

Power, Lucinda

From: Power, Lucinda
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 4:40 PM
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Subject: feedback requested by 7/24: Revised WQGIT Membership Alternatives
Importance: High

WQGIT Members and Interested Parties,

Thank you for your feedback today on the proposed membership alternatives as part of the revised WQGIT Governance Protocols. To recap our discussion, consensus was reached on the following issues:

- Advisory Committees and Workgroup representatives will serve as advisors to the WQGIT, and not as formal members. (up to 15 advisors total)
- Each signatory would appoint one member to serve on the WQGIT. (9 total)
- The number of signatory members will be larger than at-large members.
- The maximum number of at-large members is 6.

A decision still needs to be made on how our consensus decision making process will be conducted. To help facilitate the discussion of this issue on our August 10 WQGIT conference call, **please email me your preference for either Option 1 or Option 2 by COB Friday, July 24**. The options have been revised to reflect today's decisions. The major difference between Options 1 and 2 is highlighted in yellow below.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,
Lucinda

OPTION 1: Member Consensus* with advisors (up to 15 members and 15 advisors possible)

- Members from each signatory (one each with an alternate identified) (9)
- At-large Members** (up to 6 with option to identify an alternate)
- One advisor*** from each WQGIT Workgroup (invited)
- One advisor from each CBP Advisory Committee (invited)

*Decision-making for the WQGIT will be done by signatory and at-large members through a unanimous or consensus-based process (e.g. all parties can live with the decision) that ultimately concludes in the polling of members to determine the will of the group. If, after substantial negotiations, consensus cannot be reached, WQGIT members will be polled, and the decision will be elevated to the next decision-making body along with a description of the positions of the polled members.

**Criteria for At-Large Membership: In an effort to empower non-signatory partners in the decision-making process, priority for at-large membership will be reserved for nongovernmental organizations, quasi-governmental organizations, Federal Agencies, academic institutions, and other local practitioners that have a role in water quality improvements. Nominations will be accepted from all WQGIT members, advisors, and interested parties, and the selection of the at-large membership will be determined by the signatory WQGIT members with consideration to their level of commitment, skills and perspectives (e.g., geographic diversity and expertise).

***Advisors actively participate in the conference calls and meetings and provide their review and comment on the issues under discussion, including those for decision. Advisors do not serve as official members of the WQGIT. Although consensus will not be sought from advisors, their input will be solicited throughout the decision making process.

OPTION 2: Broad Member and Signatory Consensus* with advisors (up to 15 members and 15 advisors possible)

- Members from each signatory (one each with an alternate identified) (9)
- At-large Members** (up to 6 with option to identify an alternate)
- One advisor*** from each WQGIT Workgroup (invited)
- One advisor from each CBP Advisory Committee (invited)

*Decision-making for the WQGIT will be done by signatory and at-large members through a unanimous or consensus-based process (e.g. all parties can live with the decision) that ultimately concludes in the polling of members to determine the will of the group. **If, after substantial negotiations, consensus cannot be reached within the broader membership, consensus will be sought from the signatory members, particularly on those issues that are deemed time-sensitive by the CBP partnership. In those time-sensitive instances, the WQGIT agenda will clearly note those decisions where consensus will be sought from the signatory members if broader consensus cannot be achieved.** If consensus still cannot be reached at the signatory stage, all WQGIT members will be polled, and the decision will be elevated to the next decision-making body along with a description of the positions of the polled members.

**Criteria for At-Large Membership: In an effort to empower non-signatory partners in the decision-making process, priority for at-large membership will be reserved for nongovernmental organizations, quasi-governmental organizations, Federal Agencies, academic institutions, and other local practitioners that have a role in water quality improvements. Nominations will be accepted from all WQGIT members, advisors, and interested parties, and the selection of the at-large membership will be determined by the signatory WQGIT members with consideration to their level of commitment, skills and perspectives (e.g., geographic diversity and expertise).

***Advisors actively participate in the conference calls and meetings and provide their review and comment on the issues under discussion, including those for decision. Advisors do not serve as official members of the WQGIT. Although consensus will not be sought from advisors, their input will be solicited throughout the decision making process.

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"Be the change you wish to see in the world." - Gandhi