

Date: December 19, 2008

To: Representatives and Alternates of the Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI)

Subject: ACWI 2009 Meeting, February 10-11, 2009, and Forum on the National Environmental Status and Trends Indicators Project, February 11-12, 2009

The 2009 ACWI meeting will be held February 10-11, 2009, in Herndon, Virginia. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. EST on February 10 and will conclude at 12:30 p.m. on February 11.

The meeting will include briefings on several ACWI-sponsored projects and other water-related initiatives, including —

- Status of the recent efforts of the Subcommittee on Ground Water in developing plans for a national ground-water quality pilot network,
- Discussion of next steps for the National Water Quality Monitoring Network,
- Report on the Subcommittee on Hydrology's proposed new work group on Extreme Storms,
- Report from the National Water Quality Monitoring Council's Methods and Data Comparability Board, which is seeking approval for an update of the Water Quality Data Elements User Guide to include physical habitat elements, and
- Discussion of ACWI participation in an effort initiated earlier this year by Executive Order, to establish a small set of national environmental status and trends (NEST) indicators that will allow policymakers to make sound decisions on issues related to water availability.

The ACWI meeting will be followed by a public Forum on the NEST Indicators Project, which will begin at 1:30 p.m. on February 11 and conclude at 12:00 noon February 12. ACWI representatives are strongly encouraged to remain for the Forum.

We look forward to seeing you on February 10-12. We very much appreciate your continued support of the activities of all ACWI subgroups. The products and accomplishments from these groups continue to grow each year. We hope you will be active participants in discussing their progress, providing comments and advice, and helping us to move these activities forward.

For additional information on ACWI projects and sub-groups referenced above, visit our website at <http://acwi.gov>.

The week of January 5, you will receive an email inviting you to register online for the meeting. You will also receive instructions for arranging your travel and hotel accommodations.

We sincerely hope you will be able to participate in this 2009 ACWI meeting and the subsequent NEST Forum.

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