Q&A

- **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health:** Are you concerned about genetic mutation potential for other bacteria to be affected by this?
    - **Christine Tomlinson:** For the most part, they are specific to the bacterial receptors on a given surface. It is more that they can do lateral gene transfer for specific genes.
- **U.S. EPA Region 3:** It is effective against the spore stage of sporulating bacteria?
    - **Christine Tomlinson:** There are some studies that did spore preparation and added the phage and found that they injected their DNA into the spore, which would effectively neutralize it.
- **U.S. EPA:** Did you come across any studies of people being infected?
    - **Christine Tomlinson:** I stayed away from clinical uses, but there are some studies of using it for clinical purposes.
- **U.S. EPA:** Cardiff University in the United Kingdom have examined phage for cattle burial sites – the perfect predator was one of the first FDA-regulated trials for a certain bacterium. I think one concern is that it is a cat-and-mouse game regarding the mutation.
    - **Christine Tomlinson:** In a wide-area instance, a single phage would not be the best because resistance would develop quickly. A phage cocktail might mitigate that.