



2018 Winter Conference

Exploring Net Environmental Benefit: Balancing Science & Cost

February 6 - 9, 2018
Napa Valley Marriott Hotel
Napa, CA

Δ - Board of Directors Committees

Tuesday, February 6

Morning

8:00 – 10:15 Executive Committee Δ
Diamond Mountain

10:30 – 1:00 Board of Directors Meeting Δ
Stags/Howell/Mt. Veeder

Afternoon

12:00 – 4:00 Registration
Grand Ballroom Foyer

1:00 – 2:15 Water Quality Committee
Grand Ballroom
In line with the theme for the Winter Conference, the Committee will kick off its meeting with a discussion on management strategies clean water agencies can use to address the ever-changing and increasingly stringent water quality-based requirements they face. Developments on the nutrient front, as well as emerging issues involving salinity and implementation of the revised ammonia criteria will be examined along with updates on a range of other water quality issues.

2:30 – 3:30 Climate & Resiliency Committee
Grand Ballroom
The Committee will discuss the development of a NACWA Position Statement on Climate & Resiliency. Once finalized, the Statement will help guide NACWA advocacy on related issues with the current Administration and Congress. The Committee will also hear updates from members in key States actively considering legislative or regulatory resiliency actions, and the impact these may have on clean water agencies.

In partnership with the following organizations:



3:45 – 5:00
Grand Ballroom

Utility & Resource Management Committee
This meeting will feature a presentation on public-private partnership opportunities for clean water energy projects, followed by a discussion on the balance between risk aversion and innovation at clean water utilities. The Committee will also discuss the latest developments on utility governance issues like consolidation/regionalization and peer-to-peer collaboration and be briefed on a new legislative proposal focused on the water workforce.

Bruce Tobey
Of Counsel
Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O’Gara LLC
Johnston, RI

Evening
5:30 – 6:30
Redwood Grove

Registration

6:00 – 7:00
Redwood Grove

Welcoming Reception

Wednesday, February 7

Morning

7:30 – 9:00
Carneros/Mt. Veeder

Women’s Water Network Breakfast
This breakfast for women leaders in the clean water utility sector will focus on creating a welcoming and diverse workplace culture. Discussion will focus on how women as leaders can foster an inclusive workplace environment that reflects an understanding of the many complexities of the modern workforce, while developing a culture that avoids silencing those who experience discrimination.

8:30 – 12:00
Grand Ballroom Foyer

Registration

9:00 – 10:00
Atlas and Castle Peak

Spouse & Guest Lounge

9:00 – 10:00
Grand Ballroom

Biosolids Management Committee
A case study presentation featuring the collaboration between NACWA Public Agency Member Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District – one of our hosts for the Napa meeting – and NACWA Corporate Affiliate Lystek, will kick off the Biosolids Management Committee meeting. The Committee will also hear the latest on developments at EPA Headquarters and discuss a range of issues including new concerns regarding the presence of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in biosolids.

In partnership with the following organizations:



Gregory Baatrup
General Manager
Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District
Fairfield, CA

James Dunbar
General Manager
Lystek International Limited
Fairfield, CA

10:15 – 11:00
Grand Ballroom

Facility & Collection Systems Committee

This meeting will begin with a presentation about Clean Water Services' recent research about policies that can promote inflow and infiltration (I/I) control strategies for satellite collection systems. Updates will then be provided on the final rule issued by EPA for public notification of combined sewer overflows in the Great Lakes Basin, along with potential discussions with EPA on blending. Finally, the latest developments in NACWA's advocacy with the wipes issue will be discussed.

