



**SMALL BUSINESS  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM**

*Serving Small Businesses and the Environment*

March 8, 2018

Bill Wehrum, Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

We are writing on behalf of the National Steering Committee for Small Business Ombudsman/Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBO/SBEAPs). This year our annual meeting will be in Alexandria, VA on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and at EPA Headquarters on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. It would be an honor and our distinct pleasure to welcome you as our keynote speaker.

During the meeting we collaborate, network, and learn more about technical environmental topics to help us provide the best possible customer service to small businesses in the states and territories. The SBO/SBEAPs are a confidential, non-regulatory, and free resource for small businesses mandated by Section 507 of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. Not only do we provide technical compliance assistance, we also advocate for the businesses in the state and federal rulemaking processes. A great deal of our collaboration and partnership with EPA stems from our work with EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) Deputy Director, and EPA's Small Business Ombudsman, Joan Rogers. As such, you may be familiar with our program but we have attached a brochure to provide you additional background details.

Our direct interactions and work on behalf of businesses and their trade associations have earned our programs respect and trust both nationwide and within our states. The greater collaboration that our programs are able to have with the EPA, the greater our ability to act as a voice for businesses impacted by environmental regulations, helping develop compliance assistance tools, strategies, and common-sense regulation aimed at enhancing environmental protection while minimizing the need for enforcement.

Thank you for considering our invitation. We strongly believe that your attendance at our unique gathering of small business compliance assistance providers could be mutually beneficial. We kindly request your reply by April 6<sup>th</sup>. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Chair, National Steering Committee  
NC DEQ Small Business Ombudsman  
[Tony.Pendola@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Tony.Pendola@ncdenr.gov)  
919.707.8112

Vice Chair, National Steering Committee  
WI DENR  
[Lisa.AshenbrennerHunt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Lisa.AshenbrennerHunt@wisconsin.gov)  
608.266.6887

CC: Clint Woods, Deputy Assistant Administrator, OAR  
List of enclosures: SBO/SBEAP Brochure