



Resolution Number 04-4
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Hot Springs, AR

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Alexandria, VA

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Sausalito, California

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Scottsdale, Arizona

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Nashville, Tennessee

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Wheeling, West Virginia

Revised September 26, 2019
Seattle, Washington

Revised September 21, 2022
Park City, Utah

As certified by
Ben Grumbles
Executive Director

PROMOTION OF POLLUTION PREVENTION AND SUSTAINABILITY

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, States and Territories and U.S. EPA have recognized that pollution prevention (P2) is an efficient and cost-effective environmental method to avoid, eliminate, or reduce waste and conserve resources; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress, through the 1990 Pollution Prevention Act, declared it to be the national policy of the United States that pollution should be prevented or reduced at the source whenever feasible, and that source reduction is fundamentally different and more desirable than waste management and pollution control; and

WHEREAS, P2 also promotes improved environmental quality and environmental justice; empowers state and tribal programs; reduces the emission of greenhouse gases; supports the green economy; and has been deemed a key component of sustainable business, community, and organizational practices; and

WHEREAS, ECOS' Cross-Media Committee focuses on innovative and cross-cutting approaches to environmental protection that emphasize preventing pollution;

WHEREAS, for over 30 years the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable, founded by state P2 officials, has promoted the ethic and practice of prevention first;

WHEREAS, ECOS commends U.S. EPA for funding \$13.9 million in total federal pollution prevention grant dollars to support a two-year P2 grant agreement for FY 2022 and 2023 as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) that was passed in 2021 and includes a new focus on underserved and overburdened communities; and

WHEREAS, ECOS acknowledges that U.S. EPA will fund \$100 million dollars to the P2 Grant program under the BIL, which will only extend 5 years through the life of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE STATES:

Requests U.S. EPA to seek appropriate federal funding for the State Pollution Prevention Grants;

Requests U.S. EPA to recognize the value of P2 as established by Congress and EPA policy in meeting environmental protection goals by incorporating sustainability and P2 into its policies, regulations, and actions with both regulated and non-regulated entities, and develop formal processes and mechanisms for ensuring that P2 opportunities are formally evaluated as part of those agency actions;

Requests U.S. EPA to meet with ECOS to continue to collaborate on the development of approaches for incorporating P2 into EPA and state and territorial air, water and waste program policies, regulations and actions, and to work with states and territories to promote P2 within all EPA and state programs;

Requests U.S. EPA consider P2 in its efforts on emerging contaminants such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), in adherence to the provisions laid out in ECOS Resolution 21-1;

Requests U.S. EPA allow P2 grant applicants and recipients to identify and address chemicals of concern including emerging contaminants such as PFAS and phthalates;

Requests U.S. EPA renew support for P2 projects related to green chemistry and safer alternatives, including new chemical formulation, incentive structures for Safer Choice certification, and adding new chemicals to the Safer Chemical Ingredients List;

Urges U.S. EPA to conduct more outreach and advanced notice on grant schedules and the possible National Emphasis Areas (NEAs), and provide more time between release of future Requests for Applications (RFAs) to allow applying entities more time to scope and develop thoughtful proposals;

Urges U.S. EPA to consider simplifying the application process so that Tribal Governments and Environmental Justice communities adversely impacted by environmental contamination can apply considering they have limited resources to apply for funding;

Urges U.S. EPA to support states' and territories' efforts to mentor and support the development of P2 program within Tribal Governments and Environmental Justice communities; and

Urges U.S. EPA to support collaboration among P2 professionals to advance the field and further the sharing of P2 best practices among States, Territories, U.S. EPA, and industry professionals.