



PRESS RELEASE

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Environmental Council of the States (ECOS)

States, U.S. EPA Recommit to Modernizing the Business of Environmental Protection

Today, states and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) signed the *Governance Charter for E-Enterprise for the Environment*. The signing, by U.S. EPA Administrator McCarthy at EPA Headquarters in Washington, DC and by Martha Rudolph, President of the Environmental Council of the States and Director of Environmental Programs with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment at ECOS' Fall Meeting in Wheeling, WV, marks a significant recommitment to working together to advance a new model for collaborative leadership to support the environment, public health, and the economy by modernizing the business of environmental protection. Also launched today is a new E-Enterprise for the Environment website.

In coming weeks, representatives of tribal nations are anticipated to sign the charter.

"States are dedicated to engaging with U.S. EPA and tribes to streamline and modernize our nation's environmental programs," said ECOS President Martha Rudolph. "We are very pleased today to restate our commitment to E-Enterprise and to delivering on important transparency and efficiency goals," she added.

"We've made a lot of exciting progress over the past few years in doing the core work of E-Enterprise. We are working together on projects that modernize how we do the business of environmental protection, and together we are building a new culture of collaboration among EPA, state and tribal partners," said U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy.

Background

- In 2013, states through ECOS and EPA signed a charter establishing the E-Enterprise for the Environment Leadership Council (EELC) to guide this modernization effort.
- Today's updated governance charter adds tribes to the EELC.
- This charter reflects a recommitment to enhancing service and transparency to the regulated community and the public, and to operating the partnership as a transformative model for joint governance.
- Many jointly governed project teams are working in the areas of air, water, land, shared services, advanced monitoring, and program modernization.
- The new website is at www.E-EnterprisefortheEnvironment.net.

ECOS is the national nonprofit, nonpartisan association of state and territorial environmental commissioners. For more information, visit www.ecos.org.