



ECOS

**2021 ECOS Virtual Fall Meeting Agenda**  
***Better, Faster, Smarter: States at the Cutting Edge***  
**September 8 at 12:00-5:30 p.m. Eastern**  
**September 9 at 12:00-5:15 p.m. Eastern**  
**#ECOSFall21**

This virtual gathering will showcase innovative ways that states and our partners are strengthening environmental programs and building better agencies, particularly in the aftermath of the pandemic. Through lively discussion and videos, participants will explore creative efforts on cross-cutting issues. Areas of focus include data, water, air, agriculture, infrastructure, PFAS, materials management, and environmental justice.

***Notes:***

- 1) To promote full audience participation during work hours in all U.S. time zones, ECOS will conduct separate webinars on other days for states-only business.***
- 2) Except where otherwise indicated, all sessions are open to all registrants.***
- 3) Dress is business casual.***

**Wednesday, September 8**  
**Data, Water, Air, Agriculture, & Infrastructure**

<p>12:00 – 1:10 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Breakout Option #1: ECOS Oil &amp; Gas Caucus (O&amp;GC) on Methane Moves (open to all)</b></p> <p><i>As U.S. EPA takes first steps toward developing a rule to reduce methane from new and existing sources in the oil and natural gas industry, many states are already implementing their own regulatory and innovative approaches. Industry players are taking voluntary actions, and one NGO has launched work on an ambitious public satellite tool to locate and measure sources of methane pollution. This session will address the state of play and flexibilities needed to create a clearer regulatory landscape.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ECOS O&amp;GC Co-Chair Jim Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department (co-moderator)</li> <li>❖ ECOS O&amp;GC Co-Chair Dave Glatt, Director, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (co-moderator)</li> <li>❖ TBD, U.S. EPA</li> <li>❖ Steven Hamburg, Chief Scientist, Environmental Defense Fund</li> <li>❖ Matthias Sayer, Vice President, Legal – Regulatory Compliance, Policy, &amp; Environment, NGL Energy Partners (invited)</li> <li>❖ Al Collins, Vice President, Policy &amp; Engagement, Oxy Low Carbon Ventures</li> </ul>
<p>12:00 – 1:10 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Breakout Option #2: ECOS Digital Business Workgroup (DBWG) on Returning to the Workplace and Boosting Public Involvement (open to states and U.S. EPA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ECOS DBWG Chair Victoria Phillips, Director, Enterprise Information Office, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (co-moderator)</li> <li>❖ ECOS DBWG Vice Chair Neil Chakrabarty, Chief Information Officer, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (co-moderator)</li> <li>❖ Tim Mullen, Co-Founder, SmartComment</li> <li>❖ State Speaker x</li> <li>❖ State Speaker x</li> </ul>

<p>12:00 – 1:10 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Breakout Option #3: ECOS-U.S. EPA Partnership &amp; Performance (P&amp;P) Workgroup on the EPA FY 2022-26 Strategic Plan and Work Planning Priorities (open to states and U.S. EPA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ P&amp;P Workgroup ECOS Co-Chair Elaine Boyd, Senior Advisor, Tennessee Department of Environment &amp; Conservation (co-moderator)</li> <li>❖ P&amp;P Workgroup ECOS Co-Chair Lloyd Kirk, Director, Office of External Affairs, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (co-moderator)</li> <li>❖ P&amp;P Workgroup U.S. EPA Co-Chair Robin Richardson, Acting Associate Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Congressional &amp; Intergovernmental Relations</li> <li>❖ P&amp;P Workgroup U.S. EPA Co-Chair Kathy O'Brien, Director, Office of Planning, Analysis, &amp; Accountability, U.S. EPA Office of the Chief Financial Officer</li> </ul>
<p>1:10 – 1:20 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Break</b></p>
<p>1:20 – 1:45 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Welcome, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</li> <li>❖ Roll Call &amp; Self-Introductions, ECOS Deputy Director Carolyn Hanson &amp; ECOS members</li> <li>❖ Update on ECOS Activities in Washington, DC, ECOS Executive Director Don Welsh</li> <li>❖ Agenda Preview, Patrick McDonnell</li> </ul>
<p>1:45 – 2:05 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Videos &amp; Live Vote: Innovation Award Submissions in the Data Management &amp; Digital Business Category, moderated by ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</b></p> <p><i>Despite unprecedented challenges arising from the pandemic over the past 18 months, states have managed to move full speed ahead in fulfilling their environmental protection missions. Tune in to help decide which state walks away with a coveted State Program Innovation Award in the Data Management &amp; Digital Business category.</i></p>

