



CHARTER
of the
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AVAILABILITY AND QUALITY
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND SUSTAINABILITY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Subcommittee on Water Availability and Quality (SWAQ) is hereby reestablished by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability (CENRS).

B. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the SWAQ is to advise and assist the CENRS and the NSTC on policies, procedures, plans, issues, scientific developments, and research needs related to the availability and quality of water resources¹ of the United States within the context of the global hydrologic cycle. The SWAQ will focus on science issues and associated policy options related to research and improvements in technology to advance the goal of ensuring a safe and sustainable supply of water in the United States in order to preserve the capacity to support societal and ecological needs, particularly in the context of a changing climate.

C. Functions

To accomplish its purpose, the SWAQ will provide advice and assistance to the CENRS and the NSTC on:

1. developments in science and technology (S&T) related to the assessment and enhancement of water availability and quality, and on current and emerging water-related vulnerabilities, particularly in light of a changing climate;
2. current and emerging S&T developments that are relevant to the availability, quality, and sustainability of water resources, and the policy implications of those developments;
3. research, monitoring, technology, communication, knowledge management, and education priorities related to water availability, quality, and sustainability;
4. research concerning the availability, quality, and sustainability of water that is needed to assure the Nation's economic and strategic security, including energy security; and
5. budget priorities related to Federal S&T spending that address in a coordinated manner the urgent needs for ensuring safe and sustainable water supplies for societal and ecological uses.

¹ For the purpose of the SWAQ, water resources are defined as fresh and brackish water in the atmosphere, streams, lakes, unsaturated zone, aquifers, and estuaries.

The SWAQ also will serve as an interagency forum on water resources to support CENRS by:

1. facilitating effective outcomes of coordinated multi-agency water-related activities that support research, monitoring, technology, knowledge management, and education priorities;
2. providing timely reviews and analyses of Federal science and research programs that affect the availability, quality, and sustainability of the Nation's water resources;
3. conducting targeted analyses of emerging issues that may impact water resources in order to identify research needs; and
4. facilitating communication and coordination among Federal agencies and representatives from non-Federal sectors on issues of water-cycle science and technology related to water availability, quality, and sustainability, as permitted by law.

D. Membership

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the SWAQ:

Department of Agriculture;
Department of Commerce;
Department of Defense;
Department of Energy;
Department of Health and Human Services;
Department of Homeland Security;
Department of Housing and Urban Development;
Department of the Interior (Co-chair);
Department of Justice;
Department of State;
Environmental Protection Agency (Co-chair);
National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
National Science Foundation; and
Tennessee Valley Authority.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the SWAQ:

Council on Environmental Quality;
Office of Management and Budget; and
Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive organizations, departments, and agencies as the Co-chairs may, from time to time, designate.

E. Private-Sector Interface

The SWAQ may seek advice from members of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology to secure appropriate private-sector² advice, and will recommend to the CENRS

² The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private sector," but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but

and/or the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy the nature of any additional private-sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The SWAQ may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

F. Termination Date

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the CENRS prior to its expiration, the SWAQ shall terminate no later than December 31, 2015.

G. Determination

We hereby determine that the reestablishment of the Subcommittee on Water Availability and Quality is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:



Paul Anastas
Co-chair of the CENRS, and
Assistant Administrator for Research and Development and
Science Advisor
Environmental Protection Agency

11/8/11
Date



Steve Fetter
Co-chair of the CENRS, and
Assistant Director at Large and Principal Assistant Director of the Environment Division
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President

9/9/11
Date

not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or Tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, international bodies.



Jane Lubchenco
Co-chair of the CENRS, and
Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere and
Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Department of Commerce

OCT 21 2011

Date