

RESOLUTION
of the
Advisory Committee on Water Information
Accepting the Framework Document for
And Adopting a Plan for the Pilot-Testing of a
National Ground Water Monitoring Network for the U.S.

Whereas: The Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI) is charged by the Office of Management and Budget through its Memorandum No. M92-01 to recommend to the Federal government procedures to coordinate funding, staffing, and the provision of other resources needed to support water-information activities for ensuring the best use of available resources; and;

Whereas: The ACWI approved the creation of its Subcommittee on Ground Water at its Annual Meeting in 2007, charging the Subcommittee with developing a framework design for a National Ground Water Monitoring Network; and,

Whereas: The Heinz Center reports on *The State of the Nation's Ecosystems*, the National Ground Water Association's white paper on the status of ground water monitoring in the U.S. requested by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and the National Science and Technology Council report on water availability and quality in the U.S., all indicated the significant need for coordinated and comprehensive ground-water monitoring in light of pressing problems related to ground-water supply, resource sustainability, and ecological system support from ground water; and,

Whereas: The ACWI approved a similar design and piloting program for the National Water Quality Monitoring Network for U.S. Coastal Waters and Their Tributaries proposed by the National Water Quality Monitoring Council in 2006. The NWQMC has subsequently reported on three pilot studies to examine the concepts and components of their design, all of which indicated the need for ground-water experts to focus on the specific and unique aspects of ground water, toward development of a design and implementation plan for the water supply aquifers of the nation.

Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the Advisory Committee on Water Information accepts the Framework Document (with modifications based upon comments received from ACWI and other stakeholders) for a National Ground Water Monitoring Network, as submitted to the ACWI for review in January 2009; and, the ACWI will communicate the recommendations in the Framework Document (as revised) to the Department of the Interior, the Office of Management and Budget, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the ACWI member organizations; and,

Be it Also Resolved that the Advisory Committee on Water Information adopts the conceptual implementation plan for the National Ground Water Monitoring Network as presented in the Framework Document (with modifications based upon comments received from ACWI and other stakeholders), and charges the Subcommittee on Ground Water to move forward with development and initiation of pilot testing, patterned after the preceding efforts related to the National Water Quality Monitoring Network for U.S. Coastal Waters and Their Tributaries; and,

Be it Also Resolved that the Advisory Committee on Water Information approves the continuation of three of four Working Groups within the Subcommittee on Ground Water (Inventory, Field Practices, and Data Standards and Data Management) and the reorganization of the fourth Working Group (Design) into the Implementation Working Group.

Adopted February 11, 2009