

Q&A

- **U.S. EPA:** When you put this into research priorities, what plans do you have for prioritization of what you hear from diverse communities with diverse needs?
 - **Viktoriya Plotkin:** We have a process called the 'partner process,' and we must balance internal priorities and interagency process priorities. The 'partner process' looks at those priorities and helps prioritize them. What we are hearing from the states that they are already priorities; it just requires prioritizing them again. Fentanyl is a huge issue in some states and not others; it is the same with PFAS. Hawaii may be concerned with radiological/nuclear concerns. So, it does depend on that and looking across those broader concerns
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** I had a comment about coordinating with region representatives. That might be a good way to have an entry point with regions around emergency preparedness. Also, with the CDC administers grants; there may be some stronger relationships to build with those coordinators. At NIOSH, there is a lot of focus on epidemiology; and I appreciated the remarks this morning that there is a role for environment in public health.