



Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC)/US Department of Energy (USDOE)

Water-Energy Sustainability Symposium “Policy and Perspectives” Report

Ben Grunewald
Deputy Director

Ground Water Protection Council
13308 N. MacArthur Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73142
(405) 516-4972
ben@gwpc.org

Nancy Johnson
Director of Planning and Environmental Analysis

US Department of Energy
Office of Fossil Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585
(202) 586-6458
nancy.johnson@hq.doe.gov

Watercat was contracted by the Ground Water Protection Council, with funding from the US Department of Energy through the National Energy Technology Laboratory, to develop a summary report of the 2009 Water-Energy Sustainability Symposium findings and feedback, covering several of the “nexus points” within the water-energy nexus. This summary report was written as a “primer” on the water-energy nexus. The report drew upon the individual findings and feedback of the participants, and related presentations and publications. The report also provided background information on the history of water+energy nexus activities, including the 2005 Energy Policy Act requirements and roadmapping workshops, and the role of DOE, the national energy laboratories, and other federal agencies. Topics covered in the Symposium and Report included:

Understanding Water+Energy Nexus

- Policy and Stakeholders
- USDOE’s Role in Water+Energy
- Water+Energy at Other Federal Agencies and in Congress
- Water+Energy Research and Initiatives
- 2005-2006 Energy-Water Roadmapping Workshops

Energy Perspectives on Water:

- Traditional Energy Sources+National Energy Concerns
- Power, Carbon Sequestration, and Transportation
- Unconventional Fossil Fuels and Produced Water Reuse
- Renewable Energy

Water Perspectives on Energy:

- Water and Wastewater Utilities
- Water, Energy, and Agriculture

Integrated Water+Energy Planning:

- Green Buildings and Green Communities
- River Basin, Coastal, and Aquifer Management
- Global Security, Water, Energy, Sanitation+Health
- Water, Energy, and Climate Change
- National Water+Energy Research Needs

Outcomes: This summary report provides an important contribution to the ongoing water-energy dialogue, and highlights the need for continued discussion and integrated planning for water and energy. The composition of the publication, and efforts to gain broad-based input on the report content, stimulated interoffice and interagency dialogues on more Integrated approaches to water+energy programs, planning, and policy. Related activities organized by Watercat during the report compilation included organization of a series of briefings by California Energy Commission’s Energy-Water program manager to several federal agencies including USEPA, USDOE, USDA, USDOE, and CEQ; a speaker series entitled “Beyond the Water-Energy Nexus” hosted by the Women’s Council on Energy and the Environment; and a webinar series for women-owned businesses entitled Entrepreneurs, Energy, and the Environment for Women Impacting Public Policy. The report was distributed to the GWPC 2nd Water-Energy Sustainability Symposium, GovEnergy and GreenGov conferences, Water-Energy Symposium at the NSF-funded WaterCAMPWS, with initial findings provided at listening sessions for the CEQ Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Water Subcommittee and the USDOE ARPA-E Workshop on Energy and Wastewater.