Diane Taniguchi-Dennis
NACWA Board Member
Deputy General Manager
Clean Water Services
Hillsboro, OR

11:00 – 11:45
Grand Ballroom

Stormwater Management Committee

The Committee will provide a brief introduction to the recently released Oregon Phase II MS4 draft permit – one of the first MS4 Phase II permits released post-Remand Rule that seems to offer a “one-sized-fits all” approach to the MEP standard. Attorneys Justin Curtis and Paul Nyffeler with AquaLaw will also reveal the much anticipated NACWA Stormwater Permitting Guide. This Guide is a useful tool assist stormwater managers navigate their permits and answer advanced MS4-related questions. Justin and Paul will provide a complete walkthrough tutorial of how to use the Guide.

Justin Curtis
Attorney
AquaLaw PLC
Richmond, VA

Paul Nyffeler
Attorney
AquaLaw PLC
Richmond, VA

Afternoon

12:00 – 1:15

Lunch on Your Own

In partnership with the following organizations:



1:00 – 4:00
Grand Ballroom Foyer

Registration

1:15 – 2:15
Atlas and Castle Peak

Communications & Public Affairs Committee

The Committee will focus on the Association's advocacy issue priorities for 2018 and how to message and leverage them in the press, both nationally and locally. Nathan Gardner-Andrews, NACWA Chief Advocacy Officer will break down our top three issues, and lead an open discussion on how these can be leveraged locally. The Committee's goal will be to lay the groundwork for a coordinated nationwide media outreach, and long-term communications resource-sharing.

1:15 – 2:30
Grand Ballroom

Legal Affairs Committee

The Committee will focus first on enforcement and consent decree developments. Julia Anastasio, Executive Director of the Association of Clean Water Administrators, will provide a state regulator update and be available to answer questions. The meeting will be closed to press and regulators after Julia's remarks so that members can engage in candid discussion about opportunities including NACWA's efforts to redefine the appropriate balance between "enforcement" and "compliance assistance/assurance." The committee will then discuss the direct hydrologic connection litigation pending in four federal appeals courts and the Massachusetts/New Hampshire small MS4 General Permit litigation.

Julia Anastasio

Executive Director and General Counsel
Association of Clean Water Administrators
Washington, DC

Sam Brown

Senior Attorney
Hunton & Williams, LLP
San Francisco, CA

Justin Curtis

AquaLaw PLC

2:45 – 4:00
Grand Ballroom

Legislative & Regulatory Policy Committee

Andrew Sawyers, Director for EPA's Office of Wastewater Management, will kick off the meeting with remarks on utility governance, infrastructure funding and the recent National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) report on affordability. The Committee will also be briefed on the latest legislative developments regarding integrated planning, affordability, infrastructure funding, tax reform and more.

Andrew Sawyers

Director, Office of Wastewater Management
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

In partnership with the following organizations:



4:00 – 5:00

Courtyard

One-2-One Networking

(Utility-2-Utility, Utility-2-Private Sector, Private Sector -2- Private Sector)

Interested in a 15-minute One-2-One connection on specific plans, programs, or practices? Take advantage of this unique opportunity to connect with your clean water colleagues. This time has been set aside to facilitate connection among clean water agencies themselves – and between agencies and the private sector community that serves them.

Evening

6:00 – 7:30

Napa Ballroom

National Environmental Achievement Awards Ceremony & Reception

Join us in a celebratory evening honoring NACWA’s *National Environmental Achievement Award* recipients. The evening will begin with an Awards Ceremony showcasing the very best NACWA’s member agencies have to offer from operations to public outreach as well as individuals who have made a difference for both their community and their utility. Following the ceremony, join your colleagues in celebrating the evening’s honorees at an Awards Reception.

Thursday, February 8

Morning

8:30 – 12:00

Registration

Grand Ballroom Foyer

9:00 – 10:00

Spouse & Guest Lounge

Atlas and Castle Peak

9:00 – 12:00

PLENARY SESSION I

Grand Ballroom

Opening Remarks

David St. Pierre

NACWA President

Executive Director

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Chicago, IL

Welcoming Remarks

Jill Techel

The Honorable Mayor

City of Napa

Napa, CA

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Keynote Address

The Intersection of Science, Policy, and Costs in Clean Water Advocacy

Diane Katz

Senior Research Fellow, Regulatory Policy

The Heritage Foundation

Washington, DC

10:15 – 10:30

Networking Break

Roundtable Discussion

When Natural Disasters Strike – How Utilities Are Addressing Resiliency

Oftentimes natural disasters hit with very little warning. Last fall, multiple hurricanes took aim at the United States impacting the greater Houston area, the entire state of Florida, and twice slammed into Puerto Rico. As severe flooding consumed much of the southeast, rampant wildfires destroyed parts of northern California. Natural disasters will continue to impact local communities across the United States and are predicted to intensify as precipitation patterns change and global surface temperatures increase. Regardless of the political debate over climate science, ample evidence exists that communities should boost resiliency to protect against more frequent and powerful natural disasters. Roundtable participants will discuss their recent experiences and how clean water utilities can proactively address resiliency before disaster hits.

Facilitator

Talyon Sortor

Chair, NACWA Security & Emergency Preparedness Committee

Assistant General Manager

Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District

Fairfield, CA

Roundtable Participants

Ben Horenstein

NACWA Board Member

Director

Santa Rosa Water

Santa Rosa, CA

Eli Díaz-Atienza

Executive President

Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority

San Juan, PR

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Yvonne Forrest
Deputy Director
City of Houston Public Works
Houston, TX

Afternoon

1:45 – 4:00

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Registration

2:00 – 4:45

Grand Ballroom

PLENARY SESSION II

Opening Remarks

David St. Pierre
NACWA President

Roundtable Discussion

Who's in the Driver's Seat: Getting to Net Environmental Benefit

As municipal clean water utilities continue to face a “relentless incrementalism” of increasingly complex regulatory standards, can the Clean Water Act continue to ignore burgeoning costs? Does it make economic and ecological sense to continue to compel utilities to make significant financial investments to meet stringent water quality requirements if those investments do not translate into commensurate environmental improvement? Or should clean water agencies have the flexibility to make smarter investments that are more protective of public health and the environment and simultaneously maximize the return on their ratepayers' investment? Roundtable participants will discuss these timely questions and how municipal clean water utilities may better consider the net environmental benefit of their actions.

Facilitator

Bobbi Larson
Executive Director
California Association of Sanitation Agencies
Sacramento, CA

Introductory Speakers

Trent Stober
Vice President
HDR Engineering, Inc.
Columbia, MO

Errin Kemper
Assistant Director, Environmental Services
City of Springfield
Springfield, MO

In partnership with the following organizations:



Roundtable Participants

Karen Larsen

Deputy Director, Division of Water Quality
California State Water Resources Control Board
Sacramento, CA

Diane Taniguchi-Dennis

NACWA Board Member

Ian Wren

Staff Scientist
San Francisco Baykeeper
San Francisco, CA

Panel Discussion

Looking Holistically in a World of Big Data, Advanced Technology, & Watershed-Based Improvement

Clean water utilities face increasing pressures to provide more services coupled with growing regulatory requirements—all while keeping ratepayer costs low. At the same time, aging infrastructure, population growth, and climatic events challenge municipal clean water utilities to continue to meet performance expectations and compliance demands. In today's world of advanced analytics, clean water utilities are harnessing the power of data and technology to craft creative and holistic solutions to not only meet but also go beyond these everyday challenges. Panelists will discuss their smart initiatives that look at engineering and scientific solutions that ultimately provide cleaner water and maximize economic value.

