



PRESS RELEASE

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Environmental Council of the States (ECOS)

New Online Database and Report Examine Business Process Improvement in State Environmental Agencies

Washington, DC – The Environmental Council of the States has released two new resources for States on Business Process Improvement (BPI): an online database of completed state BPI projects, and an accompanying report entitled *State Environmental Agency Business Process Improvement Activity 2010-2016* (Report).

In 2010, ECOS compiled a list of state environmental agency BPI activities. This year, ECOS undertook a second outreach effort in order to fill this five-year information gap. The 2016 effort yielded an inventory of state BPI projects completed since 2010, and plentiful information on lessons learned, planned projects, and other BPI themes.

The more than 700 completed projects in the new State BPI compilation are displayed in an interactive online database, where government officials and other users can search and filter the list of projects based on various criteria. View the database at: www.ecos.org/bpi-projects.

The project database is accompanied by a brief report that:

- Offers background on BPI and its use in state environmental agencies;
- Describes the outreach effort, analysis methodology used, and findings; and
- Offers practical recommendations based on collected state perspectives on BPI.

The report touches on themes including the challenges facing agencies hoping to maximize gains from a BPI project, how to create a culture of continuous improvement, and state-EPA collaboration on BPI. It is intended as a resource for interested states to improve their capacity to realize operational and environmental gains through BPI. View the report at:

http://www.ecos.org/?post_type=document&p=3562&preview=true.

ECOS President John Linc Stine, Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, set “Innovation, Productivity, and Collaboration” as a priority area for his presidency. “ECOS’ report and database show the breadth and volume of state experience with business process improvement,” said Stine. “These new resources make state experiences available for replication and further refinement with EPA. States’ innovations are creating new ways to carry out our environmental services more efficiently and effectively.”

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