

Listing PFAS under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)

October 25, 2-3:00 PM ET

Speaker Biographies

Walter Mugdan, Deputy Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA Region 2

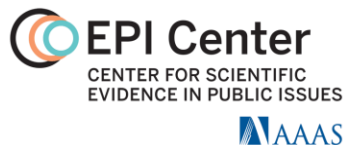
Since 2017 Walter Mugdan has served as Deputy Regional Administrator (DRA) for Region 2 of the U.S. EPA. In that capacity, he supports the Regional Administrator in overall management of the 760-person office. In 2021, during the presidential transition period, he served for ten months as Acting Regional Administrator.

Walter previously served from 2008 to 2018 as Director of the Emergency and Remedial Response Division (ERRD) where he headed a staff of over 200 employees responsible for the Region's "Superfund" toxic waste cleanup, emergency response and brownfields programs. From 2002 to 2008 Walter served as Director of the Division of Environmental Planning & Protection, where his staff of about 180 scientists, engineers and planners managed the Region's air, water, hazardous waste and environmental review programs. From 1995 to 2002 Walter served as Regional Counsel, where he headed a staff of 80 attorneys in the Office of Regional Counsel. For the prior ten years, Walter served as Deputy Regional Counsel. He joined EPA in 1975 as a staff attorney, and subsequently served in various supervisory positions in the Office of Regional Counsel, including Chief of the units responsible for Superfund, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Clean Air Act. In 1998, Walter spent eight months on a temporary detail as Acting Director of Region 2's Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, where he managed a staff of 150 engineers, scientists and field inspectors.

Walter has authored numerous publications on environmental law topics, particularly on hazardous waste regulation and remediation. He is a frequent speaker and lecturer on these subjects. From 1991 to 1997 he was an Adjunct Professor at Pace University Law School, where he taught a course on Superfund law. From 1992 until 2019 Walter was the Director of EPA's annual week-long Trial Advocacy Institute. Walter served as an officer of the Environmental Law Section of the New York State Bar Association from 2002-2007, culminating in a one-year term as Section Chair. He has been a member of the Section's Executive Committee since 1985 and, for 17 years, served as Co-Chair of that Section's Hazardous Site Remediation Committee.

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In his private life, Walter heads the Udalls Cove Preservation Committee, a local conservation group in northeastern Queens County, NY; and also heads the Westmoreland Association, his local homeowners' civic association.

He earned his JD (1975) and BA (1972) degrees from the University of Michigan.

Jim Woolford, Former Director Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation, Retired, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

James E. Woolford (Jim) was the Director of the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI) in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Land and Emergency Management. He retired in April 2020. He started as OSRTI's Director in December 2006. At the time of his retirement, he was the longest tenured Office Director in the Program's 40+ year history. After his retirement, Jim received the EPA Distinguished Career Award. He also was a recipient of a SES Presidential Rank Award in 2008. Since his retirement, Jim has been volunteering for the Environmental Protection Network (EPN). (<https://www.environmentalprotectionnetwork.org/>)

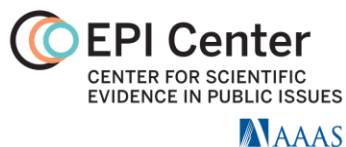
As Director of OSRTI, Jim set national policy direction for the Superfund remedial/long term cleanup program. Among other topics, this included the initial drafts for PFOA and PFOS hazardous substance designation. He had over 150 career staff reporting to him in OSRTI and oversaw national implementation operations of the 10 Regional Superfund Remedial Programs. His responsibilities included a national budget that annually obligated an average of more than \$700 million towards assessment, investigation and cleanup of Superfund remedial and large cost removal projects to protect America's communities at more than 1,200 National Priorities List (NPL) sites. (Annual Superfund Remedial Appropriations plus Enforcement Settlement funds).

Jim successfully worked with states (including ASTSWMO and ECOS), tribes, affected communities and potentially responsible parties (PRPs) on cleanups and redevelopment projects.

Prior to becoming OSRTI's Director, Jim served as the Director of the Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office for 12 years. He was responsible for EPA's oversight of cleanup actions by other federal agencies at more than 150 federal facilities listed on the Superfund National Priorities List and EPA's implementation of DoD's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Fast Track Cleanup Program at more than 100 military bases in the US. During that time, he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in 1998. In 2008, he received a "Meritorious Executive Service" Award for his accomplishments in the Federal Facilities/Base Closure Program. He also received recognition for his environmental justice work related to protecting vulnerable communities near Federal facilities from the Harambee House/Citizens for Environmental Justice in Georgia.

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He also served as the Director of the Program Operations Division in the Office of Federal Facilities Enforcement, and as a Branch Chief and a Section Chief in the Superfund Enforcement Division in the Office of Waste Programs Enforcement. He began his civil service career at EPA in 1986 as a program analyst.

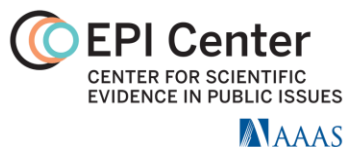
Jim earned an M.A. in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1980 and he conducted Ph.D. work at Rutgers University in New Jersey (ABD). His undergraduate degree is in Political Science from Virginia Tech with a double major in Philosophy.

Linda Birnbaum, Scientist Emeritus and Former Director National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and National Toxicology Program and Scholar in Residence, Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University

Linda S. Birnbaum, Ph.D., D.A.B.T., A.T.S. is the former Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the National Institutes of Health, and the National Toxicology Program (NTP). After retirement, she was granted scientist emeritus status and still maintains a laboratory. As a board-certified toxicologist, Birnbaum served as a federal scientist for 40 years. Prior to her appointment as NIEHS and NTP Director in 2009, she spent 19 years at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where she directed the largest division focusing on environmental health research.

Birnbaum has received many awards and recognitions. In 2016, she was awarded the North Carolina Award in Science. She was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, one of the highest honors in the fields of medicine and health. She was also elected to the Collegium Ramazzini, an independent, international academy comprised of internationally renowned experts in the fields of occupational and environmental health and received an honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Rochester and a Distinguished Alumna Award from the University of Illinois. She has also received Honorary Doctorates from the University of Rhode Island, Ben-Gurion University, Israel, and Amity University, India; the Surgeon General's Medallion 2014; and 14 Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards, which reflect the recommendations of EPA's external Science Advisory Board, for specific publications. Dr. Birnbaum recently received the Winslow Award, the highest honor from the Yale School of Public Health, She has also received numerous awards from professional societies and citizen's groups.

Birnbaum is an active member of the scientific community. She was vice president of the International Union of Toxicology, the umbrella organization for toxicology societies in more than 50 countries, and former president of the Society of Toxicology, the largest professional organization of toxicologists in the world. She is the author of more than 1000 peer-reviewed



publications, book chapters, abstracts, and reports. Birnbaum's own research focuses on the pharmacokinetic behavior of environmental chemicals, mechanisms of action of toxicants including endocrine disruption, and linking of real-world exposures to health effects. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Queensland in Australia, the School of Public Health of Yale University, the Gillings School of Global Public Health, the Curriculum in Toxicology, and the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as well as in the Integrated Toxicology and Environmental Health Program at Duke University where she is also a Scholar in Residence.

A native of New Jersey, Birnbaum received her M.S. and Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.