

From: <Tapeats@aol.com>
To: <MGABALDON@usbr.gov>, <DKUBLY@uc.usbr.gov>
Date: 1/13/04 4:34PM
Subject: Re: Request to add items to the January 23 AMWG conference call agenda

Mike and Dennis --

I just spoke with Norm Henderson, who corrected my impression that TWG was not going to engage directly with GCMRC on the development of their strategic plan. Norm informed me that at least the better part of a day at the next TWG meeting, Feb. 2 & 3 (which unfortunately neither my TWG member, Larry Stevens, nor I, as his alternate, can attend) will be spent working with the GCMRC staff on development of their strategic plan. Although my preference is to have the AMWG Strategic Plan Ad Hoc take on that task rather than the TWG, I will concede that the majority of the AMWG members present on the December conference call did not seem to agree with me (although no vote was taken). Therefore, I will withdraw my request for the agenda item on the January 23rd conference call.

I do wish to reiterate my request for the items on the March 3-4 AMWG meeting agenda, however. I also would like to raise concerns about the loose way with which AMWG Operating Procedure requirements are (or are not) being dealt with. First, technically it is already too late to convene the call on the 23rd. Paragraph 9 of the AMWG Operating Procedures clearly states "No later than 15 days prior to each meeting of the AMWG or any subgroup thereof, a notice will be published in the Federal Register." We are now 10 days from the call on the 23rd, and no notice has yet been published. And in fact, as an AMWG member I would not be aware that the call had been scheduled for Jan. 23rd if I had not attended the TWG meeting last week and heard that date discussed. I still have no idea what time it has been scheduled for. I understand the financial enormity that the Western Area Power Administration asserts is at stake with the main issue for this conference call, however, I do not think that is reason to violate the Operating Procedures. Consider additional requirements of the Operating Procedures -- Paragraph 5 -- which state "At least 30 days prior to any meeting of the AMWG, a draft of the proposed agenda and related information will be sent to the group members. Members shall review the agenda and return comments and proposed agenda items to the Designee within two weeks of the agenda mailing date. The final agenda will be sent to the members 15 days prior to the meeting. The Secretary's Designee shall approve the agendas." I compliment the staff at the Bureau of Reclamation, and especially Dennis Kubly and Linda Whetton, for getting agendas and packets for regular meetings of the AMWG out 30 days in advance. And although I am sympathetic to the difficulty of getting such information out 30 days in advance for what institutes in essence a "special meeting" of the AMWG by conference call, the requirements of Paragraph 5 clearly apply to "any meeting of the AMWG."

At this point I will not actively attempt to block the January 23 conference call. There are some issues that need resolution by the AMWG, and I do not wish to spend all my goodwill with you and the other stakeholders (if I still have any!) on this issue. But I ask the two of you to consider the possibility of rescheduling the conference call for after the President's Day holiday (Feb 16) to give Reclamation enough time to meet the Operating Procedure requirements. And I will be honest that if the call goes forward on the 23rd, I may ask on the call that the record reflect that I am participating despite my knowledge that the call is not in compliance with Operating Procedure requirements and therefore the actions taken during the meeting are subject to challenge and possible invalidation, and that I had asked the Secretary's Designee to consider rescheduling the call so that it could be in compliance.

There are a number of other Operating Procedures that are not being followed, including AMWG members being provided with copies of summary reports to the Secretary after each AMWG meeting (paragraph 2) and attaching the State of the Natural and Cultural Resources in the Colorado River Ecosystem report developed by GCMRC to the Annual Report (paragraph 12) (impossible to do when GCMRC is not producing that report), which I will not go into in detail at this point.

But it may be in the best interest of all of us to review our own procedures and requirements again, and make sure that we get back on track in meeting them. This program is not without its detractors, many of whom make their dissatisfaction known to me, and we can best avoid headaches and do the good work that Congress and the Secretary set out for us to do for Grand Canyon if we run a tight ship.

