



ECOS

2023 ECOS Spring Meeting

Draft Agenda

Building Bipartisan Solutions

March 27-30, 2023 Arlington (Crystal City), VA

Arlington Renaissance Capital View Hotel

 #ECOSpring23

As ECOS members converge on the nation's capital for timely discussions with federal agencies and Congress, we bring unique insight and innovative ideas that can propel the nation toward durable bipartisan solutions. This gathering will spotlight successful approaches to pressing matters including PFAS and biosolids, sustainable materials management, resilience and blue-green infrastructure, water data quality, climate and energy, and environmental justice.

Notes:

- 1) Except where highlighted in green, all sessions are open to all registrants, including press.
- 2) Dress is business casual on March 27 and business on March 28-30.
- 3) All meeting space is located on the second floor.

Monday, March 27

3:45 – 5:15 p.m.	Registration Desk Open <i>Please stop by the registration desk to receive a name badge to be worn throughout the meeting.</i>	Registration Booth
4:00 – 5:15 p.m.	New Member Orientation	Studio C
5:15 – 6:15 p.m.	Informal Happy Hour for State Attendees	Studio C & Foyer

Tuesday, March 28

PFAS, Materials Management, Resilience, & Water

8:00 a.m.	Registration Desk Open <i>Please stop by the registration desk to receive a name badge to be worn throughout the meeting.</i>	Registration Booth
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Salons 1-3

<p>8:45 – 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Breakout Option #1: ECOS Oil & Gas Caucus (O&GC) on Model Methane & Air Activities</p> <p><i>U.S. EPA recently proposed a supplemental rule that would significantly expand reductions of methane emissions and other air pollution from both new and existing oil and gas operations. Against that backdrop, states, NGOs, and industry will discuss voluntary initiatives and novel approaches that might serve as models.</i></p> <p><i>State Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS O&GC Co-Chair and Cross-Media Committee Chair Jim Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department (co-moderator) ❖ ECOS O&GC Co-Chair David Glatt, Director, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (co-moderator) <p><i>Regulated Community Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Angela Zivkovich, Air Policy Manager, Oxy <p><i>Differentiated Gas Initiatives</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ted Kelly, Senior Attorney, Energy Markets & Regulation, Environmental Defense Fund ❖ Tom Hassenboehler, Executive Director, Differentiated Gas Coordinating Council <p><i>Community Exposure Assessments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Donna Vorhees, Director of Energy Research, Health Effects Institute Energy 	<p>Studio B</p>
<p>8:45 – 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Breakout Option #2: ECOS Digital Business Workgroup (DBWG) (open to states and U.S. EPA)</p> <p><i>This session will address strategic priorities identified by state Chief Information Officers, as well as the use of improved data to better inform decisions and policies.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS DBWG Chair Victoria Phillips, Assistant Commissioner for Enterprise Management, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (co-moderator) ❖ ECOS DBWG Vice Chair Neil Chakrabarty, Chief Information Officer, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (co-moderator) 	<p>Studio C</p>

8:45 – 9:45 a.m.	Breakout Option #3: Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS) Board Meeting (open to ERIS members, states, and invited guests) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ERIS President and Compliance Committee Chair Scott Thompson, Executive Director, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (moderator) 	Studio A
9:50 – 10:20 a.m.	Opening Plenary Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Welcome, ECOS President Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control ❖ Self-Introductions, ECOS Members {10} ❖ Agenda Preview, Myra Reece {5} ❖ Executive Director's Report on ECOS Priorities & Activities, ECOS Executive Director Ben Grumbles {5} ❖ ECOS Member Trivia Icebreaker, Ben Grumbles {10} 	Salon 4
10:20 – 11:10 a.m.	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Best Practices on PFAS & Biosolids <i>PFAS in biosolids – the subject of a comprehensive new ECOS report – has emerged as a top regulatory challenge for many states. This roundtable will explore steps taken by state environmental agencies and their co-regulatory partners to coordinate on the complex issue, promote increased research, and communicate effectively about the associated risks.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS President Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (moderator) ❖ Julie Moore, Secretary, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources ❖ Rod Snyder, Senior Advisor for Agriculture, Office of the Administrator, U.S. EPA ❖ Jeff Witte, Secretary, New Mexico Department of Agriculture ❖ Janine Burke-Wells, Executive Director, North East Biosolids & Residuals Association 	Salon 4
11:10 – 11:25 a.m.	Break with Refreshments	Foyer

<p>11:25 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.</p>	<p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Lifecycle Management of PFAS</p> <p><i>States are grappling with a host of considerations for PFAS end-of-life management to prevent contaminated media from reentering the environment. This roundtable will highlight industry efforts to reduce PFAS in products and best manage eventual destruction or disposal.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ERIS Board Member Aaron Keatley, Chief Deputy Director, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy (moderator) ❖ Kevin Fay, Executive Director, Sustainable PFAS Action Network (SPAN) ❖ Michael Crisenbery, Vice President, Environmental Compliance, Clean Harbors ❖ Joe Benco, Director, Engineering, Republic Services 	<p>Salon 4</p>
<p>12:05 – 12:55 p.m.</p>	<p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Sustainable Materials Management of Clean Energy Technology</p> <p><i>As new sources of renewable energy are improved and adopted more broadly, the first generation of some of these technologies is nearing its end of life and entering waste streams. This discussion will spotlight creative solutions for sustainably managing used solar panels, wind turbines, and electric vehicle batteries.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Land & Materials Committee Chair Terry Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ❖ ECOS Land & Materials Committee Vice Chair Elizabeth Biser, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality ❖ Ed Tormey, Division Administrator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources ❖ Carolyn Hoskinson, Director, Office of Resource Conservation & Recovery, U.S. EPA Office of Land & Emergency Management ❖ BJ Huddleston, Environmental Manager, Florida Power & Light 	<p>Salon 4</p>
<p>1:00 – 2:10 p.m.</p>	<p>Lunch with Keynote Address followed by Q&A: The Honorable Janet McCabe, Deputy Administrator, U.S. EPA, on bipartisan possibilities and state-federal partnership opportunities for 2023, introduced by ECOS Vice President</p>	<p>Salons 1-3</p>

	and E-Enterprise for the Environment State Co-Chair Chuck Carr Brown, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality	
2:10 – 2:35 p.m.	<p>Remarks followed by Q&A: John Thompson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment, Bureau of Oceans & International Environmental & Scientific Affairs, U.S. Department of State, on the role for states on climate and in United Nations negotiations to end plastic pollution, introduced by ECOS Land & Materials Committee Chair Terry Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management</p>	Salon 4
2:35 – 3:35 p.m.	<p>Open Problem-Solving Session: Strategies for States to Leverage Federal Investments to Cut Carbon Pollution & Build Climate Resilience</p> <p><i>Ambitious climate targets, coupled with a rise in extreme weather events, require a collective path forward in order to meet greenhouse gas reduction goals and adapt to changes occurring across rural landscapes and urban centers. Learn how state government leaders can leverage this moment of historic federal investments to thoughtfully implement solutions that will lower carbon emissions and equitably transition key sectors of the economy. In this interactive session, state environmental agencies will share their greatest challenges, priorities, and opportunities for realizing a more resilient future.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Air Committee Chair and Region 6 Executive Committee Representative Jon Niermann, Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (moderator) ❖ Mark Rupp, Adaptation Program Director, Georgetown Climate Center (discussion lead) 	Salon 4
3:35 – 4:00 p.m.	Break with Refreshments	Foyer

