



American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources



Air Quality; Environmental Litigation and Toxic Torts; Environmental Transactions and Brownfields; International Environmental Law; Pesticides, Chemical Regulation and Right-to-Know; Site Remediation; Superfund and Natural Resource Damages Litigation; Sustainable Development, Ecosystems and Climate Change; Waste Management; and Water Quality and Wetlands Committees

Present the Nanotechnology Quick Teleconference Series

Nanotechnology and Environmental Governance

Thursday, June 21, 2007

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time / 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Central Time

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time / 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Pacific Time

Program Overview:

The development of nanotechnologies is proceeding at a very rapid pace. With the promise of a three trillion dollar industry and 14 percent of world manufacturing output by 2015, no company, university, or government wants to be left behind in what many see as the next industrial revolution. The speed at which the technologies are advancing presents a major challenge for environmental governance. As one commentator has noted, we have moved into a world “dominated by rapid improvements in products, processes, and organizations, all moving at rates that exceed the ability of our traditional governing institutions to adapt or shape outcomes.”

The next program in the nanotechnology teleconference series will explore the need for voluntary environmental governance mechanisms to augment EPA’s traditional regulatory programs to manage the issues associated with nanotechnology’s rapid commercialization, including voluntary programs, information disclosure, public involvement, labeling requirements, liability, and corporate social responsibility. The panel discussing these issues will include an internationally recognized scientific expert in nanotechnology reliability and molecular contamination, the Director of Product and Supply Chain Stewardship from one of the world’s leading nanotechnology companies, and one of the early leaders on nanotechnology governance from the non-profit sector.

Educational Objectives:

- Gain a better understanding of how the science of nanotechnology affects decisions about nanotechnology governance;
- Obtain a better understanding of voluntary governance methods supplementing EPA’s regulatory programs that are available to address the potential environmental issues associated with the technologies;
- Learn about how traditional regulatory approaches to nanotechnology governance can be integrated with other methods of governance;
- Understand how these other methods of governance may affect clients as they develop and market products that utilize nanomaterials.

Faculty:

Moderators:

Richard M. Fil, Robinson & Cole LLP, Hartford, CT

Lee Paddock, Associate Dean & Director of Environmental Law Programs, George Washington University Law School, Washington, DC

Panelists:

Allyson Hartzell, Sc.M., Managing Scientist, Exponent Failure Analyst Associates, Natick MA

Kevin J. Fay, Director, Product & Supply Chain Stewardship, PPG Industries, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

Linda K. Breggin, Senior Attorney, Environmental Law Institute, Washington, DC

Questions?

Do you have a question that you would like the panel to address? Please email your question to Richard Fil at RFil@RC.com, by June 20, 2007 at noon Eastern Time and the panel will make every effort to address your inquiry.

