



ECOS

PRESS RELEASE

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Environmental Council of the States (ECOS)

ECOS Launches Results Website to Tell State Story on Environmental Progress

Washington, DC – Today, the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) launched [ECOS Results](#), an interactive web tool designed to communicate state stories of public health and environmental progress.

States play an important role in implementing federal programs and protecting the environment. While some states have their own environmental dashboards, ECOS Results marks the first effort to capture state progress on a national scale using a set of common measures. Identifying these measures for all state environmental agencies creates a consistent platform that the public and others can access to answer questions about environmental issues and challenges. In addition to helping raise public awareness about progress within and across states, ECOS Results will serve as a gateway to state websites so that users can continue their inquiries.

“States are better when the public is engaged in our work and when we can explain how our agency activities, programs, regulations, and services protect their health and deliver the clean and healthy environment they desire,” said John Linc Stine, ECOS Past President and Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Todd Parfitt, ECOS President and Director of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, noted that ECOS Results will help states, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the public measure and assess the outcomes of programs that aim to provide clean air, water, and land. “As ECOS nears its 25th anniversary in 2018, now is the opportune time to spotlight state progress in enhancing protection of human health and the environment,” Parfitt added. “ECOS Results furthers ECOS’ Cooperative Federalism 2.0 efforts in that it is a tangible and public platform focused on environmental outcomes, transparency, and demonstrating state environmental leadership.”

Today, 15 states are participating in ECOS Results. ECOS gathered data from EPA and states, and the data were verified by the participating states for use in the web tool. This is a phased project, with more states expected to participate by the time of the ECOS Spring Meeting in March 2018, and the remaining states participating by the ECOS Fall Meeting in August 2018. ECOS plans to make annual updates to ECOSResults.org.

“To know how we are doing in protecting human health and the environment, we must measure the right things,” said Henry Darwin, EPA’s Assistant Deputy Administrator and Chief of Operations. “By tracking state environmental and public health progress on a national scale using a common set of measures, ECOS Results is providing a critical step forward in this collective effort. EPA appreciates the work of the states through ECOS in achieving this important milestone.”

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