

Note to WG#4  
June 12, 2008

On our May 7 conference call we discussed the need to finalize our two draft documents and to also proceed to gather information on the costs necessary to establish and maintain an online resource library. The TWDB staff has attempted to contact Chris Brown via email and phone, however they have not received any response from him. They have obtained a response from Mary Ann Dickinson, a very extensive 275 page document prepared by the California Urban Water Conservation Council as a report to the US EPA dated December 31, 2005. This report (PDF file attached) recommends the establishment of a new national water efficiency organization. The eight main functions of the alliance are listed on page 69 of the report (note that the page count on the attached PDF file is one page more than the page number on the report so the recommendations are listed on the 70<sup>th</sup> page of the electronic document file). The number one function is to “Create a notional water efficiency clearinghouse and network for program information sharing.”

This report looks to me to be a very good summary of the issues we have suggested and it makes a compelling case for the need to share water efficiency information on a very broad scale. The report notes that they have chosen to use the word “efficiency” instead of “conservation” to convey a much more proactive approach to responsible water use. The one thing that I see missing in their document is the need for an alert system that would advise interested subscribers when new or updated information becomes available.

I recommend that our group look at this report and specifically the following pages:

pages 3-7	Introduction
page 69	Recommendations
pages 70-76	Clearinghouse/Network
pages 14-71	Info re the AWWA’s website <a href="http://www.waterwiser.org">www.waterwiser.org</a>

As we have discussed in our meetings, we might very well want to propose that Texas participate in a national water efficiency organization and that we propose legislation with some funding to organize the government, academic, and private water efficiency information including our Texas BMP Guide within the national framework perhaps linked to our website [www.savetexaswater.org](http://www.savetexaswater.org)

Since we have not been able to make contact with Chris Brown and see if he would join us on a conference call, I don’t see a compelling need to schedule a call before the June 25 WCAC meeting.

And speaking of the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, my brothers have all decided to gather at my mother’s house in Wyoming the last week of June so I will be unable to attend the WCAC meeting. I have checked with my alternate and she is also not available. Can one of the members of our work group do the spokesperson honors at the meeting?