

Meeting 6 – October 22, 2024: Speaker and Panelist Bios

SANDRA BAIRD

Sandra Baird, PhD is the Chief of the Toxicology Division in the Office of Research and Standards at the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. Her work supports the air toxics and drinking water programs by developing toxicity values, risk assessment methods, guidance, and policy to support risk-based decision-making for the protection of public health. In addition to her expertise in cumulative impact analysis and risk assessment methods for mixtures and probabilistic noncancer toxicity values, she has worked on a series of projects that support science-based decision-making on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, total petroleum hydrocarbons, ethylene oxide, and tetrachloroethylene. Dr. Baird received her B.S. in Toxicology from Northeastern University and a Ph.D. in Toxicology from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. She was a Fellow in the Interdisciplinary Program in Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. She was a member of the 2011 National Academies Committee on Formaldehyde.

SABINE LANGE

Dr. Sabine Lange is the Chief Toxicologist at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and is the Director for the TCEQ Toxicology, Risk Assessment, and Research Division. Dr. Lange completed a Ph.D. and post-doctoral training at the University of Texas at Houston and MD Anderson Cancer Center, and she is a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology. Dr. Lange's responsibilities include overseeing health effects risk assessments and the development of chemical toxicity factors, and coordinating and conducting research activities. She serves as a technical resource for the State and citizens of Texas for human health and environmental risk assessment, especially related to air and water quality. Dr. Lange has not received any external financial support for participating in this activity. She previously served on the 2022-2023 NASEM panel for the peer review of US EPA's formaldehyde assessment.

NICKY SHEATS

Dr. Nicky Sheats, Esq., is the director of the Center for the Urban Environment of the John S. Watson Institute for Urban Policy and Research at Kean University and has defined the primary mission of the Center as providing support for the environmental justice (EJ) community. Among the issues he works on are air pollution, climate change, cumulative impacts, developing EJ legal strategies and increasing the working capacity of the EJ community. Sheats was a founding member of the NJ EJ Alliance, EJ Leadership Forum, EJ and Science Initiative and an informal NE EJ Attorneys Group. He was appointed to the NJ Clean Air Council, EPA's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee and National EJ Advisory Council, and was a co-author of the human health chapter of the 2014 national climate assessment. He is currently serving on the White House EJ Advisory Council. Early in his career Sheats practiced law as a public interest attorney. He holds a B.A. in economics from Princeton University and earned a Ph.D. in Earth and Planetary Sciences, J.D. and M.P.P. from Harvard University. Sheats also took science courses as a post-baccalaureate student at the City College of New York and has served as a part-time lecturer at Princeton University.

MEREDITH WILLIAMS

Meredith Williams served as the director of California's Department of Toxic Substances Control from 2019-2024. Prior to that she was the Deputy Director for California's green chemistry Safer Consumer Products program. She holds a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University and a B.A. from Yale University. She was a committee member for NASEM's study on Emerging Science on Indoor Chemistry and participated in prior NASEM workshops on PFAS Exposures (2019) and the Causal Understanding for Human Health Risk-Based Decision Making (2017)

ANN WOLVERTON

Dr. Ann Wolverton is a senior research economist at the National Center for Environmental Economics (NCEE) at the U.S. EPA. She currently leads the agency's community of practice on environmental justice (EJ) in rulemakings, heads a team that reviews all EJ analyses for major rules, and is leading the update of EPA's technical guidance for conducting evaluating EJ in regulatory analyses. Ann also leads a team conducting research on and building capacity in economy-wide modeling, is involved in developing EPA guidance for conducting economic analysis for rulemakings and was part of the inaugural interagency effort to develop social cost of carbon estimates for use in regulatory analysis. Prior to her current positions, Ann spent a decade leading an EPA team focused on the economics of climate change. In addition, Ann has twice served as a Senior Economist at the Council of Economic Advisers, once in 2006-2007 and again in 2009-2010. She received her PhD in economics from the University of Texas at Austin.