

#### Panel 5: Engineered Nanoparticles and Environmental Exposure

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#### How Environmental Exposures Occur and Change under Different Environmental Conditions

Evaluate abiotic, and ecosystem-wide, effects

- 1. What is the state of research at the current time?
- 2. Are research needs provided by NNI complete?
- 3. Which research needs should be addressed in near-, medium-, and longer-term?



## How does the Nanoparticle effect the Environment?

# How does the Environment effect the Nanoparticle?

#### **Abiotic and Ecosystem-wide Effects**







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#### **1. Current State of Research?**



#### **ISI Web of Science** – Keywords: Nanoparticle Exposure



**Type of Nanoparticle** 



#### 3. Research Timeline?



**Protocol Standardization** 

Instrumentation and Metrology





#### So little time, so many nanoparticles...



#### **Potential Research Gaps**

- Are all our careful measurements useful in predicting, for example, NP behavior or bioavailability in aquatic systems?
- Develop NP "Utility Assay"
  - Similar is utility to Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) or Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) in wastewater
    - Cheap, easy and routine
    - Provides baseline information
    - Standardized protocol available



#### **Utility Assay – Potential Use**





- Useful Information
  - Persistence
  - Toxicity
  - Transformations
  - Phase Distribution

Ultimate goal – Know what types of NPs require further (more advanced) testing (Worldwide Database).

## Could provide early information for potential re-engineering of NPs used for specific application.

#### **MWCNT** coagulation





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- Settled solids (floc) confirm presence of CNT
- Iron flocs contained localized areas of CNTs whereas alum flocs did not



#### **MWCNT** coagulation





#### **MWCNT** removal is source water dependent.



### **Questions?**

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