



2025 ECOS Spring Meeting: *Uniting States & Partners for Environmental Progress*

Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, Arlington, Virginia

March 23-26 2025

#ECOSSpring25

As ECOS converges on the nation's capital for introductions to the new leadership of federal agencies and Congress, our diverse members bring their traditional spirit of bipartisanship to achieve environmental progress. The Spring Meeting will leverage our work with federal, NGO, and private sector partners to attain shared goals for the year ahead. ECOS priorities include building state capacity to lead, advancing water and energy infrastructure through permitting efficiencies and other means, accelerating the circular economy, and ensuring federal facility compliance.

- 1) Except where highlighted in green, all sessions are open to all registrants, including press.
- 2) 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.
- 3) All meeting space is located on the second floor.

Sunday, March 23 States-Only Business

| | |
|--|---|
| 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Registration Booth | Registration Desk Open <i>Please stop by the registration desk to receive a name badge to be worn throughout the meeting.</i> |
| 4:15 – 5:30 p.m. Studio C | New Member Orientation (open to all ECOS members and staff) |
| 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Studio C & Foyer | Informal Happy Hour for State Attendees |

Monday, March 24 Unity, Permitting Efficiency, Workforce, & AI

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. Registration Booth | Registration Desk Open <i>Please stop by the registration desk to receive a name badge to be worn throughout the meeting, including for the March 25 offsite event.</i> |
| 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Salons 1-3 | Buffet Breakfast |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>8:40 – 9:40 a.m. Salon 4</p> | <p>Breakout Option #1: ECOS Oil & Gas Caucus (O&GC) – The Evolving Landscape for Oil & Natural Gas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS President and O&GC Co-Chair James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department (co-moderator & speaker) ❖ ECOS O&GC Co-Chair Dave Glatt, Director, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (co-moderator & speaker) |
| <p>8:40 – 9:40 a.m. Studio B</p> | <p>Breakout Option #2: Environmental Justice Workgroup & Steering Committee – Engagement & Permitting at Waste Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Past President and EJ Workgroup & Steering Committee Co-Chair Myra Reece, Interim Director, South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (co-moderator & speaker) ❖ ECOS EJ Workgroup & Steering Committee Co-Chair Serena McIlwain, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment (co-moderator & speaker) |
| <p>8:40 – 9:40 a.m. Studio C</p> | <p>Breakout Option #3: Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS) Board Meeting (open to ERIS members, states, and invitees)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ERIS President Jess Byrne, Director, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (moderator) |
| <p>9:50 – 10:25 a.m. Salon 4</p> | <p>Opening Plenary Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Call to Order, ECOS President and O&GC Co-Chair James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department ❖ Self-Introduction of Members {10} ❖ Association Priorities & Agenda Preview, James Kenney {10} ❖ Announcements & New Member Trivia, ECOS Executive Director Ben Grumbles {15} |
| <p>10:25 – 11:15 p.m. Salon 4</p> | <p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Past ECOS Officers on Unity in a Time of Transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS President James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department (moderator & speaker) |
| <p>11:15 – 11:40 a.m. Foyer</p> | <p>Break with Refreshments & Technology Fair</p> |
| <p>11:40 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Salon 4</p> | <p>Roundtable & Open Discussion: Permitting Efficiencies to Safeguard the Environment & Expand State Economies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Air Committee Chair Leah Feldon, Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (moderator & speaker) |
| <p>12:30 – 1:40 p.m. Salons 1-3</p> | <p>Lunch with Keynote Address followed by Q&A: The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Chair, Senate Environment & Public Works Committee, on the Outlook for PFAS, Permitting Reform, & Other Environmental Legislation in the 119th Congress, introduced by West Virginia ECOS Member TBD</p> |
| <p>1:50 – 2:40 p.m. Salon 4</p> | <p>Open Problem-Solving Session: Innovative Strategies in Workforce Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ERIS President Jess Byrne, Director, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (moderator) |

| | |
|--|--|
| 2:40 – 3:25 p.m. Salon 4 | Roundtable & Open Discussion: AI as a Tool to Address Community Impacts ❖ ECOS Cross-Media Committee Chair Katrina Kessler, Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (moderator & speaker) |
| 3:25 – 3:30 p.m. Salon 4 | Day 1 Wrap-up & Announcements , ECOS President and O&GC Co-Chair James Kenney |
| 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Capitol Hill | Joint Briefing of ECOS & the National Governors Association on State Environmental Funding & Priorities (open to invited state attendees) |
| <i>Evening open for individually arranged cherry blossom viewing and meetings and dinners.</i> | |

