

July 2025 SBO/SBEAP NSC Call

July 1, 2025
2:00 – 3:00pm ET

Zoom Meeting:
<https://ksu.zoom.us/j/95485681159>

NSC MISSION

To serve, support, and strengthen the Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs through representation and collaboration

Minutes to be taken by Region 4

Attendees:

Leena Divakar, Chris Lynch, Lucy Cross, Mark Stoddard, Tony Pendola, Belinda Breidenbach, Bob Randolph, Crystal Warren, Eleanor Divver, Gabe Catenacci, Jeremy Hancher, Julie Churchill, Troy Johnson (MN), Donovan Grimwood, Ed Bakos,

Topics for Main Discussion:

1. NSC Membership. Vacancies in Regions 1, 2, 4, 5, 9.
 - Strategies for filling vacancies? Identification of candidates to fill openings.
 - Education needs a representative, whether Sara or someone else from subcommittee.
 - Regions needing an Alt: 1, 2, 4, 5, 9. Issues with getting an Alt.
 - Tony suggests asking about Region 4 Alt position at August meeting.
 - Other regions currently are not seeing any interest in becoming an Alt. Ed Bakos did agree to become representative for Region 2.
 - Natalie in OK is stepping down in Region 5.
2. Annual Training and Meeting Planning Subcommittee
October 20-21, 2025 in Salt Lake City, Utah.
 - Need a Planning Subcommittee Chair. Volunteer? Chair will need to lead the development of meeting agenda and speakers; will need to schedule committee meetings commencing in July.
 - As in the past, the planning committee will need participation and support from subcommittee chairs to assist with the agenda/sessions/securing speakers/logistics
 - Eleanor Divver is taking care of hosting logistics, room, hotel recommendations, and is willing to secure Utah DEQ speakers based on requests from planning subcommittee.
 - Desired US EPA speakers will need to be identified soon and requests sent through Paula Hoag or directly to potential speakers.

- Planning subcommittee has been contacted and formed, but need a chair and to start getting agenda planned. Crystal has volunteered. Draft agenda needed soon for states to start submitting travel requests. Eleanor is hosting, but subcommittee will back her up and handle agenda, topics.
 - Request for topics unique to UT would work well. Clean Cities, recent grant are optional topics.
 - ****Action item**** Eleanor needs to send Leena dates and location for website update.
 - EPA topics also needed as they will need a very long lead time due to changes in administration.
 - Question on food whether on own or catered. Asked if KSU can accept registration fees for Annual Training. UT cannot. KSU can no longer do that due to grant being canceled. This includes KSU needing to cancel existing accounts at end of grant. Potential for another program or outside group to handle registration type fees. Could caterer offer selections and individual pay caterer directly? Potentially. May depend on how many people. May require limited menu selections. Considering planning for two lunches. Consideration of registration to cover meals and some extras that may cover website or similar. May be able to create a new pool of funding for website.
 - Unknown attendance due to current funding issues that may be occurring nationwide. Currently 23 estimated committed. 50 would be considered a good turn-out.
 - Primary importance would be dates and draft agenda, even if topics aren't settled as it would be needed for state submittal for travel approval.
 - NSC meeting to be planned at Annual Training. Would it be built into the two days or prior/after?
3. Newcomer virtual training. Date has been selected. July 29, 2025. 1-4:30pm ET. Thank you, Leena Divakar and Sara Johnson.
- Meeting invitation sent out
 - Any support needed from NSC (Leena)?
 - Newcomer training is coming along. Agenda is pretty planned out and primary need is for NSC chair and vice-chair to be available as well as Subcommittee chairs
 - Currently have 20 have accepted. Will send out a new targeted email to identified newcomers, but also out to SBEAP Main as it is open to all. This includes CAP members or additional staff within an office as we would be talking about the SBEAP and NSC in general.
4. ASBO Grant Expiration and Non-Renewal
- Essential core functions under the grant and recommendations from K-State
 - Do we need a dues based membership organization or US EPA line item not subject to grant processes?
 - Next NSC call
 - Do we need someone to volunteer to host? Calendar Invitation?
 - Can we create a new account for Website and similar to replace grant?
 - What are the core requirements and costs? Draft estimate is \$20k/year to maintain. Estimates come from report to Paula as discussion to close out grant cycle and looking forward to how to maintain.