2:05 – 2:30 p.m.	<p><b>Keynote Presentation on the Value of Sound Environmental Data, followed by Q&amp;A: Poppy MacDonald, President, USAFacts, on the Value of Sound Environmental Data, moderated by ECOS Vice President Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment, and State Co-Chair, E-Enterprise Leadership Council</b></p> <p><i>The availability of timely and accurate environmental data is key to safeguarding the environment and public health. Toward that end, ECOS maintains the ECOS Results database and works with U.S. EPA and tribal partners to improve data sharing through E-Enterprise for the Environment and the Exchange Network. USAFacts, winner of the 2020 Webby Award for Government &amp; Civic Innovation, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan initiative that also aims to make government data easy for all Americans to understand. Its overarching mission is to ground public debate in facts.</i></p>
2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Eastern	<p><b>Roundtable &amp; Open Discussion: Toward the Next WOTUS: New Directions on Navigable Waters</b></p> <p><i>With major initiatives of the two previous Administrations now scrubbed, U.S. EPA is working to strike a delicate balance between conservation and development in its forthcoming rule on navigable waters. Hear the perspectives of state and EPA leaders and stakeholders as they consider the best approach.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ECOS Water Committee Chair Bruno Pigott, Indiana Department of Environmental Management of Environmental Quality (moderator)</li> <li>❖ Radhika Fox, Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Water (invited)</li> <li>❖ Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Partner, Baker Botts</li> <li>❖ Speaker TBD</li> </ul>
3:30 – 3:45 p.m. Eastern	<p><b>Break</b></p>
3:45 – 4:10 p.m. Eastern	<p><b>Keynote Presentation on Groundbreaking Opportunities for State-Federal Collaboration on Agriculture, followed by Q&amp;A: Gloria Montañó Greene, Deputy Under Secretary for Farm Production &amp; Conservation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, moderated by ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</b></p> <p><i>ECOS members have expressed interest in forging closer ties with state and federal agriculture agencies to advance environmental protection efforts in this sprawling sector. On the heels of our conversation with a state agriculture leader at the summertime STEP meeting on climate, ECOS will hear about new opportunities to partner via USDA programs and incentives to sequester carbon and protect and restore water quality.</i></p>

<p>4:10 – 4:30 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Videos &amp; Live Vote: Innovation Award Submissions in the Water Category, moderated by ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</b></p> <p><i>Despite unprecedented challenges arising from the pandemic over the past 18 months, states have managed to move full speed ahead in fulfilling their environmental protection missions. Tune in to help decide which state walks away with coveted State Program Innovation Award in the Water category.</i></p>
<p>4:30 – 5:20 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Roundtable &amp; Open Discussion: Ramping Up Environmental Infrastructure</b></p> <p><i>With much of the nation's environmental infrastructure reaching the end of its useful life, state officials are flagging the need for increased federal investment particularly with small and rural water systems and for air monitoring networks. Hear from states on their collaborative approaches to bolstering critical stormwater, clean water, and drinking water systems and deploying air monitoring technology, including personal sensors.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ECOS Secretary-Treasurer Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health &amp; Environmental Control (moderator)</li> <li>❖ ECOS Waste Committee Vice Chair Scott Thompson, Executive Director, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality</li> <li>❖ Michelle Walker Owenby, Director, Division of Air Pollution Control, Tennessee Department of Environment &amp; Conservation</li> <li>❖ Jennifer Dodd, Director, Division of Water Resources, Tennessee Department of Environment &amp; Conservation</li> </ul>
<p>5:20 – 5:30 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Announcements &amp; Wrap-up, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday, September 9</b></p> <p><b>Partnerships, PFAS, Materials Management, &amp; Environmental Justice</b></p>	
<p>12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Partnership Breakout #1: State Environmental-Natural Resources Agency Collaboration on 'One Health' (open to all)</b></p> <p><i>At the ECOS Spring Meeting, the Association of Fish &amp; Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) presented on the importance of partnering with your state natural resources or conservation agency. Now is the chance to participate in a more in-depth discussion of 'One Health,' an initiative to promote an integrated approach to our work.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ State TBD (moderator)</li> <li>❖ ECOS Missouri Alum Sara Parker Pauley, Director, Missouri Department of Conservation and President, Association of Fish &amp; Wildlife Agencies</li> </ul>

