

Presentation by Keynote Speaker Lisa Jackson, U.S. EPA Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson spoke about EPA's work and the important role of collaboration in protecting public health from chemical exposures. She said restoring the public's trust in government is a shared challenge, and she offered transparency, sound science, and access to information as ways to rebuild this trust. She said the *National Conversation* has tremendous potential to make a difference in the lives of families and communities and that engaging the public is important both for government agencies and for our country.

Among recent EPA efforts relevant to the *National Conversation* are the restoration of stronger reporting requirements for the Toxics Release Inventory, release of the National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA), and commitment to action at many contaminated sites including the Dow site in Midland Michigan and the declaration of a public health emergency in Libby, Montana.

Administrator Jackson expressed satisfaction with EPA's progress but noted that much more work remains. This summer EPA begins an evaluation of its chemicals program and will engage many stakeholders in this process. EPA also seeks to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Administrator Jackson cited non-point source pollution, public education about chemicals and risks, and serving as a leader in the global arena as ongoing challenges.