



NEERAJA ERRAGUNTLA, Ph.D.
TCEQ SENIOR TOXICOLOGIST

Neeraja Erraguntla (Neera) has served as TCEQ Senior Toxicologist since 2005 and held the position of Toxicologist III since 2010. Neera is a subject matter expert to agency staff and the public concerning toxicology and risk assessment issues. In addition to being the Project Manager for the Hillcrest Community Environmental Investigation (HCEI), Neera has also conducted several health effects reviews of air monitoring data from monitoring sites in many areas of Texas including: Midland, Dallas, Beaumont, and Corpus Christi. In addition, Neera has also conducted base line risk assessments and health effects reviews of arsenic in drinking water. Neera has also played an important role in developing TCEQ “Guidelines for the development of the Effects Screening Values, Reference Values, and Unit Risk Factors” and has actively participated in developing chemical specific values for chemicals such as ethylene and inorganic arsenic. Neera is also a team leader and her team has developed appropriate comparison values for many important chemicals such as xylenes, toluene, ethylbenzene, and trivalent chromium. Neera is also the subject matter expert on the health effects of ozone and diesel exhaust.

Neera has also collaborated with the other state and federal agencies on risk assessment projects and has been trained on using the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Dose Modeling Software (BMDS v 2.0) and CIIT’s Multiple-Path Particle Dosimetry Model (MPPD v 2.0). Neera has also obtained extensive training in conducting advanced toxicological risk assessments including non-cancer and cancer risk assessment, dosimetric adjustments, nanotoxicology, and epidemiology for toxicologists. Neera has also obtained training to conduct advanced quantitative risk assessments.

Since 2009, Neera has been appointed as a National Advisory Committee Member for the U.S. EPA’s National Advisory Committee for the Development of Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances (AEGL). The AEGL committee was formed to develop and recommend AEGLs for hazardous chemicals for use in chemical emergency programs to EPA.

Neera has also been appointed as an Adjunct Faculty with the Texas A&M University Health Science Center (TAMU-HSC). She has also taught a class titled Risk Assessment for the Master’s of Public Health students (MPH) at TAMU-HSC. Neera is also currently mentoring a student in the MPH program at TAMU-HSC. In addition, Neera has also presented guest lectures at the University of Texas at Austin and at the Hutson Tillotson University in Austin.

Neera is an active participant of a Long-Term Health Advisory Group in Corpus Christi and has presented health effects reviews of air monitoring data from monitoring sites in Corpus Christi. Neera has also presented her findings to the Tuloso-Independent School District officials in Corpus Christi.

Neera has a Ph.D. in Toxicology and a MS in Agronomy from Louisiana State University - Baton Rouge. Neera has also completed her Post-doctoral fellowship from the University of Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

PUBLICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

- Erraguntla, N.K., (2009). Development Support Document for acute and chronic non-carcinogenic toxicity assessments for arsenic and inorganic arsenic-August 2009.
- Erraguntla, N.K., (2009).Independent peer review of acute and chronic non-carcinogenic toxicity assessments for inorganic arsenic-
- Erraguntla, N.K., (2008). Development Support Document for Ethylene
- Roberta L. Grant, Bernard J. Kadlubar, Neeraja K. Erraguntla, and Michael Honeycutt (2007). Evaluation of Acute Inhalation Toxicity for Chemicals with Limited Toxicity Information. Deriving Health-Protective Air Concentrations from LC50 Data, Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, Volume 47, Issue 3, Pages 261-273.
- 2008: Conducted several presentations and health effects reviews of the air monitoring data in Texas.
- 2007: Delivered presentations on the health effects of arsenic in drinking water at the TCEQ's drinking water conference and participated in TCEQ's Trade Fair.
- 2005-2007: Conducted several presentations on the health effects of ozone and particulate matter to stakeholders, Drive Clean across Texas Committee members.
- Erraguntla, N.K., Characterization of the p53 gene sequence in exons 5-8 of the mosquito fish *Gambusia affinis*, Ph.D. Dissertation, Louisiana State University, 1998.

HONORS / AWARDS

- Heidi Lott Memorial Scholarship for excellence in Research for the year 1997
- Graduate School Tuition award from 1995-1998