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Paul Sloan Named New State Co-Chair for the ECOS Federal Facilities Forum

(... and Bob King Named New ECOS-DOD State Co-Chair)

The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) is pleased to announce that **Paul Sloan** (Deputy Commissioner, Tennessee DEC) has been named the new State Co-Chair for the Federal Facilities Forum (FFF).

As Co-Chair, Mr. Sloan will assume some of the duties previously held by **William G. Ross, Jr.** (North Carolina) who had served as dual Co-Chair for both the FFF and the ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group for the last few years. Mr. Ross stepped down from his Secretary position at the North Carolina DENR after the recent election of Beverly Perdue as Governor.

As a new stand-alone position, the State FFF Co-Chair will be responsible for fostering a continued dialogue between the states and federal agencies, especially the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Since its inception in 2004, the FFF has enjoyed a strong partnership with DOE. The FFF largely addresses issues of state oversight regarding environmental cleanup of DOE's nuclear weapons complex sites. With cleanup and monitoring activities being undertaken at more than 100 sites in 33 states, the nuclear weapons complex continues to pose one of the largest cleanup projects in the nation. Tennessee is host to one of the largest site cleanups currently underway at the 37,000-acre Oak Ridge Reservation.

Mr. Sloan will begin work as the new FFF Co-Chair in late March. In this position, he will be aided by other Tennessee DEC staffers who have been active with the FFF in the past, including **John Owsley**, **Dale Rector**, and **Roger Petrie**. In a message to ECOS on Wednesday, Mr. Sloan said that "this will be very worthwhile and I am appreciative of the opportunity to serve."

Mr. Sloan will also be aided by ECOS' two representatives to DOE's Combined Intergovernmental Working Group (CIWG): **Thomas Schneider** (Ohio EPA), and **Shelly (Sherritt) Wilson** (South Carolina DHEC).

In related news— ECOS recently invited DOE to name a companion Federal Co-Chair for the FFF. DOE has not yet made a decision regarding the offer.

The next in-person meeting of the FFF will occur as a joint session with the ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group. The meeting will occur on Sunday, March 22 in Alexandria, Virginia as part of the ECOS Spring Meeting. Top officials from DOE, DOD, and EPA have been invited to speak. At least 11 officials from 7 "DOE states" will also be in attendance, and as many as 35 states will be sending representatives to the meeting event. Issues planned for discussion include: federal agencies transitions news, stimulus funding, site cleanups, and the designation of a storage facility for mercury stockpiles. Once available, the forthcoming agenda will be posted online: <http://www.ecos.org/section/events>

In addition to the March 22 meeting, the FFF plans to pursue various work projects throughout the coming year. More information about these projects will be announced via e-mail when available. Additional information is available online:

http://www.ecos.org/section/federal_facilities_forum

ECOS wishes to thank Mr. Ross for his service to the Forum, and ECOS welcomes Mr. Sloan into his new position.

See More News Next Page >

Bob King Named New ECOS-DOD State Co-Chair

ECOS is also pleased to announce that **Robert W. King, Jr.** (Deputy Commissioner, South Carolina DHEC) has been named the new State Co-Chair for the ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group.

As Co-Chair, Mr. King will assume some of the duties previously held by **William G. Ross, Jr.** (North Carolina) who had served as dual Co-Chair for both the FFF and the ECOS-DOD SWG for the last few years. Mr. Ross stepped down from his Secretary position at the North Carolina DENR after the recent election of Beverly Perdue as Governor.

Mr. King and his staff have been active participants with the ECOS-DOD SWG over the past five years. Mr. King also currently serves as the President of the Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS). From 2006 to 2007, Mr. King also served as ECOS President.

South Carolina DHEC staff who have been involved with the ECOS-DOD SWG in the past include: **Shelly (Sherritt) Wilson, Robin Stephens, Jim Joy, and Ken Taylor.**

Mr. King will be aided in his new role by leaders of the ECOS-DOD SWG's subgroups for Sustainability/ Land Use; and Emerging Contaminants issues. These leaders include **Chris Russo** (North Carolina), **Jim Hartman** (DOD), **Eric Noack** (Nevada), and **Shannon Cunniff** (DOD).

In related news— Former ECOS-DOD SWG Federal Co-Chair, **Alex Beehler** left the Department of Defense on February 2 to become Executive Vice President of Plexus Scientific Corporation. In a message to ECOS on January 26, Mr. Beehler says that “[he is] very excited to start at Plexus, and will continue to focus in many of the same sustainability fields as he engaged in while at the Department of Defense.”

DOD has not yet named a new Co-Chair for the group, but a decision is expected within the next few months.

The next meeting of the ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group will occur as a joint meeting with the FFF on Sunday, March 22 in Alexandria, Virginia as part of the ECOS Spring Meeting. An update from DOD officials on the agency's transition to working under the Obama Administration is expected. Once available, the forthcoming agenda will be posted online: <http://www.ecos.org/section/events>

ECOS wishes to thank Mr. Ross and Mr. Beehler for their service to the Work Group, and ECOS welcomes Mr. King into his new role.