

2024 ECOS Fall Meeting Draft Agenda Environmental Sea Change September 3-6 Hotel Viking Newport, Rhode Island #ECOSFall24

Though only 37 miles wide and 48 miles long, the Ocean State boasts some 400 miles of shoreline along Narragansett Bay in the Atlantic. Newport offers the ideal backdrop to explore ways to bring about Environmental Sea Change, as states work to transform environmental protection through innovative programs on water quantity and quality, microplastics, PFAS, sustainable materials management, air,

offshore wind, artificial intelligence, satellites, and more.

The meeting will showcase lively discussions and our annual innovation video voting.

- Except where highlighted in green, all sessions are open to all registrants, including press.
 All ECOS meeting space is located on the lobby level except for the Viking Ballroom and Courtyard, which are down the short flight of stairs.
 - 3) ECOS and the Hotel Viking will direct excess food from our Fall Meeting to people in need. See the ECOS website for information on additional sustainability initiatives at the meeting. 4) Dress is business casual.
 - 5) ECOS encourages a climate of open discussion among all meeting attendees, not only members seated around the plenary table.

 Please ask a question or offer input during Q&A.

Tuesday, September 3

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.		23 Bowen's Wharf,
	Enjoy a 90-minute excursion aboard a majestic sailing ship (open to all	Newport, Rhode Island
	attendees and their guests, participation capped at 70). Meet in the	
	hotel lobby at 3:30 p.m. to walk together to the wharf by 3:45 p.m. for	
	the 4:00-5:30 p.m. charter. To participate in this individually paid	
	event, sign up via the registration checkbox.	

Wednesday, September 4 Water & PFAS

7:30 a.m.	Registration Desk Open	Viking Foyer
	Please stop by the registration desk to receive a name badge to be	
	worn throughout the meeting, including for September 5 offsite event	
	guests.	
7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Bellevue Ballroom
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakout Option #1: ECOS Oil & Gas Caucus (O&GC) – Methane	Viking Ballroom
	Satellite Detection & Other Cutting-Edge Measurement Approaches	
	Come hear the latest on the continuing quest of states, nonprofits, and	
	industry to quantify and address greenhouse gas emissions over wide	
	areas. In one major advance, a groundbreaking methane satellite	
	program is providing regulators and oil and gas operators an	
	unprecedented ability to compare near real-time results against	
	emission goals.	
	ECOS O&GC Co-Chair Dave Glatt, Director, North Dakota	
	Department of Environmental Quality (co-moderator)	
	ECOS Secretary-Treasurer and O&GC Co-Chair Jim Kenney,	
	Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department (co-	
	moderator)	
	Jon Goldstein, Senior Director, Regulatory & Legislative	
	Affairs, Environmental Defense Fund	
	Angela Zivkovich, Air Policy Manager, Oxy	
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakout Option #2: Environmental Justice Workgroup & Steering	Thames I
	Committee – Optimizing Supplemental Environmental Projects	
	(SEPs) and Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs)	
	SEPs and CBAs can serve as important tools for addressing inequities	
	and enhancing the quality of life in underserved and overburdened	
	communities. When done well, these projects and agreements foster	
	collaboration among regulators, businesses, and local communities	
	toward shared goals. Join state and U.S. EPA leaders as they consider	
	best practices for designing and implementing SEPs and CBAs to	
	maximize impact and meet regulatory requirements.	
	ECOS Past President and EJ Workgroup & Steering Committee	
	Co-Chair Myra Reece, Interim Director, South Carolina	
	Department of Environmental Services (moderator)	
	Jessica Shirley, Acting Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of	
	Environmental Protection	
	Kandyce Perry, Director, Office of Environmental Justice, New	
	Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	
	♦ TBD, U.S. EPA	

