your office by Eugene Green (see below). Please let me know if you have any updates regarding the status of EPA's advisory committees since this information should be made publicly available either on the committee websites or through the GSA FACA database.

Thanks,

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