<p>12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Partnership Breakout #2: State Environmental Agency-U.S. Department of Defense (U.S. DOD) and U.S. EPA Collaboration on PFAS (open to ECOS member agencies, U.S. DOD, and U.S. EPA)</b></p> <p><i>ECOS member agencies are invited to join this closed discussion with U.S. DOD and U.S. EPA leadership to explore the path forward on PFAS cleanup at U.S. DOD sites.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ECOS Cross-Media Committee Chair Jim Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department</li> <li>❖ Richard Kidd, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment &amp; Energy Resilience, U.S. Department of Defense</li> <li>❖ Radhika Fox, Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Water (invited)</li> </ul>
<p>1:00 – 1:15 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Break</b></p>
<p>1:15 – 1:30 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Call to Order, Announcement of New Officers, Recognition of Past Officers, &amp; Presentation of ECOS Awards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Call to Order &amp; Announcement of 2021-22 Officers, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</li> <li>❖ Recognition of 2020-21 Officers, ECOS Executive Director Don Welsh</li> <li>❖ Presentation of ECOS President's Award, Patrick McDonnell</li> </ul>
<p>1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Keynote Presentation followed by Q&amp;A: The Honorable Janet McCabe, Deputy Administrator, U.S. EPA, and Federal Co-Chair, E-Enterprise Leadership Council (EELC), on State-Federal Partnerships to Promote Innovation, including E-Enterprise, moderated by ECOS Vice President Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment, and State Co-Chair, EELC</b></p>
<p>2:00 – 2:50 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Roundtable &amp; Open Discussion: Honing PFAS Risk Communication</b></p> <p><i>Effective risk communication is critical in helping constituents understand PFAS contamination and the necessary precautions to ensure safe drinking water and other safe conditions. In this session, Minnesota will highlight its experiences with risk communication surrounding the 3M settlement and natural resources damages in the Twin Cities East Metropolitan Area. Partner agencies will share insight into communication with the public about contaminated drinking water, with the legislature and 3M about funding and PFAS production, and with one another.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Kirk Koudelka, Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (moderator) (invited)</li> <li>❖ Sandeep Burman, Manager, Drinking Water Protection Section, Minnesota Department of Health (invited)</li> <li>❖ Speaker TBD, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources</li> <li>❖ Speaker TBD, Minnesota community</li> </ul>

<p>2:50 – 3:10 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Videos &amp; Live Vote: Innovation Award Submissions in the PFAS &amp; Materials Management, Air, &amp; Environmental Justice Category, moderated by ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</b></p> <p><i>Despite unprecedented challenges arising from the pandemic over the past 18 months, states have managed to move full speed ahead in fulfilling their environmental protection missions. Tune in to help decide which state walks away with coveted State Program Innovation Award in the PFAS &amp; Materials Management, Air, &amp; Environmental Justice category.</i></p>
<p>3:10 – 3:30 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Break with E-Enterprise Spotlight</b></p>
<p>3:30 – 4:20 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Roundtable &amp; Open Discussion: New Approaches in Plastics Recycling</b></p> <p><i>Everybody wants recycled content for their plastic packaging, but it's difficult for post consumer materials to compete at scale with cheaper first-generation plastics. Advanced recycling can enable the conversion of post-use plastics, and state Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs can help fund infrastructure needed to keep plastics out of landfills and oceans and fossil feedstocks in the ground. Join this discussion of ways to optimize and leverage regulatory frameworks for such approaches. Speakers will touch on ECOS' longstanding EPR resolution, up for renewal this fall, and share a case study that's working well in California.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ECOS Waste Committee Chair Darsi Foss, Administrator, Division of Environmental Management, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources</li> <li>❖ TBD, California Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>❖ Shelley Porter, Director, Circular Technologies, Eastman</li> <li>❖ Joshua Baca, Vice President, Plastics Division, American Chemistry Council</li> <li>❖ Anne Germain, Chief Operating Officer &amp; Senior Vice President for Regulatory Affairs, National Waste &amp; Recycling Association</li> </ul>

<p>4:20 – 5:10 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Roundtable &amp; Open Discussion: Environmental Justice – Getting to Know Our Communities &amp; Recognize Disparities</b></p> <p><i>So that all Americans have healthy environments in which to live, learn, and work, states are pursuing an array of initiatives to ensure fair treatment in delivering favorable environmental outcomes. At the Spring Meeting we heard from Virginia, California, and South Carolina on their efforts. During this session we'll hear from other pioneering states on their approaches, successes, and lessons learned.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ John Kim, Director, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (moderator)</li> <li>❖ ECOS Region 5 Executive Committee Representative Liesl Eichler Clark, Director, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, &amp; Energy (invited)</li> <li>❖ Marty Suuberg, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (invited)</li> <li>❖ Laura Watson, Director, Washington Department of Ecology</li> </ul>
<p>5:10 – 5:15 p.m. Eastern</p>	<p><b>Final Reflections, Announcements, &amp; Wrap-up, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection</b></p>