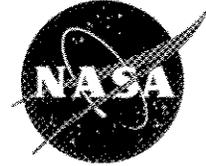


National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 13, 2010

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the Council of Environmental Deans and Directors Reception on January 22, 2010

On January 22, 2010, the Council of Environmental Deans and Directors, a program of the National Council for Science and the Environment, (NCSE), a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host a reception at the Marian Koshland Science Museum of the National Academy of Sciences, in Washington, D. C., from 5:30p.m.-7:30p.m. This event will provide an opportunity for academic environmental program leaders to network with one another and their invited guests before their Winter Meeting.

The reception will be attended by representatives of the aerospace industry, trade associations, the media, Congressional staffers, Congress, academia, and other Federal agencies. Approximately 250 people have been invited and are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the reception, which includes all food and beverages, is \$40.00 per person. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g).

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the reception will allow NASA employees the opportunity to share views on NASA's current programs and future activities with academic environmental program leaders and other attendees. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsor or a majority of all of its members may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves and their spouses or guests.

Moreover, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsors, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone