New York

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

JENNIFER COLLINS MAY 28, 2021 04:58PM

Big Wins

JENNIFER COLLINS JUN 09, 2021 01:19PM

Harry noted that the SBEAP hotline continued to field calls and provide services to NY's small businesses, albeit on a more limited scale. Site visits were resuming upon his departure.

Challenges

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Maintaining quality technical services to NYS small businesses in the absence of the SBEAP.

2021 / 2022 Excitement & Priorities

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Relaunch of SBO & SBEAP programs, marketing services to small businesses, updating technical guidance documents, identifying training opportunities.

Help Wanted

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As the recently hired SBEO, I am still learning the tricks of my new trade. However, I would like to recognize other state SBEAPs & SBOs that I have reached out to. These programs have taken time out of their schedules to chat with me about their services, daily business, and challenges. Special thanks to Troy Johnson (SBEAP) and Mike Nelson (SBO) from the State of Minnesota. I have taken your advice to heart that "successful staff have empathy for small businesses." Thank you to Ed Bakos SBEAP from the State of New Jersey for taking the time to chat with me about your operations and for connecting me with Fausto Taveras of EPA Region 2. Fausto, thank you for keeping me up to date on relevant EPA regulatory activities. Thank you to the National organization for the resources, directory listing, and this training session.

Structure and Stats (Where are you housed? and How many Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)?)

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NY's Small Businesses Environmental Ombudsman, 1 FTE, is housed at the state's economic development agency – Empire State Development. SBEAP activities are being fielded by this office with support from DEC.