



CLEAN AIR

Excellence
Awards

2016



Office of Air and Radiation

About the Clean Air Excellence Awards Program

The Clean Air Excellence Awards Program is sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Air and Radiation. The program was suggested by the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee (CAAAC), a senior-level federal advisory committee that provides advice to the EPA on Clean Air Act issues and the Awards Program.

The Awards Program, now in its fifteenth year, recognizes and honors both individuals and organizations that have undertaken the risks of innovation, served as pioneers in their fields, advanced public understanding of air pollution, and improved air quality. Each award recipient has either directly or indirectly reduced emissions of criteria pollutants, hazardous air pollutants, and/or greenhouse gases.

The award recipients are chosen through a multi-step judging process. The EPA staff conduct an initial technical screening of all applications. Selected entries are then reviewed by a CAAAC task force, which provides advice to the EPA on the candidates' programs. The EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance then provides additional comments on entries. The EPA's Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation makes the final award determinations.

The EPA posts information about current and past award recipients on the Clean Air Excellence Awards Program Web site, located at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards/>.



2016 Clean Air Excellence Award Recipients

Clean Air Technology

Electric Rubber Tire Gantry Cranes
Georgia Ports Authority

Community Action

Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

Education/Outreach

Rhode Island Energy Challenge: “Find Your Four!”
SmartPower

Regulatory Policy Innovations

Tribe Implementation of a Clean Air Act Title V Operating Permit Program
Southern Ute Indian Tribe Air Quality Program

Owens Lake PM₁₀ Project
Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District

Transportation Efficiency Innovations

Sustainable Transportation Program
UC Irvine Transportation Services

Thomas W. Zosel Outstanding Individual Achievement Award

Dr. John C. Wall



Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

This innovative project was implemented in the Santa Barbara Channel region to cut air pollution and protect whales.

Thousands of ships going to and from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach travel through the Channel, emitting air pollution and raising the risk of ship strikes on endangered whales. Ships account for more than 50% of ozone-forming nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions in Santa Barbara County, which does not attain the state ozone standard, and more than 25% in Ventura County, which is in nonattainment of both state and federal ozone standards.

Reducing ship speeds to 12 knots decreases emissions of NOx, and reduces the chance of a fatal ship strike. In 2014, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD), Ventura County APCD, NOAA's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, Environmental Defense Center, and National Marine Sanctuary Foundation implemented a voluntary vessel speed reduction (VSR) trial program in the Channel. Seven global shipping companies participated and slowed 27 transits from July through November to 12 knots or less, for an incentive of \$2500 per transit. The Santa Barbara Foundation and Santa Barbara and Ventura air districts provided funding. The project reduced more than 12 tons of NOx emissions and more than 500 metric tons of regional greenhouse gas emissions, and no ship strikes on whales were documented during the trial.

This is believed to be the only voluntary VSR program globally not associated with a port. The trial demonstrated the willingness of shipping companies to participate in a voluntary program and laid a foundation for a comprehensive stakeholder effort in 2015, and for larger-scale efforts currently underway.



Photo by John Calambokidis

Community
Action Award

Acknowledgements

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Janet McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator

Jim DeMocker
Office Director, Office of Air Policy and Program Support

Jim Ketcham-Colwill
Interim CAAAC Designated Federal Officer

EPA Regional Review Panel

Region 1—Linda Darveau, Rhona Julien, John Rogan
Region 3—Dave Campbell
Region 4—Kelly Sheckler, Eva Land
Region 5—Jenny Liljegren
Region 7—Toni Gargas
Region 8—Kyle Olson, Scott Jackson
Region 9—John Mikulin, Trina Martynowicz
Region 10—Bob Kotchenruther, Madonna Narvaez

Office of Air and Radiation Review Panel

Jonathan Lubetsky
Office of Air Policy and Program Support

Pat Childers
Office of Air and Radiation

Christopher Kent and Robert Landolfi
Office of Atmospheric Programs

Laura Bunte and Ravi Srivastava
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards

Kristy Miller and Sheila Brown
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air

Jeff Cherry
Office of Transportation and Air Quality



Acknowledgements

Clean Air Act Advisory Committee Awards Review Panel

Adrian Shelley

Air Alliance Houston

Dan Greenbaum

Health Effects Institute

Don Neal

Southern California Edison

John Busterud

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Julie Simpson

Department of Natural Resources

Nez Perce Tribe

Lee Kindberg

Maersk Line/Maersk Agency USA

Michael Buser

Oklahoma State University

Nancy Kruger

*National Association of Clean Air
Agencies*

Robert G. Hilton

Alstom Power Inc.

Rob Kaufmann

Koch Companies Public Sector, LLC

Photos

Review Panel - Ellen Kurlansky and Wendy McQuilkin

Office of Air Policy and Program Support

Front Cover: *Mount Haynes*. Chris Sarsony

Opening Photos: *North Carolina Woods*. Amy Hambrick;
Claytor Lake Fog. Alan Rush

Clean Air Technology: *Colorado*. Amy Hambrick

Community Action: *Washington Channel*. Travis Johnson

Education/Outreach: *Fields of Snow*. Chris Sarsony

Middle Spread: *Alaska Range*. April Melvin;
Dismal Swamp North Carolina. Amy Hambrick

Regulatory Policy Innovations: *Ute Trail-Rocky
Mountain National Park*. Amy Hambrick;

Sunset, November. Verena Radulovic

Transportation Efficiency: *Northeastern Pennsylvania*.
Amy Hambrick

Zosel Award: *Clarity of Vision*. Chris Sarsony

Back Cover: *Bend in the Yellowstone*. Chris Sarsony

**CLEAN
AIR**
Excellence
Awards



For more information on the Clean Air Excellence Awards Program or the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee, visit <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards/>.



Recycled/Recyclable

Printed with Vegetable Oil Based Inks on Recycled Paper
(Minimum 50% Postconsumer) Process Chlorine Free

15th Annual Clean Air Excellence Awards

June 28, 2016 • 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC
Administrator's Green Room

Introduction, Welcome,
and Opening Remarks

Jim DeMocker, Office Director
Office of Air Policy and Program Support, USEPA

4:00 – 4:20

Gina McCarthy, Administrator
USEPA

Janet McCabe, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation, USEPA

Award Categories and Presenters

Clean Air Technology

Georgia Ports Authority – *Electric Rubber Tire Gantry Cranes*
Presented by Karl Simon, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, USEPA

Community Action

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District – *Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies*
Presented by Lee Kindberg, Maersk Line/Maersk Agency USA

Education/Outreach

SmartPower – *Rhode Island Energy Challenge: Find Your Four!*
Presented by Deb Thomas, Region VIII, USEPA

Regulatory/Policy Innovations

Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District – *Owens Lake PM₁₀ Project*
Presented by Susan Collet, Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing North America Inc.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Air Quality Program – *Implementation of a Part 70 Operating Permit Program*
Presented by Jason Walker, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation

Transportation Efficiency Innovations

UC Irvine Transportation Services – *Sustainable Transportation Program*
Presented by John Busterud, Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

Thomas W. Zosel Outstanding Individual Achievement Award

Dr. John C. Wall (Retired), Cummins, Inc.
Janet McCabe

5:15-5:30 - Closing Remarks

Janet McCabe