- Leena volunteering to keep up website and listserv. Unknown after July 31st how much time she could devote to the website update and listserv.
 - Conferences are getting more expensive. Such as \$800 is getting on the high end, but not uncommon. Suggested registration of \$350 as an estimate to cover conference and excess directed to Website. This includes website hosting, URL, and staff time. EPA grant was \$550k over 5 year period. Most went to website development and maintenance.
 - Request for Leena to research if KSU can set up account for receiving registrations and use excess to cover Website expenses. Noted that may have to balance price to provide lunch, but also have enough excess for Website.
 - Another issue would be if charging an overfee for Website, if a state sends more than one, then that state may have excess costs. Potentially first attendee covers Website overfee and then additional would be at normal level.
 - How to handle future Zoom meetings. Subcommittee chairs should set up their own meetings due to much higher level of web conferencing options available. Suggestion to keep to Zoom or Teams if possible as those are the most common and also the most common that a state may have. Do meetings by invitation only as opposed to posted to website which can create a Zoom-bombing issue for people that want to disrupt a meeting. Forwarding to colleagues are fine.
 - What do we do about recording meetings? Suggestion that coordinate with Leena concerning about recording. Technical seems to be the primary one that may need recording. Easiest for recordings to be handled by KSU to enable easier file handling rather than trying to transfer it to KSU for posting.
 - Potential for expansion of additional people to post to SBEAP YouTube. This may allow additional options for recording of Technical or others and then posting to the YouTube channel. Would still need to be linked to SBEAP Website.
5. Finish up recommendations letter to US EPA. Draft developed by Technical Subcommittee, thanks in large part to Mark Stoddard and Jeremy Hancher. Goal is to send to US EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin before June 30.
 - Govt. relations/public relations strategy (Promotion Committee?)
 - Proposed that Chris will look through it again before sending. New draft should be released this week if possible.
 6. Confirm updates/changes to NSC guidelines.
 - Any additional comments or concerns?
 - Vote for approval to revisions
 - Will resend and request review and comments for final round. Some key things are membership questions. Will be put at the top of the agenda for next month.

Subcommittee Reports (None submitted since June meeting)

Education Subcommittee (Chair, Sara Johnson)

Promotions Subcommittee (Chair, Crystal Warren; Awards Chair, Donovan Grimwood)

Technical Subcommittee (Chair, Mark Stoddard)

Website Subcommittee (Chairs, Leena Divakar and Donovan Grimwood)

Allied Updates (none submitted)

- CAAAC – Jeremy Hancher
- NAACA – Nancy Herb
- ECOS – Donovan Grimwood
- AAPCA – Tony Pendola -**Noted that current administration has reverted MM2A policy. Expect some changes to that as well as related items.**

**Next NSC call – August 5, 2025
2:00 - 3:00pm ET**

June 2025 SBO/SBEAP NSC Call

Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2025
(rescheduled call)
2:00 – 3:00pm ET

Zoom Meeting:
<https://ksu.zoom.us/j/95485681159>

NSC MISSION

To serve, support, and strengthen the Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs through representation and collaboration

Minutes to be taken by Region 3 (Jeremy Hancher)

Attendees:

Jeremy Hancher, Leena Divakar, Chris Lynch, Belinda Breidenbach, Bob Randolph, Crystal Warren, Donovan Grimwood, Gabe Catenacci, Julie Churchill, Lucy Cross, Mark Stoddard, Natalie Cota, Tony Pendola, Ed Bakos, Troy Johnson.

April & June Minutes:

Guest speakers

- May, Nick Goldstein and Emily Jones, Assistance Chiefs Counsel, US SBA Office of Advocacy
- June, Paula Hoag, Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman, US EPA

Discussion on value of guest speakers and ideas for speakers going forward.

Are guest speakers valuable to have on the NSC call? Yes, it is appreciated and there is value added. But need to have time for our own NSC agenda items. One suggestion is to extend the length of the call by 15-30 minutes to allow for some discussion after the guest speaker.

Interest in having Paula provide regular updates possibly on a quarterly basis.

RSBLs – suggestion to have them provide updates.

Update on Rhonda Wright – she has not been participating on monthly calls with Paula due to proposed reorganization at EPA. It is also likely that there is little emphasis on RSBLs at the moment. Question was raised as to what happened to Susan Paret? She used to be on calls with Rhonda but dropped off. Sarah Baker, Elnora Thompson, and Ricardo Shojgreen were also names on calls with EPA.

