



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

DEC 16 2014

OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

EPA SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR 2015 STAA AWARDS

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The 2015 Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards (STAA) Program

FROM: Lek G. Kadeli
Acting Assistant Administrator

TO: All EPA Employees

I am pleased to issue this year's call for nominations for the EPA's prestigious 2015 Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards (STAA). Each year, EPA recognizes outstanding papers written by the Agency's staff and published in scientific and technical journals. Not only do these peer-reviewed publications represent the quality and depth of EPA science, but they provide foundational support to agency decision-making and the advancement of science. Administrator McCarthy emphasized the importance of this advancement at the 2014 National Academy of Sciences annual meeting:

"Science has been the backbone of the most significant advancements EPA has made in the past four decades and continues to be the engine that drives American prosperity and innovation in the future." —Administrator McCarthy, National Academy of Sciences

Each year, EPA scientists are published in numerous peer reviewed journals upholding the highest levels of quality and performance, while also maintaining credibility among our peers and scientific communities. Each publication is not only a commendable, personal accomplishment to the author but also a supporting achievement and action contributing to our EPA Agency Themes:

- Making a Visible Difference in Communities across the Country
- Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality
- Taking Action on Toxics and Chemical Safety
- Protecting Water: A Precious, Limited Resource
- Launching a New Era of State, Tribal and Local Partnerships
- Embracing EPA as a High Performing Organization
- Working Toward a Sustainable Future

Accomplishing the agency themes articulated by Administrator McCarthy requires the application of sound science to the assessment of environmental problems and the evaluation of possible solutions. Thus, the far-reaching impacts from EPA scientists cannot be understated and are evident in everything the Agency does.

Nominations to recognize our EPA published peers begins today and is open to *all* EPA employees. Nominations are judged by the EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB), and the STAA Program is managed by the Office of Research and Development. Nominations can be submitted in the following categories:

- Control Systems and Technology
- Ecological Research
- Health Effects Research and Human Health Risk Assessment
- Monitoring and Measurement Methods
- Transport and Fate
- Review Articles
- Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration
- Integrated Risk Assessment
- Environmental Policy and Decision-Making Studies
- Homeland Security
- Industry and the Environment
- Energy and the Environment
- Sustainability and Innovation
- Other Environmental Research

This year's nominations will be accepted via electronic submission to nominations.STAA@epa.gov. You can find the nomination forms and guidelines and additional information about the STAA program at <http://epa.gov/ncer/staa/>.

Nominations will be accepted until midnight ET on Thursday, February 5th. Should questions arise, please contact Ben Packard at (703) 347-8087 or packard.benjamin@epa.gov.

Attachment(s)