



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Ms. Michelle Roos  
Executive Director  
Environmental Protection Network  
3100 Ellicott Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Ms. Roos:

Thank you for your letter of April 30, 2021, regarding your interest in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP) (<https://www.epa.gov/endocrine-disruption>).

Under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), EPA was required to develop a screening program, using appropriate validated test systems and other scientifically relevant information to determine if certain substances may have an effect on human health that is similar to an effect produced by a naturally occurring estrogen. The statute also allowed EPA to expand the program to include "other endocrine effects," which was done in 1998, when EPA adopted recommendation (<https://www.epa.gov/endocrine-disruption/endocrine-disruptor-screening-and-testing-advisory-committee-edstac-final>) from the Endocrine Disruptor Screening and Testing Advisory Committee (EDSTAC) to address both potential human and ecological effects from chemical exposures and to examine effects of these chemicals on estrogen, androgen and thyroid hormone-related processes. As a result, EPA developed EDSP.

On July 28, 2021, EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention received the EPA Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) report (<https://www.epa.gov/office-inspector-general/report-epas-endocrine-disruptor-screening-program-has-made-limited>) to determine the progress of testing all pesticides for human endocrine disruption activity through EDSP. The OIG has made 10 recommendations to EPA. In general, the agency agreed with all of the OIG recommendations, as they are closely aligned with EPA's vision for this program. Several of these recommendations, such as resolving scientific issues for the List 1 (<https://www.epa.gov/endocrine-disruption/overview-first-list-chemicals-tier-1-screening-under-endocrine-disruptor>) and List 2 (<https://www.epa.gov/endocrine-disruption/overview-second-list-chemicals-tier-1-screening-under-endocrine-disruptor>) chemicals, also overlap with issues identified in your letter. In addition, the OIG recommends that EPA complete its white paper on new approach methods and for EPA to develop a strategic plan and metrics for EDSP. These activities will further address issues identified by EPN.

EPA appreciates the EPN feedback and will consider it as we implement the OIG's recommendations, in accordance with the agency's agreed upon schedule.

Again, thank you for your letter. We look forward to strengthening our relationship with EPN and other stakeholders as we forge ahead in our work.

Sincerely,

Michal Freedhoff, Ph.D.  
Assistant Administrator