

Legal Bases for ACWI Water Resources Adaptation to Climate Change Workgroup

Secure Water Act (Public Law 111-11): §9503(b)(4) directs that “the Secretary shall --

(4) in consultation with appropriate non-Federal participants, consider and develop appropriate strategies to mitigate each impact of water supply changes analyzed by the Secretary under paragraph (3), including strategies relating to –

- (A) the modification of any reservoir storage or operating guideline in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act;
- (B) the development of new water management, operating, or habitat restoration plans;
- (C) water conservation;
- (D) improved hydrologic models and other decision support systems; and
- (E) groundwater and surface water storage needs;”

CEO's National Action Plan: Priorities for Managing Fresh Water Resources in a Changing Climate, also *Progress Report of the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force: Recommended Actions in Support of a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, October 5, 2010*,^[1] recognizes need to build strong partnerships including –

“Establish a planning process with the capability to identify priority adaptation actions and promote their implementation.”^[2]

“Establish a planning process to Adapt Water Resources Management to a Changing Climate (including continuing interagency coordination and expanding outreach to, and collaboration with, State, Tribal, and local governments and other stakeholders.”³

“Adaptation requires coordination across multiple sectors and scales and should build on the existing efforts and knowledge of a wide range of public and private stakeholders.”^[4]

“Build and maintain strong partnerships to increase responsiveness of Federal Government activities to support local, state and Tribal needs.”^[5]

Subcommittee on Water Availability and Quality (SWAQ)^[6]: §9506 Report to Congress, *Strengthening the Scientific Understanding of Climate Change Impacts on Freshwater Resources of the United States*, calls for ACWI

“to establish a new subcommittee or other appropriate mechanism to solicit an consider input from the public and stakeholders on matters related to freshwater resources and a changing climate and relay these views to the Federal water data program managers in the SWAQ.”^[7]

[1] Developed pursuant to Executive Order 13514, October 5, 2009.

[2] Recommendation I, Action 1, (p.iv), *Priorities for Managing Fresh Water Resources in a Changing Climate*, also *Progress Report of the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force*

[3] Overall Goal and Priority Recommendations, 1 (p.13), *Priorities for Managing Fresh Water Resources in a Changing Climate*, also *Progress Report of the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force*

[4] 4th principle (p.10), *Progress Report of the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force: Recommended Actions in Support of a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, October 5, 2010*,

[5] 1st Recommended Action, Goal 5: Coordinate Capabilities of the Federal Government to Support Adaptation (pp. 49-50), *Progress Report of the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force: Recommended Actions in Support of a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, October 5, 2010*.

[6] Of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Sustainability (CENRS) of the (White House) Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

[7] Next Steps, #6, 4th bullet (p.53)