



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

**TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR**

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHRIS WELLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

June 10, 2025

Mr. Charles Reyes, Director
Board of Advisors
Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council

RE: Statement of Interest - Co-Chair

Dear ITRC Board of Advisors and Director Reyes,

I am writing to express my interest in serving as Co-Chair of the Board of Advisors for the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC). ITRC has had a significant impact on my professional growth, technically and personally, over the last ten (10) years. I have a deep-seated appreciation for ITRC. In 2015 my supervisor drafted me to be the new Point of Contact (POC) for the State of Mississippi. ITRC has been a pillar in my professional development and not just from the wealth of training, technical guidance, and resources I have had access to, but also from the people I have been fortunate to meet, work with, and be encouraged by. I have participated as a POC, a Team Leader, and participated in multiple teams. These opportunities helped to prepare me for my current role at the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) as Division Chief of the Groundwater Assessment and Remediation Division.

My division consists of three branches, twenty-five (25) staff, and seventeen (17) grants, work plans, and budgets which cover Underground Storage Tanks, CERCLA/federal sites, Brownfields, Voluntary, and everything else between and outside the box of assessment and remediation. After 19 years at MDEQ as an environmental engineer, I'm confident that I will continue to bring the professional leadership, technical knowledge, and dedication to the co-chair role and be an exceptional asset in support of ITRC, the Board, and Director Reyes.

ITRC is a critical resource for smaller states like Mississippi where our resources, staff, and time are limited, while the number of positions shrink, people retire or leave, and the work only grows. It is a common refrain that you're aware of, not just from small state partners but from all states, industry, and federal partners. I would suggest that ITRC's mission and collaborative approach that provides real world solutions to complex environmental problems reaches far beyond the numbered trained and guidance documents produced. ITRC cultivates. It cultivated me. As Co-Chair, it would be an honor to continue cultivating ITRC's impact far into the future. If elected, I will gladly serve in support of the Director, the Board, and ITRC's mission to the best of my ability.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Wallace

Thomas L. Wallace, P.E.

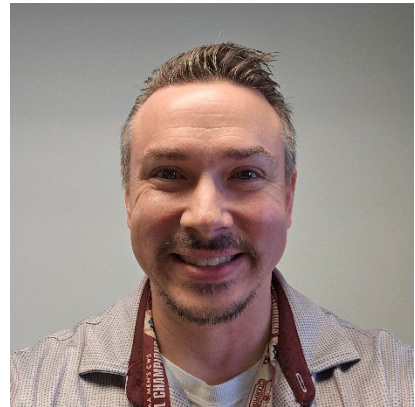
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

Post Office Box 2261 · Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2261 · Tel: (601) 961-5171 · Fax: (601) 354-6612 · www.mdeq.ms.gov

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Biography – Thomas L. Wallace, P.E.

Thomas has over 19 years of experience as a regulator, engineer, and project manager in the Groundwater Assessment and Remediation Division (GARD) for the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Since 2022, Thomas has led GARD as its Chief. GARD consists of 25 staff, over 15 grants, and three branches: Underground Storage Tanks, CERCLA/federal, and Uncontrolled Sites (Brownfields, Voluntary). GARD oversees all contaminated and potentially contaminated sites in the State of Mississippi outside of RCRA and Emergency Response.



In 2021, under his leadership, MDEQ applied for and received two CERCLA 104k Brownfield Grants and 128a BIL funding. These grants led to the establishment of Mississippi's first Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Program and to date over \$2 Million in assessment funding being spent to assess brownfield sites and restore them to reuse in Mississippi.

Thomas has also served in an unofficial capacity as MDEQ's liaison for PFAS related matters due to his experience and participation in ITRC.

Thomas graduated from Mississippi State University in 2003 with a bachelor's in chemical engineering and received his Professional Engineering license with the State of Mississippi for Environmental Engineering.

Thomas has been married to Marianna Wallace for 12 years, and they have 2 kids, Serena (4) and Elijah (9 months).

ITRC History

Point of Contact for State of Mississippi – 2015 to 2025 (co-POC since 2024).

POC of the Year Award – 2020

Team Leader - ITRC Quest – July 2021 thru December 2022.