



An Early Review of OMB’s Final Peer Review Bulletin

Wednesday, February 23, 2005 Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch will be provided.

American Bar Association Washington Office
740 15th Street, NW, 9th Floor, Washington DC

On December 15, 2004, OMB issued the final version of its Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review. The Bulletin establishes, for the first time, uniform standards for peer reviews conducted by federal agencies of influential scientific information that they intend to disseminate to the public. It sets particularly rigorous requirements for peer reviews of highly influential scientific assessments. After two rounds of comment and an active interagency debate, the Bulletin is less prescriptive than earlier drafts. Will it work dramatic changes in how agencies publish or use scientific information? Will it slow down the wheels of regulation?

The bulletin is essentially a gloss on OMB's Information Quality Act guidelines, and has inherited some of the controversy associated with them. Come hear from the author of the bulletin, an agency scientist responsible for implementing it, and a prominent skeptic.

Panelists:

The Honorable John Graham, Administrator, OMB's Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs

Carl Mazza, Science Advisor, EPA Office of Air & Radiation

Sidney Shapiro, University Distinguished Chair in Law, Wake Forest University School of Law

Moderator: **Jamie Conrad**, Assistant General Counsel, American Chemistry Council

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