

Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group
Agenda Item Information
February 20-21, 2013

Agenda Item

Renewing the AMWG Charter

Action Requested

✓ Information and possible action.

Presenters

Ann Gold, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region

Previous Action Taken

February 10, 2011: Motion (Proposed by George Caan, seconded by Dennis Strong): AMWG recommends that the Secretary of the Interior adopt the changes to the AMWG Charter; and if the Secretary does so, that the AMWG adopt the operating procedures as attached in the draft from the Charter Ad Hoc Group dated February 9, 2011 and request that the CAHG review the level of participation of the DOI agencies approximately 18 months after the institution of the new Charter and make a recommendation to the AMWG as to whether the ex-officio nature of their involvement should continue.

February 10, 2011: Motion (Proposed by Mike Senn, seconded by Alan Downer): AMWG asks the CAHG to re-evaluate the recommendation regarding the composition of the AMWG, based on input provided at the February 2011 AMWG meeting, for possible consideration at the next regularly scheduled AMWG meeting.

August 24, 2011: Recommendations to the Secretary. Ms. Castle announced that the changes to the AMWG Charter recommended in February 2011 had been adopted by the Secretary. She distributed copies of the new AMWG Charter and said it incorporates the provision that the DOI agencies who are AMWG members will not vote on a trial basis. However, as part of that provision, the DOI agencies committed to actively participate in the AMWG and make their views known. Having discussed the TWG voting procedures with some AMWG members and internally with the DOI agencies, Ms. Castle said it would be consistent for the DOI agencies on the TWG to also not vote during the same trial period. As a result of changes in the charter, the AMWG Operating Procedures also need to be reviewed and she said DOI would take a first cut on possible changes and bring it back to the AMWG for further discussion.

February 23, 2012: Introductions and Administrative. Ms. Anne Castle noted that the new AMWG Charter designates DOI AMWG representatives as non-voting. She said that in her view, non-voting members should not propose motions, but can participate in discussions about motions and propose amendment language and alternate motions. Members were invited to let her know of concerns.

Relevant Science

N/A

Background Information

The AMWG Charter was renewed in 2011 after deliberation by the AMWG at its February 2011 meeting, and further deliberation prior to the meeting by the AMWG Charter Ad Hoc Group. During discussion at the February 2011 meeting, there was some concern expressed regarding whether changing the status of the DOI bureaus to non-voting/ex-officio members would create issues with transparency or cause DOI agencies to disengage from the AMWG process. There was an agreement to revisit the issue in approximately 18 months of implementation of the Charter with the DOI agencies operating in an ex-officio capacity. The AMWG Charter will expire in August 2013, and DOI is now reevaluating the change in DOI member status as part of the renewal process. Charter Ad Hoc Group members and tribes have been contacted and will provide data on concerns on this or other issues with the current Charter as part of the renewal process, and any issues identified will be reviewed and discussed as part of this agenda item.