Tuesday, March 25
Resilience, SMM, Drinking Water, & PFAS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. Foyer | Registration Desk Open <i>Please stop by the registration desk to receive a name badge to be worn throughout the meeting, including for September 5 offsite event guests.</i> |
| 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. Salon 4 | Breakout Option #1: ECOS Climate & Energy Workgroup Listening Session with U.S. EPA on Resilience & Climate-Related Risk ❖ 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) |
| 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. Studio B | Breakout Option #2: ECOS Digital Business Workgroup (DBWG) on U.S. EPA Enforcement & Compliance History Online (ECHO) New Data Analysis Tools ❖ ECOS DBWG Chair Victoria Phillips, Assistant Commissioner for Enterprise Management, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (co-moderator) ❖ ECOS DBWG Vice Chair Miriam Patrocino, Chief Data Officer, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (co-moderator) |
| 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. Studio C | Breakout Option #3: ECOS Federal Facilities Forum (FFF) (open to states and federal invitees) |
| 9:55 – 10:00 a.m. Salon 4 | Call to Order & Announcements ❖ ECOS President James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department |
| 10:00 – 10:50 a.m. Salon 4 | Roundtable & Open Discussion: Lessons Learned in Disaster Preparedness & Response ❖ ECOS Compliance Committee Chair Chris Wells, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (moderator & speaker) |
| 10:50 – 11:20 a.m. | Break with Refreshments & Technology Fair |

| | |
|---|---|
| 11:20 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. Salon 4 | Dialogue & Open Discussion: Sustainable Management & Critical Mineral Recovery of Renewables ❖ ECOS Land & Materials Committee Chair and Infrastructure Workgroup Chair Shawn LaTourette, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (moderator & speaker) |
| 12:10 – 1:25 p.m. Salons 1-3 | Lunch with Keynote Address followed by Q&A: The Honorable Lee Zeldin, Administrator (pending Senate confirmation), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, on Agency Priorities & State Partnership Opportunities , introduced by ECOS President James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department |
| 1:35 – 2:25 p.m. Salon 4 | Dialogue & Open Discussion: Innovations in Drinking Water Safety & Data Transparency ❖ Julie Moore, Secretary, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (moderator & speaker) |
| 2:25 – 3:15 p.m. Salon 4 | Open Problem-Solving Discussion: Lessons & Laughter from Little Failures ❖ ECOS At-Large Member Terry Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (moderator) |
| 3:15 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. Salon 4 | Break with Refreshments & Technology Fair |
| 3:40 – 4:25 p.m. Salon 4 | Roundtable & Open Discussion: Strategies for Reducing PFAS in Products ❖ Casey Sixkiller, Director, Washington Department of Ecology (moderator & speaker) (invited) |
| 4:25 – 4:30 p.m. Salon 4 | Meeting Wrap-Up & Call to Adjourn , ECOS President Jim Kenney of New Mexico |
| 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. Amazon HQ2 Arlington, VA | ECOS Evening Event: Tour & Dinner Reception at Amazon's Platinum LEED-Certified HQ2 <i>Attendance is included for those who checked the registration checkbox. Please bring an id and your ECOS name badge and walk, carpool, or drive one mile. Those registered for the 5:15 tour should arrive by 5:00 at the main entrance at 510 14th St. S Arlington, and those registered for the 5:45 tour should arrive by 5:30. Tours conclude at the 5:45 dinner reception at Amazon Visitor Landing, 545 15th St. S Arlington (copper-colored entryway). Paid parking is available beneath 510 14th St S Arlington; enter the garage on Elm St. between 14th and 15th St. S.</i> |

Wednesday, March 26

States-Only Business

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 7:45 – 8:30 a.m. Studio B | Moment of National Capital Zen , led by ECOS President & Vinyasa yoga instructor James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department <i>Please bring a mat and/or towel.</i> |
| 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Salons 1-3 | Buffet Breakfast |

| | |
|---|---|
| 9:00 a.m. Foyer | Registration Desk Open |
| 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. Salon 4 | States-Only Session on Resolutions & Other Voting (open to ECOS members and staff), led by ECOS President James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department |
| 10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Salon 4 | Break with Refreshments |
| 11:00 – Noon Salon 4 | ECOS Executive Committee Meeting (open to ECOS members and staff), led by ECOS President James Kenney of New Mexico |
| 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Capitol Hill | ECOS Member Meetings on Capitol Hill |