Topics for Main Discussion:

7. Finish up recommendations letter to US EPA. Draft developed by Technical Subcommittee, thanks in large part to Mark Stoddard and Jeremy Hancher. Goal is to send to US EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin before June 30.

Postponed detailed discussion to move to Item #2.

8. Discuss ASBO grant updates from Paula. How does this affect our communications and programming?
 - National program sustainability
 - Need for advocacy: through Promotions Subcommittee? New national promotion strategy?
 - No national government affairs strategy. National Advocacy working group inactive.
 - Establish dues based non-profit membership organization?
 - Establish US EPA line item like radon programs?

Have been hearing from Paula that the 5 year national SBEAP support grant was in a pile of “maybes” and now it is in a pile of “no”. That means **no renewal of five year grant for K-State to provide support for the website, annual training, listservs, etc.**

- Leena’s updates: grant will expire July 31st. Paula called and informed K-State that the entire CFDA (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance) under which the grant has been funded was cancelled: <https://sam.gov/fal/d903885aaf0d48809782bc67f8244484/view>
- Hope that the opportunity will arrive in some other form; no guarantees.
- The website can be kept live for the time being, and Go Daddy web hosting minimal costs can be covered by K-State. No maintenance or updates possible.
- SBEAP listserv – K-State will have to check to see if that can still be supported.
- Subcommittee zoom meetings; need hosts and K-State cannot continue to set up and monitor admissions to the meetings
- Comments – biggest hit would be loss of support for annual training, including travel scholarships and small funding support for a host state every other year. Gabe said CO is still planning on hosting a training in 2026 but will have to explore cost-saving options. In terms of various state programs able to travel, most states are getting costs reduced so ability to travel will be very limited.
 - Suggestion for possibly having trainings as hybrid. Noted but the issue becomes a double-edged sword in terms of meeting hotel reservations and states not granting approval to travel if virtual option is available.
- Larger discussion that there is a disconnect from the states to EPA. It is very siloed in terms of what EPA does (permits, inspections, meeting metrics, probably not sure what a small business is). Big disconnect between EPA and the states and 507 programs.
 - Attorneys in OECA and OAQPS looked at section 507 language and determined that EPA has done all it needs to do and has no further obligations under the statute. Should we ask in our letter for the new administration to review this?
- Promotional Subcommittee will put advocacy on its agenda (next call on August 12).

- Comment that this group (NSC and larger SBEAP community) has expertise in commenting on various rulemakings and putting together comment letters. SBEAPs are highly skilled and experts in their field. Need to make sure EPA knows this
 - State small business programs predominately do not get funding from EPA. It comes mostly internally (at the state level), so the decisionmakers within our own state program should be the main focus (at least in the near term) for ongoing support for small business programs.
 - Two prong approach – get EPA oversight and funding support in place while keeping our own stakeholders happy (state programs, trade associations, small businesses, congress, etc.).
 - Leena requested to provide list of “core” activities under the grant and discuss at next meeting how to continue or discontinue.
9. Newcomer virtual training. Date has been selected. July 29, 2025. 1-4:30pm ET. Thank you, Leena Divakar and Sara Johnson.
10. Annual meeting and training. Dates have been selected October 20-21, 2025 in Salt Lake City at Utah Department of Environmental Quality. Thank you, Eleanor Divver. US EPA Pollution Prevention Grant for P2 West has never been funded.
- Immediate need to reconstitute our annual meeting and training planning committee. As in the past, the planning committee will need support from subcommittee chairs to assist with the agenda/sessions/logistics.
 - Too early to know, but how will national grant issue affect our ability to have annual meetings going forward?

We need to make sure that Eleanor gets the support she needs in terms of hosting the training.

Action Items: please let Chris know if you are interested in volunteering to serve on the annual training planning subcommittee to help support Eleanor’s planning purposes for October in-person meeting.

Crystal, Gabe, Leena, Belinda, Chris, Jeremy, and Troy gave a verbal “yes” to volunteer.

Next meeting: Get a chair for the planning subcommittee and get first meetings scheduled.

11. Confirm updates/changes to NSC guidelines

Action postponed to next call

Subcommittee Reports *(please read; ask questions if you have any)*

Education Subcommittee (Chair, Sara Johnson)

Newcomer training scheduled July 29, 2025. Draft agenda on National SBEAP website.

Promotions Subcommittee (Chair, Crystal Warren; Awards Chair, Donovan Grimwood)

Last met on May 13, 2025. Topics discussed included NSC Awards and Newsletter Distribution.