The lawyer in me is coming out in spades, and I apologize. But our regulations and procedures are designed to keep things running smoothly, and I think we can agree that things have not been running very smoothly recently. Maybe it's time to turn back to our agreed upon structures and embrace them.

Best,
Pamela Hyde, Colorado River Coordinator, Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, P.O. Box 1845, Flagstaff, AZ 86002
(928) 214-6492, (928) 779-3577 (fax), tapeats@aol.com

In a message dated 1/13/2004 10:10:58 AM US Mountain Standard Time,
DKUBLY@uc.usbr.gov writes:
Pam,

Ie already sent in the Federal Register notice with the WAPA flow request and remote sensing briefing identified as subjects for the conference call. I fear making a change at this point could prevent our getting the notice through in time to convene the call. I will put in a call to Mike, but I believe he is out of the office at Leadership Team meetings today.

dk

>>> <Tapeats@aol.com> 01/12/04 03:13PM >>>

Mike --

ased on what was and was not addressed at the TWG meeting last week, I would like to add an item to the agenda for the January 23 AMWG conference call as follows:

1. GCMRC Strategic Plan -- motion to charge the AMWG Strategic Plan Ad Hoc committee to work with GCMRC in development of the Plan.

On the December AMWG conference call this option was discussed, but the chair of the TWG indicated that the TWG would be working with GCMRC on their Strategic Plan, and it was on the agenda for the Jan. 7 & 8 TWG meeting. That meeting has now concluded, and the sum total of the TWG "working with GCMRC" at that meeting consisted of a brief presentation by Jeff Lovich, chief of GCMRC, on their development of the GCMRC Strategic Plan, which did not include a timeline. It is clear that what I proposed -- and was discussed -- on the last AMWG conference call is beyond the level of involvement that TWG intends to have in development of the plan. I proposed that the AMWG Strategic Plan Ad Hoc actually sit down and engage directly with GCMRC on development with their strategic plan, rather than review a draft once it is complete. I don't think that the AMWG members understood that on the last call, and I don't think they were clear that that was NOT what the TWG was pursuing. Therefore, I request that we revisit this issue, and do it at our next meeting, so that we don't lose any time in getting the GCMRC Strategic Plan completed.

I realize that we are less than 15 days out from this conference call, but since there has not yet been a Federal Register notice (despite Operating Procedure requirements), I presume that my request may still be considered timely.

I also would like to reiterate my request that we add two items to the March 3-4 AMWG meeting agenda as follows:

1. Recommendation to the Secretary regarding final approval of the AMP Strategic Plan, including sequenced and categorized INs.
2. Update and discussion of GCMRC Strategic Plan.

and Canyon Wildlands Council presented a motion to the TWG regarding the first issue on January 8, but there was insufficient time to discuss and vote on the motion. I am told by my TWG member that the issue has been moved to the newly scheduled Feb. 2 & 3 TWG meeting, so I think we can presume that the issue may be ripe for consideration in March.

Thanks, Mike. Please let me know when you have acted on my requests.

Feel free to call me if you need more information or would like to discuss the requests with me.

Pam

Pamela Hyde, Colorado River Coordinator
Grand Canyon Wildlands Council
P.O. Box 1845
Flagstaff, AZ 86002
(928) 214-6492
(928) 779-3577 (fax)
tapeats@aol.com

CC: <LWHETTON@uc.usbr.gov>, <RPETERSON@uc.usbr.gov>

From: <Tapeats@aol.com>
To: <norm_henderson@nps.gov>
Date: 12/18/03 11:27AM
Subject: Request to put item on TWG agenda

Norm --

I would like to request that we add an item to the Jan 7-8 TWG agenda as follows:

Recommendation to AMWG regarding final approval of the AMP Strategic Plan, including sequenced and categorized INs.

Since I brought this up at the last TWG meeting, and it was not addressed at that meeting, I'd like it addressed at the upcoming meeting.

Thanks.