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakout Option #3: Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS) Board Meeting (open to ERIS members, states, and invitees) ❖ ERIS President Jess Byrne, Director, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (moderator)	Tauro Boardroom
9:10 – 10:00 a.m.	 Call to Order & ECOS Welcome, ECOS President Elizabeth Biser, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality {5} Self-Introductions by ECOS Members {10} Host State Welcome, ECOS Meeting Host and Land & Materials Committee Chair Terry Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management {5} ECOS Priorities & Agenda Preview, Elizabeth Biser {5} Executive Director's Report, ECOS Executive Director Ben Grumbles {5} Keynote Remarks followed by Q&A: Sailboat Racing & Leaving Sustainable Oceans in Our Wake, Michelle Carnevale, President, 11th Hour Racing, introduced by ECOS Meeting Host Terry Gray of Rhode Island {20} 	Viking Ballroom
10:00 – 10:50 a.m.	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Alleviating Water Scarcity — Innovative Technologies & Solutions Every State Should Know About Between population growth and exceptional events, water quantity concerns are cropping up and intensifying around the country. Panelists will discuss approaches ranging from New Mexico's use of state-of-the-art satellite imagery to detect water system leaks to other state partnerships on produced water reuse and drought-resilient infrastructure.	Viking Ballroom
10:50 – 11:15 a.m.	Fresh Air Break with Refreshments & Technology Fair	Viking Foyer & Courtya

11:15 a.m. – Noon	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Turning the Tide on Microplastics & More You asked. They answered. Representatives of the Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS), Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC), and U.S. EPA Office of Research & Development will discuss key findings developed in response to a recent ERIS Survey of State Research Needs.	Viking Ballroom
Noon – 12:20 p.m.	Video Presentation & Live Vote for 2024 State Program Innovation Awards in the Water & PFAS Category, ECOS Vice President and two- time innovation honoree Jon Niermann, Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Viking Ballroom
12:30 – 1:40 p.m.	Lunch with Keynote Address followed by Q&A: The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget, and Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works, introduced by ECOS Meeting Host and Land & Materials Committee Chair Terry Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	Bellevue Ballroom
1:40 – 2:10 p.m.	Class of 2024 ECOS Members, Deputies, & Executive Director Photo, followed by ECOS Staff Photo and U.S. DOD Regional Environmental Coordinators Photo	Courtyard
2:10 – 3:10 p.m.	Breakout Option #1: PFAS in Products & the Supply Chain Increasingly, states are focusing on upstream sources of PFAS to better understand how the contaminants are used in industry, how they are discharged into the environment, and how they transfer across media. Experts on PFAS use will highlight the challenge of PFAS in the supply chain and essential products, as well as management solutions. CCOS President and Land & Materials Committee Vice Chair Elizabeth Biser, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality President (moderator) Andrew Pawlisz, Regulatory Toxicologist & Environmental Risk Assessor, Trihydro Corporation Kevin Fay, Executive Director, Sustainable PFAS Action Network	Viking Ballroom

2·10 = 2·10 n m	Breakout Ontion #2: DEAS in Water	Thames I
2:10 – 3:10 p.m.	Breakout Option #2: PFAS in Water This session will look more downstream − to explore how to minimize PFAS pollution in surface water and how to effectively manage funding sources for drinking water contamination, among other strategies. Panelists will discuss ways to incorporate PFAS in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination permits, how regulated entities are handling PFAS in water systems, and where opportunities exist to fund and support water infrastructure and treatment. ❖ ECOS Cross-Media Committee Chair & ERIS Board Member Katrina Kessler, Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (moderator) ❖ Phil Roos, Director, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy ❖ David Cash, Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA Region 1 ❖ Adam Krantz, Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Clean Water Agencies	Thames I
2:10 – 3:10 p.m.	Breakout Option #3: PFAS Destruction, Disposal, & Designation Diving into the monumental topic of cleanup, panelists will discuss policy and technological solutions, including practical next steps for PFAS destruction and disposal. They will also share perspectives on regulating PFAS as a hazardous waste under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act. ❖ ECOS Infrastructure Workgroup Chair Shawn LaTourette, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (moderator) ❖ Cliff Villa, Deputy Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Land & Emergency Management ❖ Shalene Thomas, Senior Emerging Contaminants Program Manager, Battelle ❖ AnnieLu DeWitt, Water Filtration & North America PFAS Product Line Director, Clean Harbors	Thames II
3:10 – 3:40 p.m	Fresh Air Break with Refreshments & Technology Fair	Viking Foyer & Courtyard
3:40 – 4:20 p.m.	Takeaways & Open Discussion: Best Practices for Tackling PFAS on All Fronts Moderators will share highlights from each of the PFAS breakouts, and all attendees will have an opportunity to engage in an open discussion of best practices. ❖ ECOS President Elizabeth Biser, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (moderator)	Viking Ballroom
4:20 – 4:30 p.m.	Day 1 Wrap-up & Announcements, ECOS President Elizabeth Biser of North Carolina	Viking Ballroom

