



**Good Neighbor Environmental Board (GNEB)
Meeting**

Call-in number 1-866-299-3188; conference code 2022330068

May 20, 2016

MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome and Introductions

Ann-Marie Gantner, Acting GNEB Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Office of Diversity, Advisory Committee Management and Outreach (ODACMO), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Paul Ganster, Chair, GNEB

Ms. Ann-Marie Gantner, Acting GNEB DFO, welcomed the participants and thanked them for attending. She conducted the roll call, and a list of meeting participants is included as Appendix A. Ms. Gantner then introduced Dr. Paul Ganster, GNEB Chair. Dr. Ganster expressed his gratitude to the GNEB members for attending the meeting and for their time and effort in producing the draft elements of the Board's 17th Report to the President and Congress.

Overview of Agenda

Paul Ganster, Chair, GNEB

Dr. Ganster reviewed the meeting agenda, included as Appendix B. He indicated that a general discussion of the structure and message of the Report would be followed by a review of individual sections, led by the workgroup Chairs, during which time the Board members would have an opportunity to provide additional comments. The GNEB then would discuss missing information, case studies and recommendations.

General Comments on the Draft Report

As a guide to the workgroups, in February 2016 Dr. Ganster distributed to the Board members a short document containing a draft title and a narrative that summarized the GNEB's discussions in Brownsville, Texas, in February 2016. The Report will identify what climate effects have occurred to date and are likely to occur in the future, how these changes will affect the human population, and what mitigating or adaptive measures federal agencies might take to help border communities face the climate effects.

Emphasizing the unique problems of the border region with respect to climate change was discussed. Dr. Ganster stated that Chapter 1 covers the effects of worldwide climate change in the border region and the reasons these effects in the border region are distinctive. Dr. Teresa Pohlman suggested that the aspects that make the border region unique, such as the movement of goods and people across the border, could be stated more explicitly. Dr. Ganster requested that Dr. Pohlman provide text on the uniqueness of the border region. Dr. Jeff Payne agreed with enhancing the discussion in Chapter 1 of the reasons that the elements of uniqueness are significant and focusing on their significance in the Executive Summary, which will be the most widely read section of the Report. Mr. Russell Frisbie proposed adding Dr. Ganster's narrative paragraph, which clearly delineates the uniqueness of the border region. Dr. Keith Pezzoli cited the shared watersheds, climate and biomes of the region, paired with a fragmented legal framework, as being unique to the border region. In addition, a drier climate in the future—coupled with more frequent, intense precipitation—will exacerbate soil erosion.

Mr. Stephen Niemeyer stated that the future effects of climate change are projections, not certainties. Dr. Margaret Wilder responded that when citing data on climate change, the Report might include the levels of confidence scientists have in the data, which are provided in such sources as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessment report and *Assessment of Climate Change in the Southwest U.S.* Drs. Payne and Wilder volunteered to revise Chapter 1 to include levels of confidence in climate change projections, rewriting text as necessary. Dr. Pezzoli proposed including a section in the Report that explains the confidence level descriptions.

Dr. Ganster proposed that further general and specific comments on the Report be offered during the review of the draft chapters, and the Board members agreed.

Public Comments

Ms. Gantner called for public comments. No oral or written comments were offered.

Report Out by Workgroup Chairs

Chapter 1 – Climate Issues Along the U.S.-Mexico Border

Jeff Payne, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

Dr. Payne thanked the members of the workgroup for their contributions. Content from the 2015 Advice Letter formed the basis of the chapter, which was updated to include information from the Brownsville meeting and organized by topic, including a general introduction on climate change; climate change projections for the border region; discussions of demographic change and social vulnerability; the significance of the border economy; and an overview of projected effects on water supply and drought, ecosystems, human health, wildfires and coastal regions. The chapter is intended to describe existing conditions, focusing on regional risks and vulnerabilities, in a comprehensive manner and provide context for the Report's recommendations.

The Board members discussed topics that might merit further development in the chapter. The following changes were suggested:

- **Reduced water supply and drought.** Dr. Wilder suggested adding more information about water supply and drought. Mr. Frisbie agreed with the need for greater emphasis on this issue because water risks are a major theme in Chapter 3. Dr. Wilder and Mr. Frisbie will add material to the section "Reduced water supply and drought," possibly incorporating material from Chapter 3.
- **Carbon sequestration by soil and phytomass.** To provide background on the potential role of federal agencies in enhancing atmospheric carbon capture by the soil, Dr. Pezzoli volunteered to draft a discussion of the factors, such as changes in human development and water supply, that might affect carbon sequestration by phytomass (i.e., the portion of biomass that excludes animals) and soil in the border region. Dr. Payne will integrate Dr. Pezzoli's text into Chapter 1.

