

To: Dourson, Michael (doursoml)[doursoml@ucmail.uc.edu]
Cc: Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Thur 7/27/2017 3:01:55 PM
Subject: FW: Dourson

Hi Michael – Can you give me a call to discuss when you get a chance 202-309-3416? Thanks –
Liz

Michael Dourson, a professor in the Risk Science Center at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, said in an email that "the overall work appears to be solid with numerous safeguards for assuring systematic review and data analysis." Dourson, who was not involved in the research, added, "the observed trends appear to be real, and not based on chance findings."

Yet, Dourson noted that he wondered about the "functional significance of the findings." The authors wrote that "poor sperm count is associated with overall morbidity and mortality," yet Dourson noted that "longevity is increasing" in Western countries so "these two observations do not appear to match."

"I suspect that obesity may have something to do with these trends, but measures of obesity, such as BMI (body mass-index) were not analyzed," said Dourson, who was recently nominated to head the US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. "Overall, however, a request for funding for further exploration seems well founded."

CNN: Sperm counts of Western men plummeting, analysis finds

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/07/25/health/sperm-counts-declining-study/index.html>