

**Notes** from the Meeting of the  
Environmental Council of the States (ECOS)  
**Cross-Media Committee (CMC)**  
at the **2008 ECOS Annual Meeting**  
Sunday, September 21, 2008  
Chateau on the Lake Resort and Convention Center  
Branson, Missouri  
Compiled by Matthew Jones, ECOS Staff

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This meeting was held in plenary as part of the 2008 ECOS Annual Meeting. The meeting was open to all Meeting attendees.

**Welcoming Remarks and Announcements:**

At approximately 4:30pm Central time, CMC Chair, David Littell (Maine) brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

Then, Mr. Littell announced:

- An Emerging Contaminants Work Group has recently been formed (of state officials exclusively) to work on emerging contaminant issues under the Cross-Media Committee into the future.
- The Work Group will interact with the ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group Emerging Contaminants Task Group (consisting of state and federal officials) where appropriate.

Next, Mark McDermid (Wisconsin/ Quicksilver Caucus) solicited information from ECOS members on states' efforts for substituting mercury-filled thermometers in laboratories with non-mercury alternatives. The Quicksilver Caucus is looking to collect this information to pass on to US EPA per their request.

**Presentation:**

Next, Mr. Littell gave a presentation on Maine's Experience with Emerging Contaminants.

**Resolution:**

Next, the ECOS membership considered a proposed resolution "Supporting Work on Contaminated Site Response to Emerging Contaminants and Related Risk Communication Issues." ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group Emerging Contaminants Task Group Co-Chair, Shannon Cunniff (DOD), presented the history and background of the proposed resolution.

Support for the resolution was voiced by a number of ECOS members. Upon a motion and second, the ECOS membership adopted the resolution without objection.

Ms. Cunniff thanked the states for their hard work in collaborating on the resolution (and related work products) for the past few years.

Ms. Cunniff also mentioned that, though no commitments have been made, leaders of the ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group were currently considering topics for future work, including ecological damage issues, and groundwater anti-degradation issues.

### **Guest Speaker:**

Next, Mr. Littell introduced Jim Gulliford, Assistant Administrator of the US EPA Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances (OPPTS). Mr. Gulliford gave a presentation on four (4) topics:

- Update on US EPA's Nanoscale Materials Stewardship Program
- Update on US EPA's Chemical Assessment and Management Program (ChAMP)
- Update on US EPA's Mercury (Hg) Management Work with Quicksilver Caucus
- Update on US EPA's Lead (Pb) Renovation Rule

Following the presentation, Mr. Gulliford entertained a few questions from members:

- One member commented that their state was considering adopting the recently-released Lead (Pb) Renovation Rule, but their staff noted difficulties in doing so due to a limitation of resources, and asked Mr. Gulliford if any additional federal resources would be coming to the states to help. Mr. Gulliford noted that US EPA was willing to negotiate possible transfer of abatement monies in lead (Pb) grants to support Lead Rule work.
- One member asked whether fees could be charged to recover costs from implementing the rule. A representative of US EPA responded that if states have difficulties implementing the training and certification aspects of the rule, then they might consider charging fees to recover costs.

Mr. Littell thanked Mr. Gulliford for his presentation.

### **Innovations:**

Next, Elizabeth Shaw (Director of Innovations, US EPA) gave an update on the activities of the Innovation Action Council (IAC):

- Ms. Shaw noted that applications for state innovation grants were still being accepted until the November deadline.
- Ms. Shaw mentioned that a report on the previous year's state innovation grant programs would be released soon.
- Ms. Shaw announced that an IAC meeting was being planned for late October, and that several state officials were invited to attend on behalf of ECOS.

At the conclusion, Mr. Littell thanked Ms. Shaw for the update.

**Presentation:**

Next, Ken Zarker (Pollution Prevention Section Manager, Washington Department of Ecology) gave a remote presentation on Green Chemistry:

- Several states have expressed interest in green chemistry, including California, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Oregon.
- Senator Snowe (R-ME) has sponsored a green chemistry bill which would authorize development of educational programming on green chemistry.
- Some politicians are promoting green chemistry as linked to economic development and green-collar jobs creation.

Following his presentation, Mr. Zarker entertained a few questions from members:

- One member asked whether any support for green chemistry educational programming was being provided to universities. Mr. Zarker replied that he knew of some support being provided to schools in Oregon and in the Northeast.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Littell thanked Mr. Zarker for his presentation. This concluded the meeting of the Cross-Media Committee. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15pm Central.