Thursday, September 5 SMM, Air, Agency Management, & Al

7:30 a.m.	Registration Desk Open	Viking Foyer
	Please stop by the registration desk to receive a name badge to be	
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	guests.	
7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Bellevue Ballroom
7:45 – 9:15 a.m.	Breakout Option #1: Joint Meeting of the ECOS Community Healthy	Viking Ballroom
	Air Monitoring Partnership (CHAMP) on Air Monitoring Case Studies,	
	followed by ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup on Leveraging GIS in	
	Climate Action Planning	
	States will spotlight their successes and challenges in community air	
	monitoring as a prelude to an interactive listening session on available	
	tools to support state climate action planning.	
	ECOS CHAMP Co-Chair Brian Rockensuess, Commissioner,	
	Indiana Department of Environmental Management (co- moderator)	
	Nathalie Eddy, Deputy Director for Policy, Environmental	
	Health & Protection, Colorado Department of Public Health &	
	Environment (co-moderator)	
	ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup Co-Chair Katie Dykes,	
	Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy &	
	Environmental Protection (co-moderator)	
	ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup Co-Chair Todd Parfitt,	
	Director, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (co- moderator)	
	 Sunny Fleming, Director of Environment, Conservation, & 	
	Natural Resource Solutions, Esri	
8:15 – 9:15 a.m.	Breakout Option #2: ECOS Digital Business Workgroup (DBWG) –	Thames I
	AI: The New Frontier	
	This interactive session will kick-start an afternoon full-meeting	
	conversation on artificial intelligence and illustrate use cases for	
	environmental agencies considering how to leverage this emerging	
	technology.	
	ECOS DBWG Chair Victoria Phillips, Assistant Commissioner	
	for Enterprise Management, Massachusetts Department of	
	Environmental Protection (co-moderator)	
	❖ ECOS DBWG Vice Chair Miriam Patrocinio, Chief Data Officer,	
	North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (co- moderator)	
	Graciela Arana, Public Sector Al Manager, Accenture	
	Daryl Sng, Public Service Sustainability Lead, Accenture	

8:15 – 9:15 a.m.	Breakout Option #3: ECOS Federal Facilities Forum (open to states) ❖ ECOS Federal Facilities Forum Chair Greg Young, Deputy Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation (moderator)	Thames II
9:25 – 9:40 a.m.	 Second Plenary Session ❖ Call to Order & Announcement of New Committee Chairs, ECOS President Elizabeth Biser, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality {5} ❖ Announcement of 2024-25 ECOS Officers & Recognition of 2023-24 Officers, ECOS Executive Director Ben Grumbles ❖ Presentation of ECOS President's, Founders, and/or Special Recognition Awards, ECOS President Elizabeth Biser of North Carolina 	Viking Ballroom
9:40 — 10:30 a.m.	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Charting a Sustainable Course on Reduction, Reuse, & Recycling States play an essential role in encouraging recycling and directing investments in recycling infrastructure. As the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grant program draws state participation nationwide, hear about a range of SWIFR-funded initiatives underway to enhance solid waste capacity in states, collect recycling data, and ensure that end-of-life materials make their way back into the economy as manufacturing feedstock. * ECOS President and Land & Materials Committee Vice Chair Elizabeth Biser, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (moderator) * ECOS Air Committee Chair and ERIS Board Member Leah Feldon, Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (invited) * Emma Pokon, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation * Nena Shaw, Director, Resource Conservation & Sustainability Division, U.S. EPA Office of Land & Emergency Management * Scott Breen, Senior Vice President of Sustainability, Can Manufacturers Institute	Viking Ballroom