The overall content and structure of the chapter were discussed. Dr. Wilder noted that consistency is needed among the chapters on the sources of data used (e.g., between Chapter 1 and case studies on human health). In addition, the summary messages that the chapter is intended to convey could be clearer.

Specific changes to the text included Mr. Niemeyer's suggestion to qualify the statement that the border region has a hot, dry climate. He noted that parts of the border region do not have a dry climate.

Chapter 2 – Existing Federal Programs and Resources

Samuel Coleman, Deputy Regional Administrator, EPA Region 6

Mr. Samuel Coleman acknowledged the contributions of the team who contributed to Chapter 2. The purpose of the chapter is to describe existing federal agency programs and resources, as well as provide templates for federal-state agency partnerships. He indicated that outreach efforts by federal agencies currently have overlaps. For two federal agencies, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Department of the Interior (DOI), information has yet to be added that relates the agency's mission to climate change along the border. The chapter also includes specific examples of projects and activities being conducted in the border region by federal agencies to mitigate climate change or develop resiliency.

The GNEB discussed additional information to include in the chapter. Including additional information was suggested on the following topics:

- **DHS.** Dr. Pohlman stated that she could provide information on the mission and climate change resilience activities of DHS.
- **DOI.** Ms. Gantner indicated that Mr. Jonathan Andrew, DOI (not present), will provide information on the mission and climate change resilience activities of DOI.
- **DOE.** Ms. Beverly Mather-Marcus suggested that such efforts as clean energy initiatives by the Department of Energy (DOE) might be relevant to the border region, at least indirectly. Ms. Gantner indicated that she and Mr. Mark Joyce have contacted the DOE representative to the Board for information on DOE's mission and climate change resilience activities. Dr. Pohlman suggested asking DOE for updates on its activities since the publication of the Board's 14th Report on renewable energy development in the border region.
- **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).** Dr. Rebecca Palacios noted that this section is brief, and information could be added about the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) epidemiologic studies related to climate change. Mr. Coleman replied that the workgroup would contact HHS again for more material on the agency's climate change resilience activities, including those of the CDC.
- **State agencies.** Mr. Niemeyer suggested further development of the section on state agencies because many of the states have programs that are parallel with or connected to federal climate change activities. Mr. Coleman replied that the workgroup plans to add examples on binational cooperation, including collaborations between the four U.S. and six Mexican border states. Dr. Ganster noted that the Board provides advice to federal agencies. For example, the GNEB might recommend the formation of federal-state partnerships.
- **Matrix of agency programs.** Dr. Ganster emphasized the need to indicate specifically how each program relates to climate change issues in the border region. A goal of this chapter is to provide information that will help communities in the border region interface with federal programs. He suggested including a matrix of agency programs and associated contact information as an appendix to the Report.
- **Green stormwater management infrastructure.** Ms. Lauren Baldwin noted that EPA had contributed material on green stormwater management infrastructure, which was added to Chapter 3. Some of this information might be more appropriate in Chapter 2. Dr. Ganster commented that Chapter 2 should be as complete as possible, and any duplication among chapters could be addressed when editing the document.

- **Table of agency programs.** Dr. Wilder proposed tabulating each agency’s programs and creating a matrix of climate change areas that each program addresses. Such a table would help identify gaps in current federal efforts.
- **Recommendations.** Mr. Coleman stated that the workgroup determined that the most efficient approach would be to develop recommendations after it finishes gathering information.

The overall content and structure of the chapter were discussed. Dr. Wilder noted that among the sections describing each federal agency, consistency is needed in the writing style and degree of detail included. She suggested that the intent of the chapter could be clearer. For each chapter, considering the question of what the chapter might contribute to the Report could be used to guide workgroup efforts.

Specific changes to the text included Mr. Frisbie’s request to move the information regarding the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) from the section on “Other State Agency’s Efforts” to the section on federal agencies. In addition, Mr. Niemeyer noted that the IBWC’s estimate of the U.S.-Mexico border length is 1,954 miles, not 1,933 miles.

