

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: 4th Update on ORD Transformation Task Force Activities

FROM: Larry Reiter, Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Management

TO: ORD Staff

In this fourth update about the Transformation Taskforce activities, I am pleased to announce the availability of the Transformation intranet web site. It should be live by 9:00 am EDT Monday April 27. I hope you will visit the site, which you can find at: <http://intranet.epa.gov/ORD/transformation>. On this site you will find background information about the transformation, the briefing documents we have used on various occasions, an archive of past memoranda on the transformation, some frequently asked questions and answers (FAQs), and an opportunity for you to ask additional questions or make a comment.

I expect the transformation web site to be the primary means by which we communicate our future progress, so I encourage you to check it regularly. We will make an effort to update the web site on a weekly basis, and when significant additions are made I may send an e-mail alerting you to that. In addition, there will be links to the transformation web site from the ORD@work main page.

In my last update I promised to give names of the members of the Transformation Task Force workgroups. We are still awaiting final identification of these individuals. As soon as the workgroups are constituted, we will post that information on the web site.

The Task Force is eager to pilot the concept of planning a program around a problem that requires an integrated multidisciplinary approach (IMD), and that may emerge as problem of broad national significance. To that end, at the ORD Executive Council meeting April 15-16, the ORD National Program Directors described conceptual models for a “one hydrosphere” problem, and a “managing risk to contaminants” problem. Both of these are administrator priorities and science policy council priorities. The EC asked the NPDs to take a next step in fleshing out each of these models. Seeing the product of these NPD activities will help the Task Force think through the concepts we are trying to develop.

Let me close by encouraging your continued interest in this activity. I look forward to hearing from you through the web site.