10:30 – 10:55 a.m.	Dialogue & Open Discussion: Materials Management to Green Our	Viking Ballroom
	Wastesheds	
	Innovative materials management practices will be key to achieving	
	statewide waste reduction goals. In this dialogue, practitioners will	
	highlight ways for states to encourage efficient waste stream	
	management systems. They will also address permitting	
	considerations.	
	ECOS Meeting Host and Land & Materials Committee Chair	
	Terry Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of	
	Environmental Management (moderator)	
	Rob Watson, Principal, Upland Road	
	❖ TBD, Reworld Waste	
10:55 – 11:15 a.m.	Break with Refreshments & Technology Fair	Viking Foyer & Courtyard
11:15 – 11:35 a.m.	Video Presentation & Live Vote for 2024 State Program Innovation	Viking Ballroom
	Awards in the Land & Air Category, ECOS Vice President and two-time	
	innovation honoree Jon Niermann, Chairman, Texas Commission on	
	Environmental Quality	
11:35 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Environmental Markets to Achieve	Viking Ballroom
	Carbon, Water, & Wetland Goals	
	States are increasingly weighing market-based approaches to	
	supplement environmental regulation and accelerate the restoration	
	economy. State and private sector panelists will provide insight on	
	their use of mechanisms such as carbon caps and offsets, mitigation	
	banking, "pay-for-success" contracting, and other strategies to	
	achieve environmental results.	
	 ECOS Executive Director Ben Grumbles (moderator) 	
	Laura Watson, Director, Washington State Department of	
	Ecology	
	 Mike Rolband, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental 	
	Quality	
	 Charles Hernick, Head of Sustainability Disclosures Policy, 	
	Amazon	
	Michael Hare, Director of Government Affairs, Business	
	Development, & Corporate Communications, RES	
12:30 – 1:40 p.m.	Lunch with Keynote Address followed by Q&A: The Honorable Janet	Bellevue Ballroom
	McCabe, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection	
	Agency, introduced by ECOS President Elizabeth Biser, Secretary,	
	North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality	

1:45 – 2:30 p.m.	Dialogue & Open Discussion: What's on the Horizon for Offshore Wind	Viking Ballroom
	There is perhaps no better place than Rhode Island, the site of the first U.S. offshore wind farm, to examine the potential of the technology to advance clean, domestic energy production. State and private sector panelists will delve into efforts to streamline permitting, as well as strategies to achieve carbon goals while preserving marine health. * ECOS Climate & Energy Committee Chair Katie Dykes, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (moderator) * ECOS Meeting Host and Land & Materials Committee Chair Terry Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management * Travis Voyles, Secretary, Virginia Department of Natural & Historic Resources * Bill Murray, Senior Vice President—Corporate Affairs &	
	Communications, Dominion Energy	
2:30 – 2:50 p.m.	Video Presentation & Live Vote for 2024 State Program Innovation Awards in the Agency Management Category, ECOS Vice President and two-time innovation honoree Jon Niermann, Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Viking Ballroom
2:50 – 3:00 p.m.	Dialogue: Navigating Headwinds & Setting Sail on a New Agency ECOS members sometimes find themselves with the all-consuming task of leading the transition to a new agency. Hear the firsthand account of ECOS Past President Myra Reece on her recent journey from the Department of Health & Environmental Control to the Department of Environmental Services. ❖ ECOS Vice President Jon Niermann, Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (moderator) ❖ ECOS Past President and EJ Workgroup & Steering Committee Co-Chair Myra Reece, Interim Director, South Carolina Department of Environmental Services	Viking Ballroom

