

Scientific Integrity Report Card Factors
Total Points Possible = 100

I. Scientific Misconduct – (40 pts)

A. Political Manipulation of Science (12 pts)

1. *Prohibits alteration of technical/scientific documents for non-technical reasons (6 pts)*
2. *Prohibits intimidation or coercion to alter scientific data/analysis/conclusions for non-technical reasons (6 pts)*

B. Breadth of Coverage (4 pts)

1. *Applies to political appointees and senior managers (2 pts)*
2. *Applies to contractors, states, and other partners (2 pts)*

C. Whistleblower Protection (12 pts)

1. *Explicitly protects those filing misconduct complaints from retaliation (4 pts)*
2. *Protects scientists for retaliation based on content of work (4 pts)*
3. *Provides that agency officials who engage in retaliation will be subject to discipline (4 pts)*

D. Investigations of Complaints (6 pts)

1. *Defined process (1 pt)*
2. *Timelines (1 pt)*
3. *Independence of Review (1 pt)*
4. *Ability of complainant to respond (1 pt)*
5. *Transparency of findings and rationale (1 pt)*
6. *Relationship with the IG is clearly defined (1 pt)*

E. Sanctions for Misconduct (6 pts)

1. *States that misconduct is grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal (2 pts)*
2. *Explicit procedure for discipline of sustained misconduct complaints (2 pts)*
3. *Automatic review of court rulings based upon arbitrary and capricious application of scientific information or scientific findings (2 pts)*

II. Public Communications of Science – (40 pts)

A. Process for scientist to publish or lecture regarding their official work with the general public, in external peer-reviewed journals or at scientific conferences (10 pts)

B. Absence of policy review or agency screening for the above (10 pts)

C. Ability of scientists to review press releases regarding their work prior to final publication (10 pts)

D. Explicit provision for agency scientists to be on governing and editorial boards of scientific societies (10 pts)

III. Transparency of Agency Decision-Making – (20 pts)

A. Requirement that all agency policy decisions must be based on science subjected to external peer review (10 pts)

B. Original research documents are part of administrative record (10 pts)