
From: Barbara Warren [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 3:30 PM

To: Joanne Hameister; Kathy McGoldrick; Diane D'Arrigo; Agnes Williams; Anne Rabe; Moira Maloney; Lee M. Gordon

Subject: Climate Change

Hi All, Attached is some information relevant to the Climate Change workshop being planned.

At this point we know very little about the date, the amount of time devoted to this and the program planned. I have assembled some basic info about what is going on at the federal level on climate change adaptation. We also know that 3 state agencies are working on climate change adaptation-- NYSERDA, DEC and DOH.

This suggests that Federal and state adaptation work and its relevance to West Valley should be a part of the workshop planned.

Barbara Warren
Executive Director
Citizens' Environmental Coalition
33 Central Ave.
Albany, NY 12210

[REDACTED]

Climate Change at West Valley Radioactive Waste Site

Background on Federal Actions on Climate Change

Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force

EO 13514 Pres. Obama wanted the federal govt. to better prepare for climate change
The task force is comprised of Senior Reps from over 20 Depts and agencies including DOE.
Federal Actions for a Climate Resilient Nation: 2011 Progress Report of the Interagency Task Force, Oct. 2011.
The report contains policy goals and cross cutting issues as well as principles (copied below).
Note \$45 billion in damages from weather events in spring and summer 2011 alone.

Federal agencies are developing agency-specific plans to strengthen existing adaptation efforts and establish long term priorities to respond to the challenges and opportunities that climate change poses to their missions, operations and programs. Each plan will reflect the agency's core mission. Those with infrastructure responsibilities will emphasize planning that enhances resilience and minimizes disruption. Agencies will develop and publish climate adaptation plans in the summer of 2012.

At the same time, NYSEDA and DEC are working on Climate adaptation. And NYS DOH has received a federal grant to do assessment work, likely related to health impacts.

APPENDIX A. INTERAGENCY CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Co-chair Agencies

Council on Environmental Quality
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office of Science and Technology Policy

Member Departments and Agencies

Agency for International Development
Army Corps of Engineers
Council of Economic Advisors
Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce
Department of Defense
Department of Education
Department of Energy
Department of Health and Human Services
Department of Homeland Security
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Department of the Interior
Department of State
Department of Transportation
Department of the Treasury
Environmental Protection Agency
Millennium Challenge Corporation
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
National Intelligence Council
National Economic Council
National Security Staff
Office of Management and Budget

APPENDIX B. 2011 PROGRESS REPORT STRUCTURE

The 2011 report discusses progress towards the Task Force's 2010 policy goals in a way that recognizes their synergies and interconnectedness. As the table outlines below, progress toward the 2010 cross-cutting goals related to community resilience, human health, and insurance is described in the *Building Resilience to Climate Change in Communities* section of the 2011 report, given the local relevance and benefits of these efforts. Progress toward the complementary goals of integrating science into decision-making and coordinating capabilities of the Federal Government are discussed together in the 2011 report section on *Improving Accessibility and Coordination of Science*. Finally, progress on freshwater, oceans, fish, wildlife, and plants adaptation efforts are discussed in the 2011 report section on *Strategies to Safeguard Natural Resources*, as these efforts represent components of national strategic action planning related to natural resources.

2011 Progress Report Structure (in Bold)

2010 Policy Goals and Cross-Cutting Issues (in Italics)

Integrating Adaptation into Federal Government Planning and Activities

-Encourage and Mainstream Adaptation Planning across the Federal Government

Building Resilience to Climate Change in Communities

-Cross-cutting issue: Build resilience to climate change in communities

-Cross-cutting issue: Protect human health by addressing climate change in public health activities

-Cross-cutting issue: Facilitate incorporation of climate change risks into insurance mechanisms

Improving Accessibility and Coordination of Science for Decision Making

-Improve Integration of Science into Decision Making

-Coordinate Capabilities of the Federal Government to Support Adaptation

Developing Strategies to Safeguard Natural Resources in a Changing Climate

-Cross-cutting issue: Improve water resource management in a changing climate

-Cross-cutting issue: Develop a strategic action plan focused on strengthening the resilience of coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes communities and ecosystems to climate change

-Cross-cutting issue: Develop a strategy for reducing the impacts of climate change on the Nation's fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats

Enhancing Efforts to Lead and Support International Adaptation

-Enhance Efforts to Lead and Support International Adaptation

APPENDIX C. INTERAGENCY CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION TASK FORCE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Guiding Principles for Adaptation

Adopt Integrated Approaches: Adaptation should be incorporated into core policies, planning, practices, and programs whenever possible.

Prioritize the Most Vulnerable: Adaptation plans should prioritize helping people, places and infrastructure that are most vulnerable to climate impacts and be designed and implemented with meaningful involvement from all parts of society.

Use Best-Available Science: Adaptation should be grounded in the best-available scientific understanding of climate change risks, impacts, and vulnerabilities.

Build Strong Partnerships: 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.

Apply Risk-Management Methods and Tools: Adaptation planning should incorporate risk management methods and tools to help identify, assess, and prioritize options to reduce vulnerability to potential environmental, social, and economic implications of climate change.

Apply Ecosystem-based Approaches: Adaptation should, where relevant, take into account strategies to increase ecosystem resilience and protect critical ecosystem services on which humans depend to reduce vulnerability of human and natural systems to climate

change.

Maximize Mutual Benefits: Adaptation should, where possible, use strategies that complement or directly support other related climate or environmental initiatives, such as efforts to improve disaster preparedness, promote sustainable resource management, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions including the development of cost-effective technologies.

Continuously Evaluate Performance: Adaptation plans should include measureable goals and performance metrics to continuously assess whether adaptive actions are achieving desired outcomes.