Moderator

Biju George

Chair, NACWA Smart Utility Task Force
Chief Operating Officer
DC Water
Washington, DC

Panelists

Jim Schlaman

Director of Water Resources
Black and Veatch Corporation
Kansas City, MO

Tim Braun

Enterprise Architect
EmNet, LLC
South Bend, IN

In partnership with the following organizations:



Jane Madden
Senior Vice President
CDM Smith
Cambridge, MA

Art Umble
Wastewater Practice Leader
Stantec
Denver, CO

Closing Remarks

David St. Pierre
NACWA President

Evening

5:30 – 7:00

Silverado Vineyards
6121 Silverado Trail
Napa, CA

President's Reception

Please note that transportation will be provided starting at 5:15 PM from the lobby.

Friday, February 9

Morning

8:30 – 10:00

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Registration

9:00 – 12:00

Grand Ballroom

PLENARY SESSION III

Opening Remarks

David St. Pierre
NACWA President

Opening Featured Speaker

Nancy Stoner
Water Program Director and Senior Fellow
The Pisces Foundation
Washington, DC

Roundtable Presentation & Discussion

Does Science Drive Policy or Policy Drive Science?

More than a year into the Presidential Administration and Congress, concerns have been raised that policy is dictating science or that the science is being ignored. The Clean Water Rule's perceived expansion of the definition of Waters of the United States is one recent example suggesting how the same science can be interpreted differently in today's polarizing political landscape. A large number of scientists agree that climate change is real and happening. Yet, federal policies on climate

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change are currently lacking and fraught with opposition. Roundtable participants will discuss the basics of how science and policy interact and the appropriate role for objective-based science in setting environmental policy.

Facilitator

Jim Pletl

Chair, NACWA Water Quality Committee
Director, Water Quality
Hampton Roads Sanitation District
Virginia Beach, VA

Featured Speaker

Brandon Steets

Senior Principal Water Resources Engineer
Geosyntec Consultants
Santa Barbara, CA

Roundtable Participants

Deborah Nagle

Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology
US Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Tracy Mehan

Executive Director, Government Affairs
American Water Works Association
Washington, DC

Don Parrish

Senior Director, Regulatory Relations
American Farm Bureau Federation
Washington, DC

Panel Discussion

Looking to Future Outcomes to Reshape Today's Actions

Utilities always have future outcomes in mind as they seek to meet long-term ratepayer and compliance needs. But utility executives must also manage day-to-day actions and deliverables, which can distract from their long-term vision. Clean water utilities are increasingly looking to re-engineer today's actions around a clearer definition of the desired outcomes. This "outcome-based engineering" allows them to ensure their everyday actions will meet the desired end goals. Utility executives will discuss their long-term visions, and how they are reshaping their actions in the short-term based on a better understanding of their desired future outcomes.

Moderator

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Andy Richardson
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Greeley and Hansen LLC
Chicago, IL

Panel Participants

David St. Pierre
NACWA President

Michael Carlin
Deputy General Manager and Chief Operating Officer
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
San Francisco, CA

Ted Henifin
NACWA Board Member
General Manager
Hampton Roads Sanitation District
Virginia Beach, VA

Michael Mucha
Chair, NACWA Climate & Resiliency Committee
Chief Engineer & Director
Madison Metropolitan Sewer District
Madison, WI

Closing Remarks

David St. Pierre
NACWA President

Afternoon
1:00 – 3:00

Facility Tour - Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District LysteGro Bio-Fertilizer Plant
Transportation provided from lobby. Please arrive by 12:50 PM. Pre-registration required.

The Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District (FSSD) and Lystek International have entered into a unique public-private partnership to bring the first, comprehensive biosolids management solution to the San Francisco Bay Area. Located at the FSSD treatment facility in Solano County (adjacent to Napa), Lystek owns and operates a patented, thermal hydrolysis process (THP) to manage up to 150,000 wet tons of biosolids annually. The facility converts biosolids feedstock into a Class A-EQ (Exceptional Quality) biofertilizer product which has gained a strong agricultural market acceptance in the region. In addition, the end use material is being used as a FSSD anaerobic digester enhancement for improved performance and increased biogas generation. Please RSVP to be waitlisted, as space is limited!

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