Ms. Sohee Ahn  
Chair  
Canada-wide Standards Development Committee for Dioxins and Furans  
c/o B.C. Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection  
Strategic Policy, Planning & Intergovernmental Relations Branch  
2975 Jutland Road, 5th Floor  
P.O. Box 9335 Stn Provincial Government  
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1

Subject: 2003 Review of the Canada-wide Standards (CWS) for Dioxins and Furans from Steel Manufacturing Electric Arc Furnaces (EAFs)

Dear Ms. Ahn,

On behalf of the Steel Environmental Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (SEMAG), I am pleased to forward the following recommendation to the CWS Development Committee (DC) for Dioxins and Furans regarding the 2003 Review of the CWS for Dioxins and Furans from Steel Manufacturing EAFs.

SEMAG received the guidance advanced by the DC to scan for significant new information in relation to the numerical targets in the current CWS. It was concluded by SEMAG that there was no new significant information warranting a review of the current standard, at this time. This view took into account the recent work undertaken by William Lemmon & Associates for the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) to research technical options on pollution prevention opportunities for steel EAFs, and Canada’s participation in the Expert Group on Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for unintentional production of persistent organic pollutants, under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Stockholm Convention.

Also taken into account were new dioxins and furans emission testing results for several EAF mills. Some are above current CWS limits. The data available to date shows a range in emission test run results.

Also considered was the required evaluation of all Canada-wide Standards for Dioxins and Furans in 2006 to “consider new scientific, technical and economic information and provide an assessment of the need to develop the next set of CWS targets and
timelines to continue progress toward virtual elimination”. This was noted and identified as a timely opportunity to reconsider the current standard for steel EAFs with new information and additional test data that should be available at that time.

Taking the above into consideration, the SEMAG recommends to the DC that:

- No change is required in the current Canada-wide Standard for Dioxins and Furans from Steel Manufacturing Electric Arc Furnaces for December 2003.

In addition, it is suggested that the focus for the steel EAF sector be on implementation of the current standards by jurisdictions, in accordance with Annex 1 (Reporting Framework), noting the requirements for a report on interim progress in achieving the CWS in 2004, and the evaluation of CWS for Dioxins and Furans in 2006.

SEMAG members agreed that it could continue to be forum for advice to the CWS Development Committee as may be required in future.

The above is respectfully submitted on behalf of SEMAG.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

Patrick G. Finlay
Chair
Steel Environmental Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (SEMAG)

cc:

Members and Observers of SEMAG
Krista Nakrieko, CCME
James Riordan, Environment Canada

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