4:00 – 4:55 p.m.	<p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Water Quality Data Enhancements to Drive Protection</p> <p><i>States are making strides in the analysis of their water data so that they can better address issues ranging from harmful algal blooms to drinking water quality. Some ECOS member agencies are using data analytics to improve data governance and transparency, identify sources of pollution, and assess how regulatory changes might affect water quality. Meanwhile, states are working with U.S. EPA through E-Enterprise to modernize the centrally hosted Safe Drinking Water Information System.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Brian Rockensuess, Commissioner, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (moderator) ❖ Shawn Hamilton, Secretary, Florida Department of Environmental Protection ❖ Benita Best-Wong, Deputy Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Water, and Federal Co-Chair, U.S. EPA SDWIS Modernization Board ❖ Julie Espy, Senior Industry Consultant, SAS ❖ Christopher Crockett, Vice President & Chief Environmental, Safety, & Sustainability Officer, Essential Utilities, Inc. 	Salon 4
4:55 – 5:15 p.m.	<p>Remarks followed by Q&A: Radhika Fox, Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Water, on 2023 partnership opportunities with states in the area of water, introduced by ECOS Water Committee Chair Laura Watson, Director, Washington Department of Ecology</p>	Salon 4
5:15 – 5:20 p.m.	Announcements & Wrap-Up , ECOS President Myra Reece	Salon 4
5:30 – 7:15 p.m.	Dinner Reception	Studio C & Foyer

Wednesday, March 29

Federal Agencies & Congress, Water, Climate & Energy, & EJ

8:00 a.m.	Registration Desk Open	Registration Booth
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Salons 1-3

<p>8:30 – 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup (open to states and U.S. EPA)</p> <p><i>This session will explore upcoming priorities for the ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup, as well as the latest developments surrounding air programs and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup Co-Chair, Past President, & Region 8 Executive Committee Representative Todd Parfitt (co-moderator) ❖ ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup Co-Chair Katie Dykes, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (co-moderator) ❖ Jennifer Macedonia, Associate Deputy Assistant Administrator for IRA Implementation, U.S. EPA Office of Air & Radiation ❖ Jahi Wise, Senior Advisor to the Administrator and Acting Director for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, U.S. EPA 	<p>Studio B</p>
<p>9:35 – 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Connecting the Federal Agency Dots with ECOS Alumni</p> <p><i>Many former ECOS members have moved on to top environmental protection leadership roles at federal agencies. This gathering in the nation's capital affords us the chance to reconnect with some of our valued alumni to hear firsthand their new perspectives, as well as their insight on promising collaboration opportunities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS President Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (moderator) ❖ ECOS Rhode Island Alum Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Fisheries, U.S. Department of Commerce ❖ ECOS Colorado Alum John Putnam, General Counsel, U.S. Department of Transportation ❖ ECOS Nevada Alum Bradley Crowell, Commissioner, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ❖ ECOS Arizona Alum Stephen Owens, Chairman, U.S. Chemical Safety & Hazard Investigation Board 	<p>Salon 4</p>

<p>10:45 – 11:15 a.m.</p>	<p>Break with Refreshments & Unscheduled Office Hours with Federal Partners at Designated Table</p>	<p>Foyer</p>
<p>11:15 – 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Remarks followed by Q&A: Kristi Smith, Attorney, Smith Environmental Law, for Edison Electric Institute, on using emission reductions from electric school buses and other fleet conversions to fulfill State Implementation Plan requirements, introduced by ECOS Vice President Chuck Carr Brown, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, and State Co-Chair, E-Enterprise for the Environment</p>	<p>Salon 4</p>
<p>11:30 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.</p>	<p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Clean Energy Permit Process Improvements to Propel Us to Net Zero <i>A clean energy economy will depend on extensive permitting of new or modified infrastructure for energy generation, transmission, and storage. Without more efficient permitting processes, governments risk missing timelines for transitioning to net zero emissions. States will need to play a critical role with federal partners in deploying innovative and equitable improvements to permitting processes. Toward this end, ECOS is working to share best practices among state agencies to accelerate the clean energy transition while not losing sight of the need for community engagement and partnership.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup Co-Chair, Past President, & Region 8 Executive Committee Representative Todd Parfitt (moderator) ❖ ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup Co-Chair Katie Dykes, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection ❖ ECOS Water Committee Chair Laura Watson, Director, Washington Department of Ecology ❖ James Connaughton, Chairperson, Nautilus Data Technologies, Advisor, ClearPath, and former Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality ❖ Katie McGinty, Vice President & Chief Sustainability & External Relations Officer, Johnson Controls, and former Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality 	<p>Salon 4</p>

