

May 6, 2016



THE
ENVIRONMENTAL
COUNCIL OF
THE STATES

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5th Annual ECOS State Environmental Protection (STEP) Meeting
July 21, 2016, Washington DC
Making Connections: Water, Air, and Energy Innovation

Dear ECOS Members:

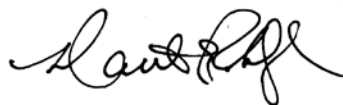
I write to encourage you and your colleagues to make plans now to attend the 5th Annual *ECOS State Environmental Protection (STEP) Meeting* on July 21, 2016 at The Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. We are truly energized about this year's theme - *Making Connections: Water, Air, and Energy Innovation*. The *STEP Meeting* is a uniquely interactive educational forum where speakers listed on the agenda - including over a dozen confirmed ECOS Members - open with comments that set a foundation for each panel's brief discussion, after which all attendees are encouraged to participate in the dialogue that follows. Past *STEP Meetings* have been well reviewed by state commissioners, notably as a unique forum to dive a bit more deeply into emerging environmental issues via a time efficient one-day setting.

In addition to ECOS members, *STEP Meeting* panelists and attendees will include representatives from business, industry, and non-governmental organizations. In particular, we have invited the Honorable Ernest Moniz, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, to provide the *Opening Keynote Address*. We are also pleased to that former Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, Jr., Director of the Center for the New Energy Economy at Colorado State University, is confirmed as our *Luncheon Keynote*.

Please see the attached agenda, and [click here](#) to register for the 2016 *STEP Meeting* and to find hotel reservation information. Act early as past *STEP Meeting* hotel rooms have gone quickly. Our early bird registration rates are available through June 3.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Andy Teplitzky at ECOS at ateplitzky@ecos.org or 202-266-4921. I hope to see you at the *STEP Meeting* in DC on July 21.

Best regards,



Martha Rudolph
ECOS President
Director of Environmental Programs
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the Environment