Chapter 3 – Case Studies of U.S.-Mexico Border Environmental Impacts From Climate Risks

Water and Land Use Risks

Lauren Baldwin, Office of Resilience and Sustainability, City of El Paso

Ms. Baldwin stated that the purpose of this section included describing the factors affecting water quality and quantity in the border region. The workgroup also considered effects on endangered species, energy production and aquifer recharge. The subsection on water risks contains a case study of Nogales, Arizona, including recommendations drawn from the case study; the subsection on the energy-water nexus contains recommendations on renewable energy and energy management workshops; and the subsection on changing precipitation patterns and green stormwater infrastructure contains recommendations related to development, green roofs, and green infrastructure worker training programs. Less information was found on land use risks.

The GNEB discussed additional information to include in the Water and Land Use Risks section. Including additional information was suggested on the following topics:

- **Land use risks.** Dr. Pezzoli suggested the IPCC as a source for information about land use changes that might result from climate change.
- **Soil.** Dr. Pezzoli added that soil is a cross-cutting issue that is relevant to water and land use risks.
- **Minute 320.** Mr. Michael Migliori proposed adding a discussion of Minute 320 to Chapter 3. It was pointed out that Minute 320 is discussed in Chapter 2.
- **Restoration of resacas.** Dr. Ganster proposed including a case study on the restoration of resacas in Brownsville.
- **Wetlands and wetlands restoration.** Dr. Wilder suggested addressing this topic (e.g., Colorado Delta, Rio Grande).

Specific changes were discussed. The formatting problem that all of the endnote references appear as the number “1” will be corrected.

Air Risks

Teresa Pohlman, Sustainability and Environmental Programs, DHS

The Air Risks section comprises an introduction and the following case studies: (1) reducing border wait times; (2) promoting renewable energy in border communities; (3) investing in green infrastructure at the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry; and (4) creating resilient communities through energy efficiency, onsite renewable energy systems and energy storage. Dr. Pohlman stated that the section on air risks focuses on transit, trade and travel as they relate to air pollution. EPA and the Department of Transportation (DOT) have performed much work to address air pollution in the border region, particularly air pollution associated with border wait times. DHS has cooperated with DOT on studies of border wait times. Ms. Sylvia Grijalva added that the DOT's efforts also have included U.S. border states, the General Services Administration and the Mexican government. The first goal of the U.S.-Mexico Border 2020 Program is to reduce air pollution.

The GNEB discussed additional information to include in the Air Risks section. Including the following additional information and material was suggested:

- **Photographs.** Ms. Grijalva suggested including photographs with the case studies.
- **Nonmotorized transit.** Dr. Ganster proposed including this topic in the discussion of reconfiguring ports of entry. Ms. Grijalva replied that more information would be added on accommodating pedestrians and bicycles in the reconfiguration of the San Ysidro port of entry.
- **Solar hot water heating.** Dr. Ganster suggested including this topic in the case study on energy resilience of communities.
- **DOT Climate Action Plan.** Ms. Grijalva will add material from this source as relevant.
- **Recommendations.** The workgroup plans to develop recommendations in addition to the one contained in the first Case Study #3.

The overall content and structure of the chapter were discussed. Ms. Grijalva indicated that she and Ms. Jennifer Hass (not present) plan to edit the section further. The workgroup will consider whether to delete or move the case study on creating resilient communities through energy efficiency, onsite renewable energy systems and energy storage (the second Case Study #3). Dr. Pohlman noted that renewable energy development in the border region was the subject of the Board's 14th Report, but Dr. Ganster stated the renewable energy is relevant to improving climate effects in the border region in the long term. Dr. Pohlman suggested reviewing the progress that has been made related to recommendations of the 14th Report. The GNEB's current Report could refer to renewable energy briefly and cite the 14th Report. Dr. Ganster suggested waiting to decide about moving the case study until all of the sections of the Report are complete. Dr. Ganster emphasized that the discussion of the case studies should include how they are related to climate effects in the border region. Ms. Grijalva responded that general editing of the chapter will ensure that the case studies will be related more directly to climate effects.

Community Stability and Vulnerability Risks

Rebecca Palacios, New Mexico State University

Dr. Palacios acknowledged the contributions of the team who developed the section. The section comprises three subsections: health risks, community stability and vulnerable populations.

The GNEB discussed additional information to include in the Community Stability and Vulnerability Risks section. Including the following additional information and material was suggested:

- **Mental health effects of dramatic events.** Dr. Palacios suggested adding material on this topic. Examples of dramatic events include floods, wildfires and displacement of people. Dr. Wilder commented that mental health is an emerging issue, but any material added would need to be related to climate change.
- **Traumatic injuries.** Dr. Palacios suggested adding material on this topic.
- **Exacerbation of chronic injuries.** Dr. Palacios suggested adding material on this topic.
- **Malnutrition.** Dr. Palacios suggested adding material on this topic.
- **Vulnerable populations.** Dr. Palacios indicated that more material is needed on this topic. The information on native communities and climate change was written by Mr. John Parada (not present).
- **New disease vectors.** Dr. Ganster suggested enhancing the discussion of this topic and ensuring that it is updated as new findings emerge. Dr. Ganster noted that this field is changing. For example, mosquitoes that can reproduce in small amounts of standing water are becoming common in the border region.

The overall content and structure of the chapter were discussed. Dr. Palacios suggested that the section might need editing to remove redundancy within the community stability subsection, as well as possible duplication of material in other chapters.

Specific changes to the section were suggested, including the following:

- **Public health chapter.** Arguing that public health risks were out of place in a chapter focusing on air, land and water risks, Dr. Palacios advocated for presenting the material as a separate chapter. Because public health is a cross-cutting theme and of great interest to policy makers, the GNEB agreed with her proposal. Dr. Palacios volunteered to redraft the section as a stand-alone chapter.
- **Chapter on energy and the built environment.** The GNEB discussed whether to create a separate chapter on energy resilience in response to climate risks. Dr. Wilder suggested that the new chapter might address issues of urbanization, food and water security, and vulnerable populations (e.g., tribes). Considering that much of the population in the border region lives in urban areas, Dr. Wilder observed that urban areas are not addressed sufficiently in the current draft of the Report. Dr. Pezzoli proposed a new chapter on energy and the built environment—both urban and rural—that would address the topics of energy resilience and urbanization. An example is the energy savings that might result from promoting sustainable development and public transportation. Dr. Wilder agreed with the importance of sustainable development in addressing climate change, particularly in the border region, which is economically disadvantaged relative to other parts of the country. Dr. Payne commented that water and energy sustainability are tightly linked because the energy infrastructure is the largest user of water resources. He stated that a consistent emphasis on water conservation is needed, rather than a focus on conservation only during droughts. The Board agreed to a proposal from Mr. Joyce to defer a decision on whether to develop a separate chapter on energy and the built environment until the Board receives input from DOE. Mr. Joyce and Ms. Gantner will contact DOE. The Board discussed who could take the lead on the chapter. Dr. Ganster indicated that he would consult with colleagues who specialize in the study of energy in the border region. Dr. Pezzoli volunteered to provide resources on the transportation grid and smart cities.

General Discussion of Chapter 3

The GNEB discussed additional information to include in the chapter. Dr. Wilder suggested adding a summary table of case studies with information on the geographic area covered, sponsoring program and issue addressed.

The overall content and structure of the chapter were discussed. Dr. Pohlman suggested that the chapter as a whole will need to be more cohesive and address a unified purpose. Dr. Ganster noted that all examples, programs and recommendations should relate specifically to climate change in the border region. He also suggested including examples in call-out boxes throughout the chapter. Dr. Wilder recommended that the discussion of climate risks be related to the existing federal programs and resources in Chapter 2, as well as the climate issues described in Chapter 1. She noted that California and the eastern border region were underrepresented by case studies.

Specific changes to the chapter were suggested. Dr. Wilder suggested changing the chapter title to reflect that it contains case studies describing continuing challenges from climate risks.

Discussion of the Draft Report: Recommendations, Missing Information and Case Studies

Recommendations

The Board discussed whether to include recommendations in each chapter or summarize them in a final chapter. An advantage of a separate recommendations chapter is that the reader can refer to it easily. Together with the Executive Summary, such a chapter would be likely to have the broadest interest. Dr. Palacios advocated for including recommendations in the chapter in which supporting data are presented, as well as in a summary chapter. Mr. Joyce observed that recommendations that are part of a narrative might be less clear to readers. Dr. Pohlman proposed also including a summary of the recommendations in the Executive Summary. The Board decided to include recommendations in each chapter and in a separate summary chapter.

