

ECOS Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights

Vision: A clean and healthy environment for all supported by local, state, and federal partnerships

Principles:

1. Follow the law
2. Data-driven, science-based decision-making
3. Meaningful inclusive participation and disproportionately impacted community engagement
4. Advance equity by increasing access to environmental benefits and decreasing burdens

Priorities:

1. **Compile state and federal best practices** and current challenges/questions for each principle
 - Educate and promote practices through webinars
 - Convene workshops to address challenges and shared questions regarding implementation of and compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
 - Act as a centralized repository for resources and outstanding questions for EPA
 - EJ mapping tools, permitting and compliance guidance, and capacity building initiatives in communities
2. **Coordinate** with EPA
 - Raise issues to EPA in coordination with member states
 - Serve as a platform for states to collectively address potentially precedent-worthy issues, solicit answers from EPA and other states, and publish case studies
 - Involve both regulatory and non-regulatory programs
 - Establish meeting agreements for safe and productive meetings
 - Serve as a conduit for information between EPA and states about how to access upcoming and current funding opportunities relevant to environmental justice, including funding opportunities that are intended for community partners (not state or tribal governments directly)
3. **Convene states** to inform policy discussions across federal partners

Note: The use of "states" in this document is meant to encompass other partners including territories and tribes. ECOS will look to update and revise this document periodically, as appropriate.