
University of Pennsylvania



Institute for Environmental Studies

presents

Marcia Mulkey

US EPA - Region III
Temple University Law School

Law, Science & Policy: How Each Challenges the Others in Implementing the Food Quality Protection Act

When the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) passed unanimously in 1996, it established several important new approaches for the assessment of the safety use of pesticides in food. These concepts, which represented such common-sense policy positions that no opposition was then apparent, were codified into the law and made immediately effective. The problem was, EPA had no clear and well understood methodologies for implementing these rigorous new ideas. In addition, they seemed to have the potential to radically alter the results of pesticide risk assessments and the licensing of both new and existing pesticides. The policy choices had been made; the law appeared clear; but the science and related science policies were not instantly and automatically ready. Consequently, the EPA found itself operating in a firestorm of implementation controversy.

Marcia Mulkey will discuss three of the major new risk assessment approaches mandated by the FQPA and explore how the scientific approaches emerged in the charged policy and political environment based on the legally mandated and immediately effective requirements. These requirements were: (1) to provide a tenfold margin of safety to protect children, (2) to consider all non-occupational exposure when evaluating food-use pesticides; and (3) to consider the cumulative exposure of all pesticides in a class.

This talk will discuss some of the scientific challenges the EPA faced when implementing these regulations and explain approaches the EPA developed to meet the legal, policy and scientific challenges.

Date: February 9, 2005
Time: NOON - 1:30 pm
Place: Carolyn Hoff Lynch Auditorium
On the Penn campus: Chemistry Building: 34 & Spruce Streets

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

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NO FOOD OR DRINK PERMITTED IN THE AUDITORIUM