3:00 – 3:45 p.m.	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Catching the Al Wave	Viking Ballroom
	As states begin to leverage artificial intelligence (AI) in areas ranging	
	from permitting and compliance to public comments and internal	
	operations, they are navigating the new world carefully. This session	
	will help demystify the technology and shed light on the possibilities	
	ahead. Please come prepared to discuss your own experiences.	
	Bonnie Heiple, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of	
	Environmental Protection (moderator)	
	Sean Mahar, Interim Commissioner, New York Department of	
	Environmental Conservation (invited)	
	Greg Rogers, Director, Information Resources Division, Texas	
	Commission on Environmental Quality	
	Eyal Darmon, Public Service Al Lead, Accenture	
	Tom Lawler, Executive Director, Digital Climate Alliance	
3:45 – 3:50 p.m.	Meeting Wrap-Up & Call to Adjourn, ECOS President Elizabeth Biser	Viking Ballroom
	of North Carolina	
4:15 – 8:15 p.m.	ECOS Evening Event: Scenic Cliff Walk followed by Clambake at	Cliff Walk & Fort Adams
	Historic Fort Adams	State Park, Newport,
	Comfortable shoes and casual attire recommended. Electric school	Rhode Island
	buses generously provided by First Student will depart from the hotel	
	promptly at 4:15 p.m., arriving at the Cliff Walk Easton's Beach drop-	
	off location at 4:30 p.m. Student ambassadors of Salve Regina	
	University will guide groups along a picturesque seaside path with	
	Gilded Age mansions that is now partially obstructed by a 30-foot	
	crater – a vivid illustration of coastal resilience challenges stemming	
	from sea-level rise and extreme weather. Also on view is a traveling	
	art exhibition depicting a herd of life-size elephants. Buses will pick up	
	guests at 5:15 p.m. at the Breakers Parking Lot for arrival at Fort	
	Adams State Park at 5:30 p.m. and an authentic New England	
	clambake and cash bar. Buses will pick up attendees at 7:30 and 8:00	
	p.m. for return trips to the hotel. To participate, sign up via the	
	registration checkbox. The cost of this event is included in the	
	registration fee, and attendees' guests may be pre-registered for a fee	
ĺ	as part of the registration process.	

Friday, September 6 States-Only Business

7:30 – 8:45 a.m.	Breakfast	Bellevue Ballroom
	Please bring a mat and/or towel.	
	Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department	
7:00 – 7:30 a.m.	Moment of Seaside Zen, led by Vinyasa yoga instructor Jim Kenney,	Thames I

8:00 a.m.	Registration Desk Open	Viking Foyer
8:45 – 10:30 a.m.	States-Only Session on Bylaws & Resolutions Voting, PFAS Assessment, & 2026 Fall Meeting Host State Selection (open to ECOS members and staff), led by ECOS President Elizabeth Biser, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality	Viking Ballroom
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Break with Refreshments	Viking Ballroom
10:45 – 11:45 a.m.	ECOS Executive Committee Meeting (open to ECOS members and staff), led by ECOS President Elizabeth Biser of North Carolina	Viking Ballroom
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	ECOS Field Demo of U.S. EPA Office of Research & Development and Rhode Island Research Before you head home, take a short trip with ECOS to participate in a field demo at the largest freshwater pond in the city of Providence, the site of innovative research by U.S. EPA's Office of Research & Development to evaluate HABs over space and time and understand the impacts of their social and recreational use. Rhode Island is also exploring enhanced stormwater controls in the watershed. Participants will share rides to the site and airport. To participate, sign up via the registration checkbox.	Mashapaug Pond Providence, Rhode Island (approximately 10 minutes from the Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport in Warwick, RI)