

AVMA



American Veterinary Medical Association

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U.S. EPA Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation (MC1807T)  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

FRL-8937-6: NACEPT Subcommittee on Promoting Environmental Stewardship; Environmental Protection Agency; Notice of Meeting

Dear U.S. EPA Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation:

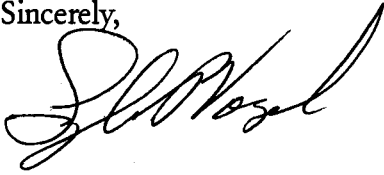
The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), established in 1863, is the largest veterinary medical association in the world. As a not-for-profit association established to advance the science and art of veterinary medicine, AVMA is the recognized national voice for the veterinary profession. The association's more than 78,000 members represent approximately 85% of US veterinarians, all of whom are involved in a myriad of areas of veterinary medical practice, including private, corporate, academic, industrial, governmental, military, and public health services.

As veterinarians, we strive to use our medical expertise to advance and protect the health of our nation's animals, people, and environment. The AVMA recognizes and strongly agrees with the need for the promotion of environmental stewardship practices. We have developed and enacted numerous association-wide policies focusing on environmental and public health issues such as our policies titled "Environmental Responsibility," "Best Management Practices for Pharmaceutical Disposal," "Energy Conservation," "Global Climate Change and Animal Health," "Healthy People 2010," "National Zoonotic Infectious Diseases Surveillance," "Animal Agriculture Waste Management," as well as many others. In addition, the AVMA has several governance entities such as the Committee on Environmental Issues, the Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine, the Food Safety Advisory Committee, and the Committee on Disaster and Emergency Issues, all of which are composed of subject matter experts and address topics related to public health and environmental health.

Furthermore, the AVMA has been a lead organization embracing and promoting the One Health concept. One Health, as the name implies, refers to the fact that the health of people, animals, and our environment are inseparably intertwined and interdependent. Addressing one or two without considering all three is incomplete and potentially problematic. The One Health concept is grounded in the need for collaborative efforts by multiple disciplines with the goal of optimal health of people, animals, and our environment.

We look forward to continuing the dialogue, and appreciate the opportunity to offer our comments on this important issue.

Sincerely,



W. Ron DeHaven, DVM, MBA  
CEO/Executive Vice President  
American Veterinary Medical Association

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