Newsletter Distribution Discussion: Several states distribute state-level newsletters as part of their education and outreach efforts. It was discussed whether it's appropriate to add clients to the newsletter if they have received in-depth technical assistance from SBEAP staff (as opposed to sending the newsletter to only those that have intentionally signed-up for the newsletter). Amongst the group, it was decided that, as long as the email contains a method to Unsubscribe which is easy to find and follow, then this is acceptable to add clients that received detailed assistance and would benefit from the information in the newsletter.

NSC Awards:

Sent 2025 Awards press release to Website Subcommittee for posting

- Sent NC SBEAP press release to a couple of additional outlets per NC SBEAP request
- Still needing acceptance picture from Blue Lawn to add to their press release on website

Item of concern: K State national support grant from US EPA ASBO includes \$500/year set aside for awards. Potential question for financial support going forward.

Technical Subcommittee (Chair, Mark Stoddard)

Regulatory reform draft letter prepared for NSC to make final edits and send.

Website Subcommittee (Chairs, Leena Divakar and Donovan Grimwood)

General maintenance and updates

- Presented National SBEAP quarterly report to Pula Hoag and group
- Subcommittee members met with Educational subcommittee to discuss Annual Newcomer training. Annual Newcomer training scheduled for July 29 1 p.m. EST and the agenda is posted on the website.

Allied Updates (none reported)

- CAAAC – Jeremy Hancher
- NAACA – Nancy Herb
- ECOS – Donovan Grimwood
- AAPCA – Tony Pendola

Next NSC call – July 1, 2025

2:00 - 3:00pm ET

March and April Meetings

Guest Speakers:

SBA Advocacy (Nick and Emily)

US EPA ASBO (Paula)

SBO/SBEAP NSC Call

March 4, 2025

Minutes recorded by Region 9

Meeting Attendees: (Sixteen Total)

R1: Sara Johnson, NH, Julie Churchill, ME

R2: Gina Gambacorto, NJ

R3: Jeremy Hancher, PA

R4: Donovan Grimwood, TN, Crystal Warren, TN, Tony Pendola, NC

R5: Troy Johnson, MN, Mark Stoddard, IN

R6: Lucy Cross, AR

R7: Leena Divakar, KS, Bob Randolph, MO

R8: Eleanor Divver, UT

R9: Chris Lynch, NV, Griffin Hadlock, NV

R10: Belinda Breidenbach, ID

Approve February 2025 NSC Minutes and Changes to Subcommittees

To repair the February meeting minutes:

1. A motion was offered to pause the Environmental Justice workgroup. The motion carried; all voted in favor with no votes against.
2. A motion was offered to merge the Metrics Workgroup and the National Advocacy Workgroup into the Promotional Subcommittee. The motion carried, all voted in favor with no votes against.

Leena Divakar motioned to approve February minutes, and Donovan seconded. The repaired February minutes were approved with all in favor.

ASBO/OAQPS updates

Leena noted that Paula Hoag's office is adjusting to changes in the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSBDU), where Paula's function as the Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO) is housed. The Director of OSBDU, Denise Sirmons, has moved on and Jerome Greene is now the Acting Director. The only communication from Paula's office is currently through email, there have been no posts. The February meeting with NSC leadership was cancelled by Paul.

Belinda noted that there are talks for a continuing resolution for the federal budget with a potential government shutdown on March 14. Federal agency Reduction in Force (RIF) plans are due by March 15. The administration has announced it is looking to reduce the budget of the US EPA by 65%..

Eleanor mentioned that Region 8 held an in-person meeting in Denver where she met with staff of QAQC, which mainly specializes in water. QAQC is not funded by Air or any other particular division. Eleanor made the suggestion that SBEAPs connect with QAQC. Julie also noted that she met with the Region 1 manager recently.

NSC Updates and Open Floor Discussions

Region 6 update – Lloyd Kirk (OK) has retired. Lucy Cross will now be the NSC regional representative for Region 6 and Natalie Cota (OK) will join the NSC as the new alternate regional representative.

