

# 2009 SRST Expert Panel Meeting

Meeting Format, Expert Panel Role, Panel  
Feedback Questions, & Ground Rules

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# Revised Meeting Format

- Responding to Feedback from Expert Panel & SRST Members
  - Fewer presentations that reflect “state of our knowledge” & seek to build consensus understanding
  - More time for discussion
  - More effectively engage expert panel members

# Revised Meeting Format (cont'd)

- Day 1
  - Coordinated talks that tell where we are & where we are going
    - Hg Cycling in Aquatic System
    - Remedial Options & Watershed Management
    - Fate & Dynamics of Hg in Terrestrial System
  - Guided by expert panel feedback questions
  - Target audience: Expert panel members
- Day 2
  - Expert panel meets separately to develop written & verbal feedback
  - Work group updates for SRST members
  - Expert panel shares feedback in afternoon

# Expert Panel Role

- Provide verbal & written feedback on Day 1 presentations
  - guided by expert panel feedback questions
- Verbal feedback: PowerPoint presentation Day 2
- Written feedback: Joint memo (3-5 pages) to SRST
- Use 1-hour time period after each session to ask questions, engage SRST members, & provide preliminary feedback
- Kathy Adams available to help you develop feedback

# Questions to Guide Expert Panel Feedback

## 1. Have we sufficiently characterized the South River aquatic environment?

- Consensus on predominant pathways by which IHg & other constituents/conditions for methylation enter & move through aquatic system to sites of methylation
- Consensus on how Hg subsequently bioaccumulates within the food web to fish?

# Questions to Guide Expert Panel Feedback

2. Are we considering an appropriate blend of innovative watershed management & remedial technology options for managing risk & reducing MeHg levels in fish?
  - Overlooking opportunities to modify critical methylmercury production compartments/ processes or bioaccumulation pathways that will reduce MeHg concs. in South River biota?
3. Have we collected & analyzed sufficient data to reach a consensus understanding of fate & dynamics of Hg in the terrestrial environment adjacent to the South River?

# Clarification Questions for Panel Feedback

- A. What are key uncertainties (ranked as H, M, & L), along with the rationale for ranking?**
- High: Further study and data collection required
  - Medium: Additional data would be helpful, but not required
  - Low: Further study is probably not warranted
- B. How can we close knowledge/understanding gaps?**
- C. What would laboratory/field studies look like?**
- D. If additional data collection & study are recommended, is it even feasible to collect these data?**

# Ground Rules

- Stay focused on session topic & feedback questions
  - target audience on Day 1: Expert Panel members
  - target audience on Day 2: SRST members
- Listen to understand
  - ask questions for clarification only during presentations
  - more time for questions during 1-hour discussion period
- Person speaking has the floor
  - avoid sidebar discussions
- Speakers, please respect your allotted time slot
- Be positive
  - build upon ideas/hypotheses/questions
- Be patient
  - new meeting format this year
  - chance for feedback at end of tomorrow