ENCOURAGING FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR THE INTERSTATE TECHNOLOGY AND REGULATORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, state environmental agencies are responsible for assuring public health and environmental protection and for implementing environmental regulatory programs at numerous federal facilities and privately owned sites; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) reports indicate that the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) constitute a significant percentage of the remediation market in the United States; and

WHEREAS, states have established the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) – a unique partnership between states, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, industry, academics, and public/tribal stakeholders to increase technical capacity and reduce barriers to the wide-spread use of innovative environmental technologies; and

WHEREAS, it is well documented that the use of innovative environmental technologies saves time and money and results in better site cleanup; and

WHEREAS, the membership of ITRC has demonstrated that their efforts benefit DoD and DOE by producing guidance streamlining the time required for regulatory review of innovative clean up approaches and technologies, identifying new solutions to complex problems, and reducing compliance costs through the use of innovative technologies.

WHEREAS, funding to ITRC from DOE has decreased substantially since 2011, which has resulted in a significant decline in new ITRC project starts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE STATES:
Commends DOE and DOD for long-standing support of ITRC and encourages DOE and DOD to:
1. Streamline regulatory acceptance of innovative technologies at cleanup sites by using ITRC guidance documents and training to achieve time and cost savings;
2. Work collaboratively with states by participating on ITRC technical teams and supporting ITRC training for expedited quality decision making when innovative technologies are being considered; and
3. Provide appropriate funding to ITRC so that new projects can be started each year.

Commends the U.S. EPA for support of ITRC and encourages U.S. EPA to:
1. Streamline the implementation of innovative technology at Superfund and private sector sites by recommending the use of ITRC guidance documents and training courses to achieve time and cost savings;
2. Work collaboratively with states by participating on ITRC technical teams and supporting ITRC training for expedited quality decision making when innovative technologies are being considered; and
3. Provide appropriate funding to ITRC so that new projects can be started each year.