SBA Office of Advocacy - Chris noted that Chip Bishop, Deputy Chief Counsel for the Office of Advocacy, is currently filling in as Acting Chief Counsel. Dr. Casey Mulligan has been nominated by the Trump Administration to become Chief Counsel for the Office of Advocacy. The SBA Office of Advocacy added three new environmental staff in 2024 but they are now down to two environmental staff, Nick Goldstein (air and water) and Emily Jones (chemicals and waste). Advocacy is looking for deregulation/regulatory reform suggestions and is open to SBEAP feedback. The new administration is establishing a policy to remove 10 regulations/guidance documents/policy interpretations off the book for any new regulation promulgated.

Mark suggested that at the next Technical Subcommittee meeting, there could be an open forum discussion to review the 2017 NSC Letter sent to US EPA by the NSC to facilitate discussions around regulatory reform. Discussions have been prompted by January 31, 2025 Executive Order 14192 (see more info below under Technical Subcommittee notes). Tony suggested SBEAP should identify people to review one rule each at a time and to put out an email to the SBEAP main listserv to review obscure rules that may simplify small business compliance requirements. It was suggested that SBEAP should try to have conversations and collect information on regulations that may be burdensome, regulations that may no longer serve a purpose, and regulatory improvements for the sake of clarity, especially on topics surrounding Potential to Emit and old Emission Factors that may be burdensome or incomplete for small businesses.

There was a discussion regarding guest speakers for NSC monthly calls and it was agreed that Chris will invite Paula Hoag and Nick Goldstein as guest speakers for April and will invite Paula to join at least a portion of the NSC monthly calls on a quarterly basis thereafter.

Annual Training Planning

Nevada's US EPA P2 grant to support P2 West is still in the air, so planning will move on to Plan B. Plan B is to have the annual training at Salt Lake City, Utah, or Raleigh, North Carolina in October or November. A survey will be sent to Main.

Leena is looking at the second week of May for a one-day virtual training course for newcomers. KS State can coordinate the training.

Chris inquired if NSC members would be interested in an in-person meeting in Washington DC in May. The NSC has not held an in-person meeting since June 2022. Meeting in DC would allow members to combine the trip with additional meetings promoting the national network of SBEAPs to members of Congress or staff/committee staff, stakeholder groups such as business and trade associations, and meetings with US EPA officials.

Eleanor suggested, as an alternative, meeting in Boston the first week of August timing the NSC meeting to coincide with the National Conference of State Legislatures annual legislative summit and meeting with state legislators.

Open Floor Discussion #2

Chris suggested a new approach to NSC meetings to help encourage open discussion and the ability to work on tasks like reviewing and potentially updating the NSC Guidelines. The discussion centered around having subcommittee chairs submit monthly reports (a couple of paragraphs) with updates in writing prior to each NSC call. Time will still be allotted during NSC calls for members to ask questions of subcommittee chairs based on their reports and subcommittee chairs can request time on the NSC meeting agenda to discuss important and/or urgent matters. This would be the same structure for Allied Group Updates. Gina motioned to approve written monthly updates from subcommittee chairs and the motion was seconded by Crystal. The motion was unanimously approved.

NSC Guidelines Discussion will be moved to next month's call due to lack of time.

- **Subcommittee Updates**
 - **Awards – Donovan Grimwood**

Votes are coming in, updates on some votes were requested
 - **Technical – Mark Stoddard**
 - March 18: Regulatory reform discussion and strategizing. See January 31, 2025 [Executive Order 14192](#) “Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation” requiring that whenever an executive department or agency proposes for notice and comment or otherwise promulgates a new regulation, it shall identify at least 10 existing regulations to be repealed. SBEAPs should have a discussion on regulations that could be suggested due to their burden on small businesses. As part of discussion, identify people who are willing to review a certain US EPA regulation that could be reformed, removed or replaced and consider regulations not referenced in the letter.
 - April 15: EV charging and alternative fuels for fleets (many hurdles for small businesses to overcome), Belinda Breidenbach, ID
 - May 20: Demonstrating the MiEnvrio Portal & Oregon's Your DEQ Online platforms, Kaitlyn DeVries, EGLE and Hillarie Sales, OR DEQ
 - June 17: Vape pen disposal - both from a nicotine and a Li battery perspective, Jacob Larson, KSU and Jarrett Vigil, CO DPHE(?)
 - July 15: Printing topic, Gary Jones, Vice President, Environmental, Health & Safety Affairs, PRINTING United Alliance
- **Website – Leena Divakar/Donovan Grimwood**

No updates, will be sending out emails for volunteers for virtual conference

- **Education / Annual Report – Sara Johnson/Gina Gambacorto**

NSC members are requested to contact states in their respective regions who are missing from completing the annual report.

