

AGENDA

Water Resources Adaptation to Climate Change Workgroup of the Advisory Committee on Water Information March 29, 2018: 1:00 – 2:30 EST

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- **Introductions and Agenda Review**
- **Approval of Notes from Previous Meeting** (see http://acwi.gov/climate_wkg/index.html)
- **Transition in ACWI leadership**
 - Wendy Norton is retiring from Federal service on March 31. In the short term, her duties will be assumed by [Adrienne Bartlewitz](#), who serves as Chief of Staff for Don Cline (USGS Associate Director for Water, and Alternate Chair of ACWI). The Climate Workgroup's website will continue to be handled by [Sharon Alcalde](#).
- **Presentation:** Work to facilitate the AB2800 efforts for the State of California, presented by Juliette Finzi Hart (USGS) and Susanne Moser (Susanne Moser Research and Consulting)
 - The bill, by July 1, 2017, and until July 1, 2020, requires the establishment of a Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group for the purpose of examining how to integrate scientific data concerning projected climate change impacts into state infrastructure engineering, as prescribed.
- **Further discussion of draft workplan**
 - Kate had a due-out from the last meeting to obtain counsel advice on draft work plan task 8 (Consider making recommendations to the new Administration addressing water resources adaptation to changing climate and answer questions from administration officials as needed). The response she received is summarized below:
 - The second part of the task, "answer questions from administration officials as needed," is fine because the ACWI is an authorized FACA committee and the WG is a properly authorized subgroup under the ACWI. This fits within the ACWI's broad purpose and within the functions of the WG, as provided respectively in the Charter and in the WG Terms of Reference.
 - In the first part of the task, the term "make recommendations" connotes a request for advice and the provision of advice pursuant to that request. To the extent that this phrase means the WG will respond to any appropriate inquiry by making a recommendation, the task is fine. We should avoid making *unsolicited* recommendations. The ACWI Charter is clear that subcommittees "must act only under the direction of the DFO and report recommendations for full ACWI consideration." Therefore, if the WG seeks to make any recommendation--

especially one that was not specifically requested of it—it should be fully coordinated with the ACWI before releasing or providing it in any form outside of the WG.

- **Other items?**
- **Round Robin Reports from Workgroup Members (brief highlights of other organization’s activities, news, articles, and reports related to climate change and water)**
 - EPA report "Development of a Climate resilience Screening Index (CSRI): An Assessment of Resilience to Acute Meteorological Events and Selected Natural Hazards," available at <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=P100SSN6.txt>.
 - List of journal papers supported in part by Corps of Engineers climate programs (proposed for defunding in FY 2018) since 2012 may be of interest to the group
- **Action Items**
- **Adjourn**

Next meeting: Thursday, April 12, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time