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EPA Information Quality Guidelines (IQG)

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Welcome to the EPA Information Quality Guidelines Site!

The Office of Environmental Information has created this website to serve as the home for EPA's guidelines during their development and finalization. Draft guidelines will be posted on this site and the final guidelines will also be available here. You can also learn about upcoming public involvement opportunities and in the future, submit comments on-line and even register for the public meeting in May.

EPA is currently developing its Information Quality Guidelines to comply with a new Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guideline. Section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for FY2001 (Public Law 106-554) directed OMB to issue government-wide guidelines that "provide policy and procedural guidance to Federal agencies for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information, including statistical information, disseminated by Federal agencies." The OMB guidelines were first issued on September 28, 2001 and are summarized below. Click here to read the OMB Information Quality guidelines as published in the Federal Register

In summary, OMB's guidelines direct agencies to:

- Develop and implement their agency-specific information quality guidelines by October 1, 2002;
- Adopt a basic standard of quality as a performance goal and incorporate the standard into Agency operations;
- Develop a process for reviewing the quality of information before it is disseminated;
- Establish administrative mechanisms for affected persons to request correction of information that may not comply with Agency guidelines; and
- Annually report to OMB the number and nature of complaints received regarding Agency compliance with the Agency guidelines and how complaints were resolved beginning January 1, 2004.

EPA is working to develop its guidelines right now. In order to do so, EPA has formed an internal workgroup comprised of representatives from EPA program offices and Regions. The first task of the Workgroup is to prepare draft Agency guidelines for public comment.

EPA Information Quality Guidelines

- <u>Draft Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality,</u>
 <u>Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Environmental Protection Agency [PDF 63kb]</u>
- Final EPA Information Quality Guidelines EPA plans to post on October 1, 2002

Public Involvement Opportunities

- <u>Public Comment period</u> (May 1 May 31) submit a comment via this website!
- May 15, 2002 EPA Public meeting in Washington, DC register online! (Please register by May 3rd, 2002)
- Online Comment Session Information has now ended as of Midnight March 22nd

EPA Federal Register Notices

- Draft Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality,
 Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the
 Environmental Protection Agency [PDF 16kb] [Docket No.: OEI-10014]
- Developing EPA Information Quality Guidelines Pursuant to OMB Information Quality Guidelines Under Section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for FY 2001 (Public Law 106-554; HR 5658) [PDF 33kb]

Related Links

- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidelines on Information Quality [PDF 128kb]
- EPA Quality System
- EPA Integrated Error Correction Process for Environmental Data

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You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader EXIT disclaimer to view a number of files on this site. Click here for more information about Adobe Acrobat.

For questions or comments about the Information Quality Guidelines Web site, please contact: chang.ming@epa.gov

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