- **Promotion – Crystal Warren**

Metrics and Advocacy subcommittees are officially rolled into the Promotional Subcommittee

- **Allied Updates**

- **CAAAC (Jeremy Hancher)** – None

- **NAACA (Nancy Herb)** – None

- **ECOS (Donovan)** – None

- **AAPCA (Tony)** – Aaron Szabo nomination hearing for Assistant Administrator of the US EPA Office of Air and Radiation is tomorrow 3/5/25

Next NSC call – April 1, 2024 (yes, April Fool's Day!).

11:00 – 12:00 PT; 12:00 – 1:00 MT; 1:00-2:00 CT; 2:00-3:00 pm ET

Notes to be taken by Region 10

Subcommittee Chair and Allied Group Liaison written updates due March 27 to Chris and Lucy for inclusion with the April meeting agenda which will be sent out by March 28.

SBO/SBEAP NSC Call

February 4, 2025

Minutes recorded by Region 8

Meeting Attendees:

R1: Sara Johnson, NH, Julie Churchill, ME

R2: None

R3: Jeremy Hancher, PA, Nancy Herb, PA

R4: Tony Pendola, NC

R5: Troy Johnson, MN, Lisa Ashenbrenner Hunt, WI, Mark Stoddard, IN

R6: Lloyd Kirk, OK

R7: Leena Divakar, KS, Bob Randolph, MO

R8: Eleanor Divver, UT, Gabe Catenacci, CO

R9: Chris Lynch, NV, Griffin Hadlock, NV

R10: Belinda Breidenbach, ID

EPA:

Approve January 2025 NSC Minutes

Chris requested any corrections/suggestions for the January 2025 meeting minutes – there were none. Motion to accept January 2025 meeting minutes made by Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt and seconded by Sara Johnson. Minutes unanimously approved.

ASBO/OAQPS updates

- [Small Entity Compliance Guides](#)

Paula noted that seven small entity compliance guides were published by US EPA in 2024 and one has already been published in 2025. She requested feedback if the guides are being used and if they are helpful. Many NSC members were unaware of the guides. NSC members are encouraged to review the guides (linked above), share them with other state programs within their respective regions, and provide feedback to Chris and Lucy for sharing with Paula.

Some funding uncertainties with the incoming Administration. New leadership is being designated. Lee Zeldin is the new US EPA Administrator.

NSC Updates

Region 6 update – Lloyd Kirk is retiring at the end of the month. Lucy will become the Region 6 NSC representative and a new alternate representative is being sought.

NSC Guidelines shared by Chris. Please review and be ready for discussion on next month's call regarding any changes or updates that should be proposed for the Guidelines.

Are there opportunities for SBEAP national network with the new Administration? Lloyd suggested there may be more energy focus. Things are moving quickly and many changes are occurring.

Open Discussion

Troy Johnson asked if anyone had seen an updated document outlining the impacts (costs) of regulations on small businesses? The US SBA Office of Advocacy has previously conducted research and published a [document](#) but it's 20 years old now.

Newcomer Training in Spring 2025, April or May. Virtual Meeting.

Eleanor suggested UT in-person training event due to proximity to Salt Lake City Airport. Her building offers free meeting space for our group and the building is on Light-Rail from Airport (first stop) with additional hotels along same route. Based on existing office hours, meeting times no earlier than 8:30 am and no later than 4:30 pm.

NSC Updates & Continued Open Floor Discussions

- [How do we best take advantage of any potential opportunities with a new administration coming in?](#)

Chris suggested NSC members continue to submit/consider ideas for opportunities to better communicate SB issues with new US EPA Administration and raise visibility of National SBEAP now (limited opportunity/time to act). Do we have specific suggestions for regulatory reform? The Administration may require the removal of 2-10 existing regulations any time a new one is proposed.

- **Subcommittee Updates**

- **Annual Training Planning – Chris Lynch**

Partnering with P2 West in the fall is dependent on Chris's group getting a US EPA P2 Grant to support P2 West. There has been no movement on issuance of a grant since Chris's group was first notified in September 2024 that they had been selected to receive a grant. The P2 Grant may not occur.

SBEAPs should move to Plan B. Let's try to focus on a virtual training in April or May that primarily targets newcomers.

