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University of Pennsylvania  
Institute for Environmental Studies

presents



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University of Pennsylvania

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Former Deputy Regional Administrator, US EPA – Region III

**Susan LeGros**

Stevens & Lee

## Science, Law, and Public Policy

Few would dispute that sound environmental policy and law should have their foundation in incontrovertible science. Under most circumstances, scientists, attorneys and policy makers cooperate to produce effective and responsible law and policy. However, on some complex and challenging issues, scientists, attorneys and policy makers may not always speak the same language. While a policy maker may seek “scientific certainty,” and lawyers must meet the burden of proof “beyond a reasonable doubt,” or by a “preponderance of the evidence,” scientists, calculate probabilities at the limits of current knowledge and technology.

When courts or regulatory agencies are pressed to respond to new concerns quickly, scientists are not always able to provide definitive answers immediately. In the absence of consensus in the scientific community how can or should environmental professionals proceed?

Using case studies and examples, this panel discussion will examine ways that scientists, policy makers and lawyers can work more effectively together.

**Date:** April 13, 2005  
**Time:** NOON - 1:30 pm  
**Place:** Carolyn Hoff Lynch Auditorium  
On the Penn campus: Chemistry Building:  
34 & Spruce Sts. (enter on 34 Street)

**NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

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NO FOOD OR DRINK PERMITTED IN THE AUDITORIUM

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