

Biographical Sketch

James M. Lents

Dr. Lents is presently serving as President of the International Sustainable Systems Research Center. Prior to this he served as director of the University of California at Riverside Center for Sustainable Suburban Development and has been involved in environmental and energy research at UCR for the past eight years. His research involves air quality management policy, the impact of electricity generation policy, and transportation impacts on micro, macro, and global environmental systems. He served as Executive Officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (1986-1997), Director of the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division (1979-1986), and Technical Director of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Air Pollution Control Bureau (1971-1979). In his role as a leader of three air quality management agencies across the United States over a twenty-seven year period, Dr. Lents played an important role in defining and developing today's national approaches and the related tools for environmental/energy decision-making. These include emissions inventory development and air quality management planning, enforcement approaches and procedures, and market based regulatory systems. He was significantly involved in the development of the 1990 U.S. Clean Air Act and the 1988 California Clean Air Act. He has served on four national Commissions reviewing diesel standards, alternative fuels, automobile global warming emissions, and air quality management processes and the recent National Academy of Science review of the U.S. air quality management system. Dr. Lents has been awarded the Thomas W. Zosel Outstanding Individual Achievement Award from the U.S. EPA (2004), the Lifetime Environmental Achievement/Smith-Griswold Award from the International Air and Waste Management Association (1998), the Environmental Leader of the Year Award from the Southern California Public Health Association (1994), The International Environmental Achievement Award from the Swedish Academy of Science and WASA Insurance Group (1993), Award for Outstanding Environmental Achievement from the American Lung Association (1990). He has served or serves on the boards of the Energy Foundation, the Mickey Leland Urban Air Toxics Center, CALSTART-Alternative Fuels Development Corporation, the International Sustainable Systems Research Center, the State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators, and the Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials.