

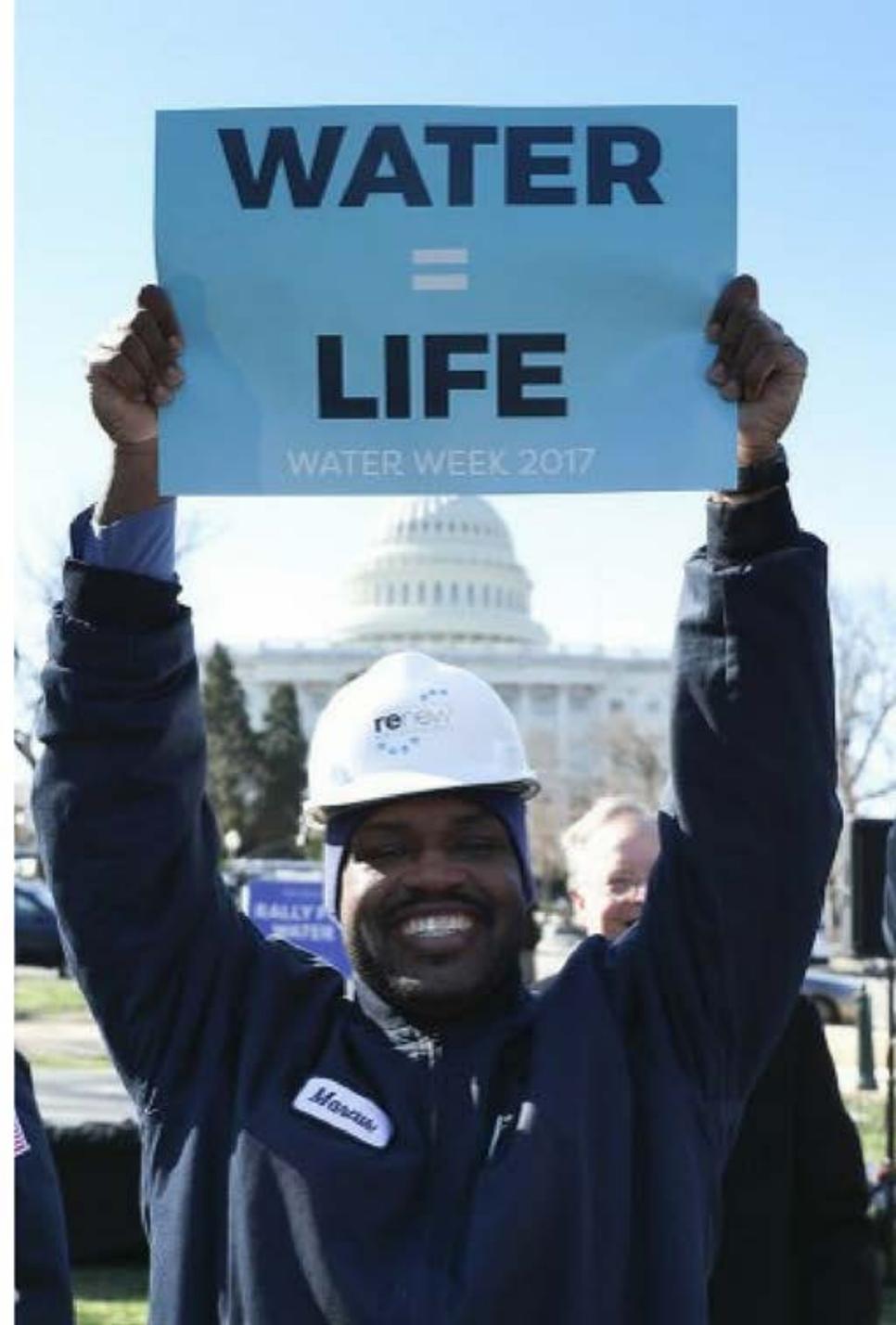
NACWA/WESTCAS COLLABORATION UPDATE & NEXT STEPS

Emily Remmel
Director, Regulatory Affairs
National Association of Clean Water Agencies

Thursday, October 26, 2017

WHO ARE WE?

NACWA works in Washington DC to create a regulatory, legislative, and legal environment that allows clean water agencies and stormwater agencies to innovate and thrive.





COLLABORATION

H.K. GARDNER & H. IBARRA. HOW TO CAPTURE VALUE FROM COLLABORATION, ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE SKEPTICAL ABOUT IT. HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW. MAY 02, 2017.

THE ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOP

25th Annual WESTCAS
Conference

June 22, 2017
San Diego, California



ELEMENTS OF THE WORKSHOP

- 3 Hours
- 5 Topics
- 5 Discussion Leaders
- 35 Minutes to Think Big
- 5 Minute Recap



WORKSHOP TOPICS & LEADERS

Topic 1: Regulatory Improvement, CWA Reform Opportunities

LEADER: JIM KUDLINKSI

Topic 2: Affordability, Funding, & Financing

LEADER: JAYNE STROMMER

Topic 3: Climate Change & Resiliency

LEADER: ADEL HAGEKHALIL

Topic 4: Water Quality & Water Quantity Nexus

LEADER: ERIC SAPIRSTEIN

Topic 5: Utility of the Future & Technology

LEADER: LISA HOLLANDER



Challenges	Solutions
Climate Resiliency	Water Conservation
Drought	Flexibility in regs
Supply	Holistic NEB approach
Weather extremes	Integrated Planning
Flooding	Water Conservation
↑ Temps	Infrastructure Investment
Energy/Water Nexus	Financing Innovation
Fires	Communicate value of H ₂ O
Competing Regs	Regional Planning/Collaboration
Workforce	FOCUSED DIRECTIVES/COAL

- new planning process for water world today.
- direct, treat, discharge antiquated.
- reuse, reuse.....
- Research funding needed - Fed.

- Full cost pricing
- Conservation programs - move cost for less water TX
- Fixed vs variable costs → "full cost" varies
- Flat rate structures → no variable cost → problem
- Can't charge more than it costs to produce → IL
- Raising rates → customers hook up outside area

④ Water Quality/Quantity Nexus

Challenges	Solutions
- Conservation improves supply but decreases quality	- Regulatory flexibility
- Meeting competing goals	- Water Rights flexibility
- Recycle Water and Stream Flow	- Technology advancements
- Downstream Use	- Better research to identify real problems that drive rather than hypothetical/educated risks
- Standards for the safe of range productivity rather than achieving real benefits	- Regs flexibility
- Silo regulatory approaches	- Hazardous waste exemptions for evaporation basins
- Drinking Water v. Wastewater v. Stream	- Designer treatment approaches - match treatment level to the use, at the use
- Brine management	

Challenges	Solutions
- Making Non-Point Sources responsible	- Improved Farm Tax
- Tailwater maintains downstream Uses	- More flexible Water Right Laws
- CWA permits for O&M (404 implementation)	- More streamlined general permits (global v. individual)
- TMDL's effectiveness	- Update approach, more focus on NP source loads
- Climate Change alters natural stream conditions	- Incremental permitting (CA approach for Ag discharges)
- Using CWA to regulate Stream Quantity	- Need financing programs for NP Source Controls
- Separating CWA from Groundwater Controls	- Nutrient trading
- Guidance versus Regulation	- Use GW Management Requirements instead
	- Ensure Regulators don't use guidance to usurp reg

Hydro modification. FLOW,
Not subject to CWA.

Challenges	Solutions
drought	Water Diversification
supply	Flexibility in regs
weather extremes	Holistic NEB approach
flooding	Integrated Planning
↑ Temps	Water Conservation
energy/water nexus	Infrastructure Investment
Fires	Financing Innovation
Competing regs	Communicate value of H2O
workforce	Regional Planning/Collaboration
	FOCUSED DIRECTIVES/GOALS

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30+ PAGES



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THE CONCEPT PAPER

A summary of the **initial discussions** and a start to formulating an advocacy agenda. It is intended to ultimately **evolve** into a more thorough **statement of NACWA's priorities** on arid state and water quantity issues.

Incorporating Arid State &
Water Quantity Priorities in
NACWA's Advocacy Agenda

A CONCEPT PAPER

PRESENTED BY:

NACWA

IN COLLABORATION WITH:



REG IMPROVEMENT & CWA REFORM

MODERNIZE THE CWA

- All discharges of water need to be regulated, not just point sources
- Longer permit terms for permittees
- Allow regulatory flexibility

CONSIDER NET ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT

- Stricter regulations are costly and do not necessarily lead to greater water quality improvement or protection of human health

REDEFINE WOTUS

- Consider the unique hydrology of the arid west (e.g. ephemeral & intermittent streams)
- Consider southeast where groundwater influences surface water

AFFORDABILITY, FUNDING, & FINANCING

ADVOCATE THE "TRUE VALUE" OF WATER

- The water sector must take every step to communicate the true value of water to the greater public

CREATE INNOVATIVE FUNDING OPS

- Federal grant programs are dwindling, states should make every effort to create alternative, innovative funding mechanisms.

SUPPORT AFFORDABILITY LEGISLATION

- "Safe and affordable drinking water fee" on the water sector to help disadvantaged communities
- Ensure not just another fee/tax that raises rates.

CLIMATE CHANGE & RESILIENCY

EMBRACE REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY

- Unpredictable nature of water availability and demand
- Need flexibility that corresponds to seasonal precipitation or immediate water quantity realities

PRIORITIZE INTEGRATED PLANNING

- Mechanism greatly supported by water sector but needs more funding and priority
- Unites core issues (e.g, sustainability, EJ, community, affordability)

INVEST IN WATER STORAGE TECHNIQUES

- Water reuse, recycling, desalination, aquifer injection, subsurface percolation etc.
- Research and technology

WATER QUALITY & WATER QUANTITY NEXUS

PROMOTE WATER REUSE & RECYCLING

- Could reduce withdrawals, increase conservation, and provide avenue for direct potable reuse
- Must find balance between reduced stream flow and downstream users

ELIMINATE WATER SECTOR SILOS

- Promote policies for cross-collaboration by breaking down regulatory barriers of the clean water sector (e.g., wastewater, drinking water, stormwater)

ADVANCE MORE PRACTICABLE WQS & TESTING METHODS

- Often water quality standards are too restrictive for certain parameters (e.g., chloride, sulfate, conductivity) and very costly to remove

UTILITY OF THE FUTURE & TECHNOLOGY

EXPAND REVENUE STREAMS

- Energy generation and resource recovery are a reality with today's advanced technology

FOSTER COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING

- As technology advances, the water sector must have training and educational programs in place to engage employees

UNITE THE WATER SECTOR

- As potable and non-potable reuse gain greater public attraction, there is a need to mitigate regulatory and policy silos.

NACWA LEADERSHIP MEETING

October 24-25, 2017
Salt Lake City, Utah



MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN SLC

- **CWA IS OUTDATED FOR 21ST CENTURY NEEDS**
- **COMMUNITY BENEFITS; NOT ONLY COMPLIANCE**
- **NET ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT**
- **NO FEDERAL AGENCY ADVOCATE**
- **NEED EVERYONE AT THE TABLE**
- **SCIENCE, SCIENCE, SCIENCE!**

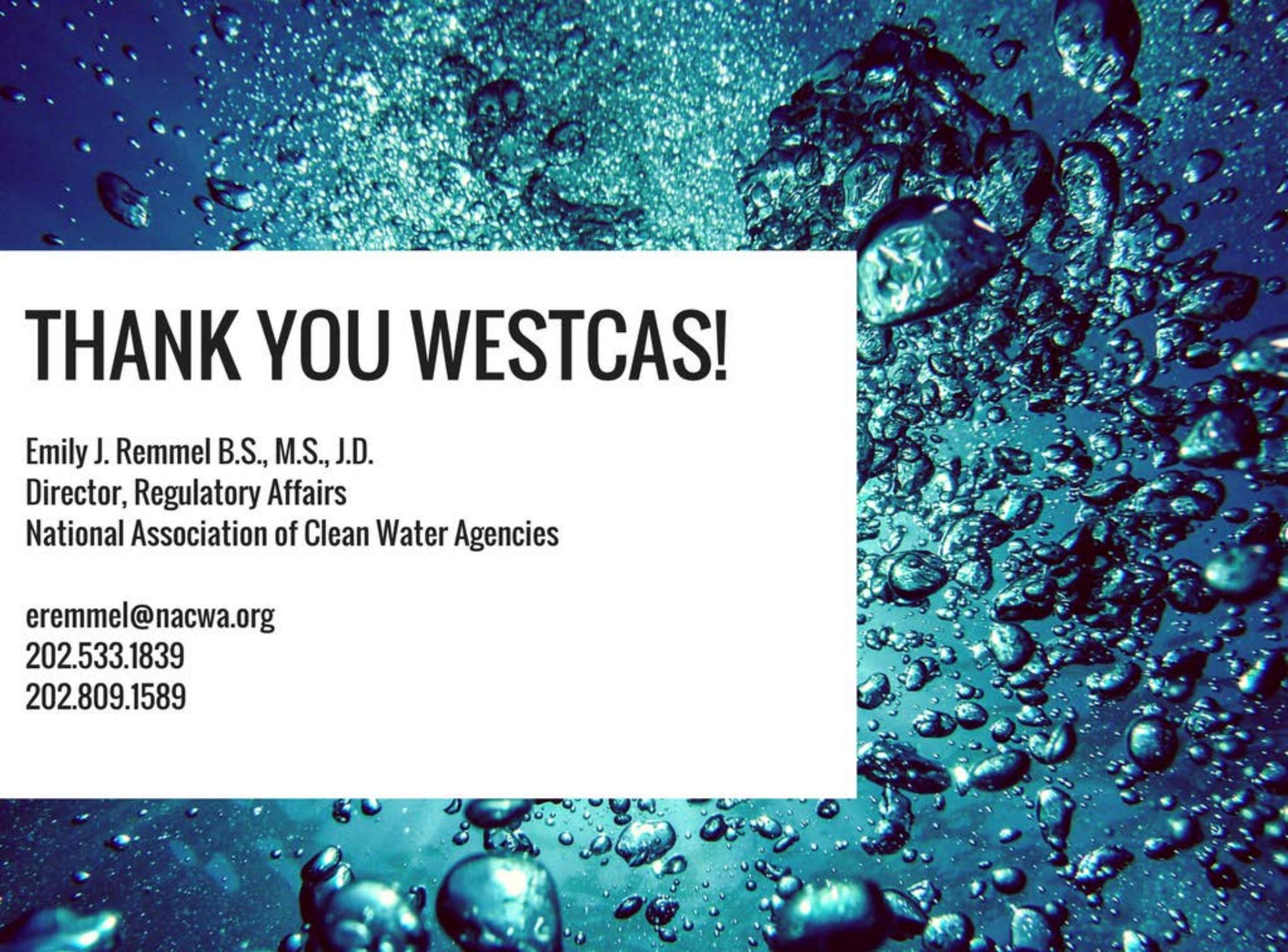
WHAT ELSE?

WHAT DO Y'ALL THINK?

Join the NACWA family. Join the discussion.

**Small and medium sized wastewater &
stormwater utilities serving populations
less than 75,000**

\$750 to \$1,000/year



THANK YOU WESTCAS!

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