



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

JUN 26 2009

OFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Mr. Douglas Fine  
Assistant Commissioner  
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
One Winter Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Mr. Fine:

I am writing to thank you and the New England State Commissioners for your consolidated comments on EPA's draft FY 2010 National Program Manager's (NPM) Guidance documents. I appreciate the efforts you have taken over the last five years to identify shared regional priorities and to submit unified comments. Your comments add a state perspective and help shape EPA's national program priorities and strategies.

Our national program managers carefully considered your comments and provided detailed responses, found in Enclosure 1 of this letter and on OCFO's website at: <http://www.epa.gov/ocfopage/npmguidance>. These responses are consistent with Administrator Lisa Jackson's letter to Commissioner Thomas Burack on April 2, 2009 (Enclosure 2) which responded to the New England Commissioners' shared priorities. Further, the NPM responses are similar in focus to the discussion we had on April 16 with the ECOS leadership regarding EPA's 2009-2014 Strategic Plan and the long term Agency directions.

I believe we have made steady progress over the last several years in enhancing our dialogue and exchange of ideas about both priorities and processes. Your active involvement has significantly enhanced and improved the State/EPA relationship by sharing your insights and experiences in implementing these programs on-the-ground. During these times of constrained budgets, it is important that we continue our efforts to improve communications and collaboration.

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Again, thank you for your diligent work and very thoughtful advice. On behalf of EPA, I look forward to continuing our work together to accomplish our mutual goals of protecting human health and the environment.

Sincerely,



Maryann Froehlich  
Acting Chief Financial Officer

Enclosures

cc: Amey Marrella, Acting Commissioner, CT, DEP  
David P Littell, Commissioner ME, DEP  
Laurie Burt, Commissioner, MA, DEP  
Thomas Burack, Commissioner, NH, DES  
W. Michael Sullivan, Ph.D., Director, RI, DEM  
Justin Johnson, Commissioner, VT, DEC  
Ira Leighton, Acting Regional Administrator, EPA Region 1  
Ron Poltak, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission  
Arthur Marin, Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management  
Bill Cass, Northeast Waste Management Officials Association  
John Shea, New England Governors' Conference, Inc.  
Steve Brown, Executive Director ECOS  
Assistant Administrators (AAs) and Deputy AAs for OAR, OW, OSWER, and OPPTS  
Rita Smith, Acting Director, OCFO/OPAA

Identical Letter Sent to:

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