12:45 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.	<p>Lunch with Keynote Address followed by Q&A: Jason Grumet, CEO, American Clean Power Association, and Founder & former President & CEO, Bipartisan Policy Center, on bipartisan solutions for advancing energy goals and environmental protection, introduced by ECOS President Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control</p>	Salons 1-3
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.	<p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Partnerships to Protect Public Health & Advance Equity <i>Public health protection and equity are at the forefront of environmental agency efforts. As state environmental and health agencies and our federal partners explore ways to address cumulative impacts in overburdened communities, they share insight on engaging with communities and industry to address public health concerns through an EJ lens.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Infrastructure Workgroup Chair and ECOS EJ Steering Committee member Shawn LaTourette, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (moderator) ❖ Trisha Oeth, Director of Environmental Health & Protection, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment ❖ Chris Frey, Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Research & Development ❖ Kimberlee Wyche Etheridge, Senior Vice President, Health Equity & Diversity Initiatives, Association of State & Territorial Health Officials ❖ Tequila Smith, Chief Sustainability Officer, Covanta 	Salon 4
3:00 – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Wrap-up & Adjourn, ECOS President Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control</p>	
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	<p>Break with Refreshments</p>	Foyer
3:30 – 4:45 p.m.	<p>ECOS Environmental Justice (EJ) Workgroup (open to states and U.S. EPA) <i>This discussion will center on upcoming priorities for the ECOS Environmental Justice Workgroup, including a deep dive with EPA around EJ considerations in new and existing permitting through the lens of EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation issuance of eight principles to guide consideration of environmental</i></p>	Salon 4

	<p><i>justice in Clean Air Act permitting review and decision-making. State and Regional leaders will share insights into how their permitting process has evolved to incorporate EJ principles including enhancing public involvement, conducting EJ analyses, and increasing transparency, and how these lessons learned can be applied across other environmental permitting processes.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS EJ Workgroup Co-Chair Serena McIlwain, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment (co-moderator) ❖ ECOS EJ Workgroup Co-Chair Jim Macy, Director, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy (co-moderator) ❖ TBD, U.S. EPA 	
4:45 – 5:45 p.m.	<p>State & U.S. Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) Federal Facilities Discussion (open to states and U.S. DOE)</p> <p><i>This session will center on state priorities in the cleanup of the nuclear weapons complex.</i></p>	Studio C

Thursday, March 30
States-Only Business

7:00 – 7:30 a.m.	<p>Moment of Zen, led by Vinyasa yoga instructor Jim Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department</p> <p><i>Please bring a mat and/or towel.</i></p>	Studio B
7:30 – 8:30 a.m.	Buffet Breakfast	Salons 1-3
7:45 – 8:25 a.m.	<p>Side Discussion Hosted by the ECOS Infrastructure Workgroup (open to ECOS members and staff), led by Infrastructure Workgroup Chair Shawn LaTourette, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection</p>	Reserved Table in Salons 1-3
7:45 – 8:25 a.m.	<p>Side Discussion on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act (open to ECOS members and staff), led by ECOS Vice President and E-Enterprise for the Environment State Co-Chair Chuck Carr Brown, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality</p>	Reserved Table in Salons 1-3
8:00 a.m.	Registration Desk Open	Registration Booth
8:30 – 9:45 a.m.	States-Only Session on Resolutions (open to ECOS members)	Salon 4

	and staff), led by ECOS President Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control	
9:45 – 10:00 a.m.	Break with Refreshments	Foyer
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	ECOS Executive Committee Meeting (open to ECOS members and staff), led by ECOS President Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control	Salon 4
11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	ECOS Member Visits with Congressional Members and Staff	Capitol Hill