Pam

Pamela Hyde, Colorado River Coordinator
Grand Canyon Wildlands Council
P.O. Box 1845
Flagstaff, AZ 86002
(928) 214-6492
(928) 779-3577 (fax)
tapeats@aol.com

CC: <DKUBLY@uc.usbr.gov>, <LWHETTON@uc.usbr.gov>

From: Linda Whetton
To: Balsom, Jan; Barger, Mary; Begay, Robert M.; Begay, Tim; Benemelis, Perri; Burton, Gary; Christensen, Kerry; Cook, Wayne; Crocker-Bedford, Cole; Damp, Jonathan; Davis, William E.; Drye, Brenda; English, Jeff; Force, Lisa; Greiner, Lloyd; Harris, Christopher; Henderson, Norm; Hyde, Pamela; Jackson, Loretta; James, Leslie; Kaplinski, Matt; King, Robert; Knowles, Glen W.; Kubly, Dennis; Lehr, Phillip; Metz, Don; O'Brien, John; O'Brien, John; Persons, Bill; Peterson, Randy; Potochnik, Andre; Ramsey, Nikolai; Ritenour, John; Seaholm, Randolph; Shields, John; Steffen, Mark; Stevens, Larry; Wiele, Steve; Yeatts, Michael
Date: 12/16/03 11:43AM
Subject: Whoops -- Here's the TWG Agenda

Sorry, I forgot to attach to my last e-mail message.

From: Linda Whetton
To: Balsom, Jan; Barger, Mary; Begay, Robert M.; Benemelis, Perri; Burton, Gary; Cheama, Andres; Christensen, Kerry; Cook, Wayne; Crocker-Bedford, Cole; Damp, Jonathan; Davis, William E.; Dongoške, Kurt; Drye, Brenda; English, Jeff; Force, Lisa; Greiner, Lloyd; Harris, Christopher; Henderson, Norm; Heuslein, Amy; Hyde, Pamela; Jackson, Loretta; James, Leslie; Kaplinski, Matt; King, Robert; Knowles, Glen W.; Kubly, Dennis; Lehr, Phillip; Metz, Don; O'Brien, John; O'Brien, John; Persons, Bill; Peterson, Randy; Potochnik, Andre; Ramsey, Nikolai; Ritenour, John; Seaholm, Randolph; Shields, John; Steffen, Mark; Stevens, Larry; Wiele, Steve; Yeatts, Michael
Date: 12/16/03 11:08AM
Subject: Upcoming TWG Meeting

Just to let you know the following meetings have been scheduled:

Budget Ad Hoc Group

Date: Wednesday, January 7, 2004

Time: 8 a.m. - noon

Place:

Arizona Department of Water Resources

500 N. 3rd Street

3rd Floor, Conf. Rooms A&B

Phoenix, Arizona

Technical Work Group Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 7

Time: 1 - 5 p.m.

Arizona Department of Water Resources

500 N. 3rd Street

3rd Floor, Conf. Rooms A&B

Phoenix, Arizona

Technical Work Group Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 8

Time: 8 - 3 p.m.

(continuing at ADWR)

Attached is a draft agenda for your use.

For those who need hotel rooms, a block of rooms has been reserved for January 6 (15 rooms) and January 7 (15 rooms) at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 6th & Fillmore, 602-452-2020, at the rate of \$107 (+ 12.07% tax). The block will close on Dec. 29, 2003.

The TWG Meeting materials will be sent via overnight mail on January 2, 2004.

I am trying to post some of the documents from the last meeting to the AMP web site but I'm quickly running out of time. In fact, I'll be out of the office Dec. 18-29 so some of them may not get posted until Dec. 30.

Hope you all have a wonderful and safe holiday season!

Linda Whetton, UC-733

Bureau of Reclamation

125 S. State Street

Salt Lake City UT 84138-1147

T: 801-524-3880

F: 801-524-3858

lwhetton@uc.usbr.gov