Let's aim for an in-person meeting in the fall (October or November). Eleanor Divver has offered that Utah has no-cost facility space and could host with attendees on their own for lodging, meals, travel, etc. Fly in/out of Salt Lake City and meeting space is nearby. Tony Pendola mentioned that he might be able to help find a no-cost meeting location in Raleigh, North Carolina near US EPA Research Triangle Park. Again, attendees on their own for lodging, meals, travel.

Colorado has expressed interest in hosting in 2026 if there is US EPA funding support through the national SBEAP grant.

- **Awards – Donovan Grimwood**

Nominations are open.

- **Technical – Mark Stoddard**

Lee Ann Briggs has retired and will be missed. Mark is looking for a new co-chair. Noted he will never retire (or maybe he said he plans to retire in a couple of years). Open to ideas for topics for upcoming meetings after the summer. The schedule is pretty set through July.

- **Website – Leena Divakar**

The dry cleaning page has been updated and states' compliance calendars have been posted for sharing. EJ information has been deleted based on the new Administration's Executive Orders regarding federal funding.

- **Education / Annual Report – Sara Johnson**

Great training last week. Good feedback from states; new states participated. Need to submit data online. Updated map of who has submitted their data. Remember, new questions are on the survey.

- **Promotion – Crystal Warren**

No update.

- **EJ workgroup – Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt**

National website has removed language relating to DEI and EJ. Based on input from US EPA ASBO, discussion and follow up motion to officially pause the workgroup offered and seconded on Mar 4. Motion unanimously approved.

- **Metrics workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**

No update; discussion and follow up motion to roll workgroup into Promotion Subcommittee offered and seconded on Mar 4. Motion unanimously approved.

- **National Advocacy workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**

No update; discussion and follow up motion to roll workgroup into Promotion Subcommittee offered and seconded on Mar 4. Motion unanimously approved.

- **Allied Updates**

- **CAAAC – (Jeremy Hancher)** – no updates; members of the Clean Air Science Advisory Committee have been dismissed.
- **NAACA – (Nancy Herb)** – had turnover and may not meet
- **ECOS – (Donovan)** – no updates
- **AAPCA – (Tony)** – sent out letter on regulatory reform to US EPA Administrator Zeldin

Next NSC Zoom mtg –March 4, 2025 at 2pm ET.

SBO/SBEAP NSC Call

January 7, 2025

Minutes recorded by Region 7

Meeting Attendees: (Seventeen Total)

R1: Sara Johnson, NH

R2: Gina Gambacorto, NJ

R3: Jeremy Hancher, PA, Lee Ann Briggs, PA

R4: Tony Pendola, NC, Donovan Grimwood, TN, Crystal Warren, TN

R5: Troy Johnson, MN, Lisa Ashenbrenner Hunt, WI, Mark Stoddard, IN

R6: Lucy Cross AR, Natalie Cota, OK (Substituting for Lloyd Kirk, OK)

R7: Leena Divakar, KS, Bob Randolph, MO

R8: Eleanor Diver, UT

R9: Chris Lynch, NV, Griffin Hadlock, NV

R10: None

EPA:

January 2025 NSC Agenda Review

Chris commenced meeting and noted today's meeting agenda was sent today with two additional Title V documents.

Approve December 2024 NSC Minutes

Chris requested any corrections/suggestions for the December 2024 meeting minutes – there were none. December 2024 meeting minutes approved and seconded by Lucy and Crystal, respectively, with zero disapprovals voiced.

Open Discussion #1

Introductory discussion re: NSC substitute participants when Regional Representative &/or Regional Alternate is unavailable to participate in monthly NSC Zoom meeting. Discussed merits/requirements for limiting the NSC meetings to NSC members and the participants who attend on behalf of NSC members are not allowed to vote. Chris will send out latest NSC guidelines for review – NSC guidelines discussion at a later meeting.

ASBO/OAQPS updates

- Program funding and multi-media versus air only
- US EPA Title V policy memos, see attached
- Request clarification from US EPA?

Lucy led discussion re: Title V funding & policy memos/documents (most recent 2018 document/others sent with January 2025 NSC meeting agenda). Current Title V documents are generally broad in scope, consider updating Title V Policy documents.

Chris suggested NSC consider sending formal letter to USEPA requesting guidance re: whether or not SBEAPs/SBOs can be multi-media versus air only (with respect to Title V funding of Air Only projects).

