



ECOS

Resolution 14-3  
September 17, 2014  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Revised September 13, 2017  
Jackson, Wyoming

Revised April 10, 2019  
Arlington, Virginia

Revised April 6, 2022  
Asheville, North Carolina

Revised March 26, 2025  
Arlington, Virginia

As certified by  
Ben Grumbles  
Executive Director

## **FEDERAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, state, territorial, and the District of Columbia (hereinafter referred to as “state”) environmental programs are responsible for implementing nearly all of the core federal, state, territorial, and District of Columbia environmental programs which protect public health and our nation’s air, land, and water resources; and

WHEREAS, these core environmental protection activities require inspections, permitting, enforcement, emergency response and recovery, and related administrative efforts for implementation; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this key role in environmental service delivery, the U.S. Congress included provisions in the Clean Water Act (CWA), Clean Air Act (CAA), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to provide federal funding to states to operate these federal programs and this is primarily through, but not limited to, state and tribal assistance grants (STAG); and

WHEREAS, the workload of new and existing federal environmental rules and programs continues at a steady pace; and

WHEREAS, under cooperative federalism, states are the lead implementers of delegated, authorized, and primacy environmental programs and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) provides appropriate program oversight as well as important research, standard setting, training, enforcement support, and other roles; and

WHEREAS, the financial resources of the federal government for support of the core environmental programs, including the administration of the programs, laboratory services, research, and technical assistance are an essential part of the resources necessary to meet federal requirements to protect the public health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, states receive funding under Sections 103 and 105 of the CAA; and

WHEREAS, CAA Section 105 grants require a minimum state match of 40 percent or maintenance of effort, while Section 103 grants do not require a state match; and

WHEREAS, the administrative implementation cost of federal programs and rules may include, for example: obtaining additional delegated authority; pursuing state statutory and/or rulemaking processes; attending U.S. EPA required training; permitting, monitoring, and enforcing new and existing requirements; outreach and education to provide environmental and cybersecurity literacy to the regulated entities and communities; purchasing new equipment; collecting, analyzing, and reporting data; recording and storing data; and related follow-up actions; response to public engagement; and

WHEREAS, implementation costs need to be clearly recognized and included in federal financial resources provided to the states.

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

Continues to support early, meaningful, and substantial state involvement in U.S. EPA's budget process and its development and implementation of federal environmental statutes and related rules;

Urges states as co-regulators with U.S. EPA to continue to work together jointly for the most efficient and effective use of federal and state resources for the greatest environmental and public health benefit;

Recommends that new funding for monitoring activities be granted under CAA Section 103, so the funds can be available for all states, regardless of their ability to match the grants;

Opposes shifting PM2.5 monitoring funding away from Section 103 authority to Section 105 authority where matching funds will be required;

Requests U.S. EPA consider the availability of federal funding support in its planning for new rule adoption schedules and other implementation activities following new rule issuance;

Requests U.S. EPA to include estimates of both state initial and on-going administrative costs and state direct implementation costs in recognition of the significant and wide range of activities necessary to implement existing and new requirements and programs;

Requests U.S. EPA continue to work with states to reduce delays relating to financial assistance agreements, including grants and other assistance, in recognition of the on-going need to adequately support the environmental protection work of the states;

Urges the U.S. EPA and U.S. Congress to financially support state implementation efforts commensurate with the complexity and breadth of federal requirements when states implement federally delegated, authorized, or primacy programs (delegated); and

To further support funding needs for state environmental agencies to implement delegated programs, will continue to provide testimony to the U.S. Congress to address state funding limitations and the need for increased federal funding, will work with congressional committees of jurisdiction, and will engage with the U.S. EPA to seek support for states as co-regulators who are instrumental in achieving the nation's environmental priorities and to achieve the objectives of this resolution.