



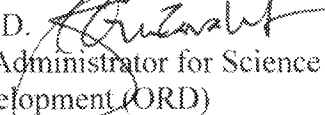
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

April 2, 2018

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Selection of 2018 Regional-ORD Community of Science Networking Program Participants

**FROM:** Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Ph.D.   
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Science  
Office of Research and Development (ORD)

**TO:** Deputy Regional Administrators and State Commissioners

I am pleased to announce the regional and state staff selected to participate in the 2018 Regional-ORD Community of Science Networking (ROCS-Net) Program. Ten regional and ten state scientists (one regional and state participant per EPA region) will be supported by ORD to participate in this year's program in Cincinnati, OH, from May 1-4, 2018. The list of participants is attached, along with general information about the program and a draft agenda.

ROCS-Net was established in 2017 as an ORD orientation program for regional scientists and engineers with limited knowledge of ORD. This year, for the first time, state scientists are invited to participate in ROCS-Net, which will help strengthen ORD's engagement with states in exploring how ORD's Regional Science Program activities can be responsive to states' applied science needs. ROCS-Net participants will visit an ORD research facility for discussions with scientists about ORD research and science priorities of the regions and states. The new connections between participating scientists are intended to provide a path to future collaborations through ORD activities such as the Regional Research Partnership Program (R2P2), Regional Applied Research Effort (RARE), and the Regional Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (RESES) Program.

Our first ROCS-Net activity with the participants will be an "ORD Overview Webinar," scheduled for April 18 at 11:00 a.m. EST. This initial interaction with the group is intended to lay the groundwork for our face-to-face gathering in May. Additional information about the webinar will be shared with ROCS-Net participants soon.

Thank you for your support for the ROCS-Net Program. If you have any questions, please contact me or Maggie LaVay, Regional Science Program Staff Chief.

Attachments

cc: Kenneth Wagner, AO  
ORD Executive Council  
David Paylor, ECOS/ERIS  
State Science Contacts  
Maggie LaVay, ORD  
Heather Drumm, ORD  
Lisa Matthews, ORD  
Regional Science Liaisons  
Jeananne Gettle, Region 4  
Bobbi Carter, Region 4  
ROCS-Net Participants