Paula Hoag plans updates re: role of ASBO/OAQPS and updates. Met with Nick Goldstein (SBA/Office of Advocacy) to re-establish working relationship. Paula supports 1 or 2 day Virtual Spring SBEAP Training event. Donovan and Leena also support Virtual Spring SBEAP Training event to introduce new SBEAP members to NSC Mission and Roles. ASBDO national coordination grant submission date was Dec 2. Not as many applicants as expected. Other topics also considered for virtual Spring SBEAP Training event

Open Discussion #2

Newcomer Training in Spring 2025 (discussion re: preference for March/April/May, including potential scheduling conflicts with Spring Breaks, Easter, National SB week.) Jeremy suggested a Survey Monkey to vote on preferred timing of Spring 2025 virtual meeting.

Troy suggested in-person National SBEAP meeting in Fall/October 2025, possibly pursue free meeting space at USEPA Regional Office. Jeremy seconded this action. Leena suggested possibly asking CO if they still would like to host a National SBEAP in-person training event in Fall 2025.

Eleanor suggested UT in-person training event due to proximity to Salt Lake City Airport. Her building offers free meeting space for our group and the building is on Light-Rail from Airport (first stop) additional hotels along same route. UT office constraints – Building access not available until 8 am daily, Meeting times no earlier than 8:30 am and no later than 4:30 pm.

NSC Updates & Continued Open Floor Discussions

- How do we best take advantage of any potential opportunities with a new administration coming in?

Chris suggested NSC members continue to submit/consider Opportunities to better communicate SB issues with new USEPA Administration and raise visibility of National SBEAP now (limited opportunity/time to act).

Open Floor Discussion re: NSC suggested Ideas for USEPA Rules/Regulations/Emission Factors for SB sectors that might need to be addressed/revised/revoked to better enable SB compliance and/or simplify SB requirements.

It was suggested that the new administration might come up with 2-10 existing rules that are difficult to implement and/or require amendment/rescission of existing rules as a requisite to promulgate any new rule.

SB – second option for forms/communication in addition to Online only forms/submittal requirement, particularly for SB sectors. Plain English initiative for USEPA requirements.

- **Subcommittee Updates**

- **Annual Training Planning** – Update from Chris on US EPA P2 Grant and partnering with P2 West as a 2025 meeting option (possibly in October 2025, pending USEPA P2 grants funding).

EPA action on P2 grants still pending, waiting for new Administration to approve P2 grants funding.

- **Awards – Donovan Grimwood**

One award nomination received thus far, two possibly pending

- **Technical – Mark Stoddard/Lee Ann Briggs**

Lee Ann announced her upcoming SB position retirement effective January 23, 2025

Upcoming topics for Technical Subcommittee posted including Waste Tires – January 21, 2025 mtg

- **Website – Leena Divakar**

Continuous/Ongoing Changes to update website. New invitations for Technical/Education subcommittee meetings will soon be sent via email

- **Education / Annual Report – Sara Johnson/Gina Gambacorto**

Annual Report training pending for 2025 – Donovan presenting

- **Promotional – Crystal Warren**

Should Promotional Sbcmt documents be sent to National SBEAP Main, including State/Local examples re: Outreach/Newsletters/Etc. Suggest Main list members subscribe to List Serves for future updates. Consider Resurrecting SBEAP LinkedIn account as additional update option. Check with Abbie (KSU) for project status update re: LinkedIn Consider Closed group/NSC only/conventional LinkedIn page?

- **EJ workgroup – Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt**

Pending updates with new USEPA Administration re: EJ, potential refocus efforts to state level EJ efforts/projects

- **Metrics workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**

No update

- **National Advocacy workgroup – Donovan Grimwood**

No update

- **Allied Updates**

- **CAAAC** – (Jeremy Hancher)
- **NAACA** - (Nancy Herb)
- **ECOS** - (Donovan) New ECOS President named. Review of USEPA Office of Enforcement & Compliance Assurance documents, potential increase in number of inspections. Cybersecurity issues at POTW, upgrade to ISIS information system, onsite monitoring discussion, October 2024 updates to Water issues are demonstrating high level of compliance to date.
- **AAPCA** - (Tony) –
- **Others?**

Chris will be sending out the survey monkey to vote on preferred time for online Spring Annual Training.

Looking forward to seeing all NSC members continue participation in one/more Subcommittees.

Chris concluded the January 7, 2025 NSC Zoom meeting at approximately 15:08 ET.

Next NSC Zoom mtg – February 4, 2025 at 2:00 to 3:00 pm ET.