The Board considered what types of recommendations would be most useful. Dr. Ganster urged the GNEB not to phrase its recommendations as funding requests. It is more effective to ask for the support of a particular agency to do a particular task that will address a particular problem. Dr. Payne suggested that recommendations be flexible, stating the need and suggesting how a given agency might address the need. Recommendations that will require new resources will need to be included in future budget requests. Because of the complexity of building resilience in the border regions, collaborative efforts among multiple agencies are likely to be required.

Missing Information

Dr. Ganster asked the Board members to consider which pictures, graphs and charts should be included in the Report. EPA's contractor, The Scientific Consulting Group, Inc. (SCG), will ensure that graphics are of sufficient resolution for successful reproduction and that all copyright requirements are met.

Case Studies

Mr. Joyce suggested that the GNEB create a list of material to include in the Report as case studies and sidebars. Mr. Frisbie volunteered to review Chapters 2 and 3 to identify text that is repeated in both chapters and could be placed in a sidebar. The following case studies and sidebars were discussed:

- **Guaranteed releases by Mexico to the Rio Grande.** Mr. Frisbie recalled that Dr. David Eaton (not present) had offered to develop a case study on negotiations between the United States and Mexico regarding guaranteed releases by Mexico to the Rio Grande.
- **Municipal Climate Action Plans.** Dr. Ganster indicated that several municipalities in the border region have established climate action plans. He will develop a case study based on San Diego's Climate Action Plan. The case study will need to be linked to activities that can be undertaken by federal agencies, such as coordinating greenhouse gas reduction goals with federal transportation planning.
- **Resacas.** Mr. Niemeyer agreed to draft a case study on the restoration of resacas in Brownsville. Mr. Joyce will provide contact information for Mr. John Wood and other Brownsville officials to Mr. Niemeyer.
- **Tribal Climate Action Plans.** Mr. Parada will be asked to develop a sidebar or case study on tribal climate action plans.

Additional suggestions for case studies should be provided to Ms. Gantner.

Next Steps

A timeline for the draft Report was developed. The workgroups will need to finish the revisions to their chapters and sections by June 22 and provide their revised drafts—including all pictures, graphs and charts—to Ms. Gantner. Dr. Ganster volunteered to edit the revised draft. He estimated that editing would take 2 to 3 weeks. Dr. Ganster asked the Board members to send him suggestions for restructuring the Report. A review draft will be prepared by SCG. At the end of June, the review draft will be distributed for comment to nonfederal and federal entities. The next meeting of the GNEB is scheduled for August 26. At the meeting, the Board will discuss a near-final draft of the Report. On October 14, the GNEB will meet to decide whether to approve the Report. After approval, no substantive changes will be made. SCG will edit and lay out the Report.

The timing of the transmittal of the Report was discussed relative to the upcoming change in administration. Mr. Joyce indicated that in recent years, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has hosted a meeting in December at which the Report is officially transmitted and to which senior officials representing the federal agencies that will implement the Board's recommendations, as well as the chair of the GNEB, are invited. Printed copies also are made available for distribution in December. Dr. Payne suggested that a new administration might be motivated to respond to recommendations that would result in immediate successes. He expressed concern, however, about potential disruption of communication from the changes in political leadership that will occur in January 2017, including in the leadership of the CEQ. Continuity in planning and effort will optimize the chances for successful implementation of the Board's recommendations, as will keeping the Report concise. A December transmittal also might not be optimal because fiscal year 2017 starts in October. Mr. Coleman replied that a new transition process was established recently that will add rigor to the transfer of briefing documents to the transition team. Mr. Joyce suggested that the Board consider recommendations for near-, mid- and long-term federal activities.

The Board discussed the format for publishing the Report. Dr. Wilder suggested emulating the online presentation of the *Assessment of Climate Change in the Southwest U.S.* and the *National Climate Assessment*. Individual chapters are available for download, and key messages are presented for each chapter. She will send the Web addresses for these reports to Ms. Gantner.

Publicizing the Report was discussed. Dr. Pezzoli suggested presenting the recommendations in a brochure, flyer or video clip. He offered to assign the development of a communications package for the Report as an exercise for the graduate students in a class on scientific communications strategies that he will be teaching during the coming semester. Dr. Payne added that developing a communications strategy to publicize the work of the Board itself would be beneficial. Mr. Joyce stated that under the terms of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), the GNEB is prohibited from lobbying Congress. As a FACA committee, the GNEB provides advice but does not have a role in the implementation of its recommendations. Dr. Pezzoli commented that it is his understanding, however, that as independent entities, the members are permitted to disseminate the Report after its transmittal. Dr. Wilder proposed developing key messages for the Report that could be presented in an accessible, attractive way that would engage the reader. Dr. Ganster will discuss developing a communications plan for the GNEB Report with Mr. Joyce and Ms. Gantner.

