# TCEQ LogoNational Comments

# Executive Review Summary

**TCEQ Proposed Comments On:**

Updated Problem Formulation and Protocol for the Inorganic Arsenic IRIS Assessment for public review and comment published in the May 28, 2019 Federal Register; EPA Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–ORD–2012–0830.

**Overview of Proposal:**

The EPA’s Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Program is developing an updated Toxicological Review of Inorganic Arsenic. The previous inorganic arsenic IRIS assessment was published in 1995. As such, a substantial amount of new data and refined methods for hazard assessment and exposure- and dose-response analysis have emerged since the previous assessment. The EPA’s Updated Problem Formulation and Protocol for the Inorganic Arsenic IRIS Assessment is intended to help focus the scope and objectives of the assessment and ensure that it is transparently conducted using the best available scientific data and methods.

This updated problem formulation and protocol summarizes the EPA needs for the assessment and presents the refined focus based on problem formulation activities conducted since the last assessment plan released to the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS) in 2015. Given the size and complexity of the evidence base for this chemical, input on the scope of this assessment has been sought from the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS), EPA Program and Regional Offices, other federal agencies, and public stakeholders to help focus the objectives. On July 16, 2019, an NAS ad hoc committee review the revised assessment and determine whether the proposed methods are appropriate to synthesize the scientific evidence and develop conclusions. The deadline for public comments on EPA’s updated problem formulation and protocol is June 27, 2019.

**Summary of Comments:**

TCEQ staff have reviewed the Updated Problem Formulation and Protocol for the Inorganic Arsenic IRIS Assessment. TCEQ staff provide constructive comments on EPA’s updated problem formulation and protocol and in general, support EPA’s modeling plan approaches. Staff also provide specific editorial comments.

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**Internal Coordination** (Name/Office)**:**

**Division Director Approval** (Name)**: Michael Honeycutt, PhD/ Director, Toxicology, Risk Assessment, and Research Division/Office of the Executive Director**

**Deadline** (Submittal Due Date)**:** June 13, 2019