

FEDERAL WATER WORKING GROUP

Vision

Reduce government expenditure, curb environmental impact and promote resource availability through conservation and increased efficiency of water use in the Federal sectors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION

In January of 2007, Executive Order 13423 -“Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy and Transportation Management” was issued. Beginning in 2008, Federal agencies must reduce **water consumption intensity** through life-cycle cost effective measures, relative to the baseline of the agency’s water consumption in fiscal year 2007 by 2 percent annually through the end of FY 2015 or 16 percent by the end of FY 2015. In January of 2008, DOE, with major input from the Water Working Group of the Interagency Energy Management Task Force published guidelines for, “*Establishing Baseline and Meeting Water Conservation Goals of Executive Order 13423*”.

During subsequent meetings of the Interagency Energy Management Task Force, several members expressed a strong need to continue to regularly meet to share information and coordinate actions to implement Federal water policies and regulations. In response, the Federal Water Working Group has been formed. The primary purpose of the Federal Water Working Group is to provide a forum for the exchange of information and facilitate the implementation of Federal water policies and regulations related to water conservation and efficient use of water within the Federal Government’s own facilities and infrastructure.

OPERATION

The Federal Water Working Group will meet quarterly. The Federal Energy Management Program will provide Chairmanship and support for the group. Generally, meetings will consist of topics suggested by members. Meeting minutes and action items will be circulated to all group members following each meeting and posted for public view on the Federal Energy Management Program’s website.

The Federal Water Working Group may form subcommittees dedicated to accomplishing specific tasks and developing plans.

PRIORITIES

Develop strong partnership and open discourse on water conservation and water efficiency between Federal agencies – The Federal Water Working Group provides a forum for agency representatives to come together, discuss their concerns and share their ideas about water resource efficiency. The group will also look to other Federal agency representatives to determine what they have already initiated in the area of water efficiency.

Reach a consensus on policy guidance for promoting Federal progress towards water efficiency – The group will track agency success toward intensity goals and propose adjustments to policy guidance, or new guidance, as needed.

Promote use of new technologies and tools - The group will serve to identify new technologies and tools to assist Federal agencies in meeting water goals. The group will propose development of tools in areas critical to the successful attainment of Federal water goals.

Collect and distribute best practice information – The group will serve as a conduit to spread best practices in water resource management throughout the Federal government.

Provide recognition – The group will provide recognition for exemplary water management practices demonstrated to conserve water or increase efficiency.

Provide advisory role to Federal agencies – The group will serve to advise the Federal Energy Management Program and other stakeholders on water issues affecting the Federal Government.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the working group is open to all agencies currently in the Inter-Agency Energy Management Task Force and other stakeholders. Some membership meetings may be restricted to Federal employees.

OUTCOMES

The ultimate success of the Federal Water Working Group will be measured by the ability of the Federal agencies to meet the goals set forth by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA), the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct), Executive Order 13423, and other federal mandates.

DATES AND TERMINATION

The Partnership will update this charter as deemed necessary.