

## Report of the EPA Science Advisory Board

*Implementation of ORD Strategic Research Plans: A Joint Report of the Science Advisory Board and ORD Board of Scientific Counselors, EPA-SAB-12-012, 2012.*

<http://nepis.epa.gov/Adobe/PDF/P100F67G.PDF>

This report was submitted to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, as a blueprint for future actions within the Office of Research and Development (ORD). It covers all aspects of ORD, not just water resources concerns. Some important highlights of the report are:

- The Air, Climate and Energy program should include a plan for energy research and indicate how this research will integrate with the plans for climate and air quality research.
- The Chemical Safety for Sustainability program should demonstrate how its research products impact upon end users (e.g., risk managers, policy makers) and how it brings value for informing decisions.
- The Safe and Sustainable Waters program should identify and seek opportunities for leveraging research of other federal agencies and engage with communities in setting the program's research priorities and research development. Program linkages with sustainability, nutrient management and green infrastructure are critical to the success of this program.
- ORD should develop and implement a strategic vision for the Human Health Risk Assessment program to enhance linkages among the program's four thematic areas and other research programs, particularly the Chemical Safety for Sustainability program.
- The Homeland Security Research Program, a valuable national resource, should evaluate its potential contributions to sustainability and consider adopting a broader mission that considers the multiple benefits of its products and application of its research to help respond to a wide variety of environmental disasters.
- The Sustainable and Health Communities program should focus its science questions and research more clearly; articulate how it will interact with local communities, state environmental agencies and regional offices; and clearly distinguish research from implementation of environmental programs.