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

September 11, 2020

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Michael Honeycutt, Ph.D.
Chair
Science Advisory Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Honeycutt:

Thank you for the August 3, 2020, final report titled "Review of the All Ages Lead Model External Review Draft 2.0."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board assembled an internationally recognized panel of subject matter experts for its review of the All Ages Lead Model. My staff appreciates the thorough review and constructive comments provided by the peer review panel during its public meeting on October 17-18, 2019, and in their draft review report discussed via public teleconference on April 23, 2020. The thoughtful discussion of the draft review report by the chartered SAB during their public teleconference on June 23, 2020, provided further insight into potential uses and needs for the AALM.

I commend the structure of the final report containing SAB's consensus and minority responses to the agency's charge questions. The tiered recommendations (i.e. recommended necessary revisions, suggested revisions and future considerations) within the report will support our ability to rapidly revise the AALM and plan for further development. Sincere thanks are extended to the chair of the peer review panel, Dr. Hugh Barton, for his steadfast dedication during the AALM review deliberations and to you for guiding the peer review process to completion.

We know that lead exposure can affect the health of both children and adults. The AALM provides a tool capable of assessing the disposition of lead in tissues of humans of all ages following acute and chronic exposures via various media (e.g. water, air and soil). I am pleased to inform you that Dr. James Brown has been revising the model and documentation in response to preliminary SAB peer review comments. In brief, a new respiratory exposure module is being developed that may be applied to occupational as well as ambient exposure scenarios. The user interface has been modified as suggested by the SAB panel to make it easier to run model simulations and quickly review results. The information and recommendations in the final SAB

peer review report will be carefully considered as the agency prepares an updated version of the AALM for use by agency programs and regions, state and tribal partners and the public.

Sincerely,

Andrew R. Wheeler