



# National Mercury MONITORING WORKSHOP

*Tracking mercury concentrations in air, land, water, and biota*

February 14, 2008

Dear Colleague:

Several federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service, along with representatives from state environmental agencies, tribes, the academic scientific community, and other non-governmental organizations are convening a National Mercury Monitoring Workshop to develop a strategy for implementing a national mercury monitoring network, to be held May 5-7, 2008 in Annapolis, MD.

The impetus for this workshop originated with the publication of the SETAC book *Ecosystem Response to Mercury Contamination* (Harris et al, 2007) and the recent advance in state and federal mercury regulations. These developments demonstrate the need for a comprehensive plan detailing how to implement a large, national, integrated mercury monitoring and assessment network.

This workshop will include approximately 45 participants from academia, federal and state agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations and other sectors. Specific goals for the workshop are to:

1. Share data and information on existing North American mercury monitoring programs (e.g., air, water, watershed, sediments, biota) to advance inter-organizational collaboration
2. Distill recommendations from the SETAC book to develop monitoring guidance on mercury indicators and ancillary parameters and discuss potential network monitoring locations
3. Identify mercury monitoring data gaps and consider options for filling those gaps

We believe that you can contribute effectively to the goals of this workshop. We plan to engage a wide-ranging group of stakeholders and researchers that represent a broad range of perspectives, interests and disciplines. If you cannot attend, please consider recommending someone else from your organization that you believe would be an effective contributor. If we have space, we will extend an invitation to that person.

If you intend to participate, please respond as soon as possible, but no later than **March 14, 2008 to [hgworkshop@icfi.com](mailto:hgworkshop@icfi.com)**. If you choose to attend, you will receive information

regarding the meeting location, lodging options, and other logistical details as planning for the workshop progresses.

If you have questions, please contact David Schmeltz at [schmeltz.david@epa.gov](mailto:schmeltz.david@epa.gov) or 202-343-9255.

Thank you in advance for considering participation in this timely and important meeting.

Sincerely,  
The Steering Committee

Rick Artz (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration)  
Tom Atkenson (Florida Department of Environmental Protection)  
Ryan Callison (Cherokee Nation)  
Charley Driscoll (Syracuse University)  
Dave Evers (Biodiversity Research Institute)  
David Gay (National Atmospheric Deposition Program)  
Rick Haeuber (US Environmental Protection Agency)  
Dave Krabbenhoft (US Geological Survey)  
Kathy Fallon Lambert (Ecologic)  
Rob Mason (University of Connecticut)  
Greg Masson (US Fish and Wildlife Service)  
Kristi Morris (National Park Service)  
David Schmeltz (US Environmental Protection Agency)  
Ed Swain (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency)