

Timeline of events regarding comments by John Kern, PhD

March 3, 2009. Dr Kern submitted written comments on the UMDES statistical modeling methods, analysis, and interpretation

March 30, 2009. Dr Kern, UMDES, MDCH, MDEQ, EPA region 5, ATSDR, and Dow met at UM for a full day meeting to address Dr. Kern's comments and UM response to his comments. We identified a plan for jointly examining the data analyses to resolve questions.

April 1, 2009. Jim Sygo, PhD, Deputy Director of MDEQ sends e-mail to UMDES expressing support for a collaborative effort to analyse the UMDES data.

April 20, 2009. Dr Kern submitted written suggestions to UM for additional analyses he would like to see.

April 20-27, 2009. UM performed the analyses requested by Dr. Kern.

April 28-29, 2009. Dr. Kern, MDEQ, MDCH, UMDES, and Dow met for 2 full days to examine the new analyses and to identify additional analyses that should be run to address questions.

As a result of this series of meetings and comments we have resolved many of the questions that Dr. Kern raised. There is agreement that the UMDES analyses were correctly performed and were appropriate. There are a small number of questions that remained unanswered and a plan has been laid out to address them. We will implement that plan over the next few weeks. There were no concerns that the UMDES data were incorrect or improperly analyzed.