Dr. Ganster indicated that he would send a reminder to the Board members via email regarding deadlines and assignments.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m. EDT.

Action Items

- Changes not specific to a particular chapter:
 - Add conditional statements qualifying the degree of confidence associated with cited projections of future climate conditions (Chapter 1—Drs. Jeff Payne and Margaret Wilder).
 - Consider adding a separate chapter or section on energy and the built environment:
 - Consult with representatives from the DOE (Mr. Mark Joyce and Ms. Ann-Marie Gantner).
 - Consult with colleagues specializing in the study of energy in the border region (Dr. Paul Ganster).
 - Provide resources on the transportation grid and smart cities (Dr. Pezzoli).
 - Consider adding material on urbanization.
 - Develop a list of overlapping material between Chapters 2 and 3 that could be presented in sidebars (Mr. Russell Frisbie).
 - Send suggestions for reorganizing the draft to Dr. Paul Ganster.
 - Develop a case study on San Diego's Climate Action Plan (Dr. Paul Ganster).
 - Develop a case study on the restoration of resacas in Brownsville, Texas (Mr. Stephen Niemeyer).
 - Develop a sidebar or case study on tribal climate action plans (Mr. John Parada, not present).
- Notes for the Executive Summary:
 - Emphasize the reasons that the unique characteristics of the border region are significant for climate change effects.
- Changes to Chapter 1:
 - Consider qualifying the statement that the border region has a hot, dry climate.

- Add material to “Reduced water supply and drought,” possibly incorporating material from Chapter 3 (Dr. Margaret Wilder and Mr. Russell Frisbie).
- Draft a paragraph on carbon sequestration by phytomass and soil and provide to Dr. Jeff Payne (Dr. Keith Pezzoli).
- Add Dr. Paul Ganster’s paragraph on the unique characteristics of the border region (alternatively, draft new text on the same topic—Dr. Teresa Pohlman).
- Changes to Chapter 2:
 - Add descriptive text on the mission and climate change resilience activities of the DHS (Dr. Teresa Pohlman).
 - Add descriptive text on the mission and climate change resilience activities of the DOI (Mr. Jonathan Andrew, not present).
 - Add descriptive text on the mission and climate change resilience activities of the DOE.
 - Move the section on the IBWC to become a subsection of the section on federal agencies.
 - Correct the length of the border to 1,954 miles.
 - Move material on green infrastructure for stormwater management from Chapter 3 to Chapter 2.
 - Add a summary table.
 - Contact the HHS for more material on climate change resilience activities, particularly those of the CDC (Mr. Sam Coleman).
- Changes to Chapter 3:
 - Consider changing the title to include a reference to the case studies illustrating continuing challenges from climate risks.
 - Add a summary table of case studies.
- Changes to Chapter 3—Water:
 - Update the endnote reference numbers.
 - Add material on wetlands and wetlands restoration.
 - Consider including a discussion of Minute 320.
 - Develop a case study on negotiations between the United States and Mexico regarding guaranteed releases by Mexico to the Rio Grande (Dr. David Eaton, not present).
- Changes to Chapter 3—Air:
 - Edit the text, including relating the case studies more directly to climate effects (Ms. Sylvia Grijalva and Ms. Jennifer Hass, not present).
 - Consider moving or deleting the second Case Study #3.
 - Add material on reconfiguring the San Ysidro port of entry to better accommodate nonmotorized transit (Ms. Sylvia Grijalva and Ms. Jennifer Hass, not present).
 - Add material on solar hot water heating.
 - Add material on the DOT’s Climate Action Plan (Ms. Sylvia Grijalva).
 - Develop recommendations.
 - Add photographs for the case studies.
 - Review the progress that has been made related to recommendations of the 14th Report.
- Changes to Chapter 3—Community Stability and Health Risks:
 - Redraft this section as a stand-alone chapter (Dr. Rebecca Palacios).
 - Add material on new disease vectors as new findings emerge.
 - Consider moving the material on energy-related risks.
- Material for the appendices:
 - Add a matrix on federal activities.
- Other actions:
 - Provide to Ms. Ann-Marie Gantner the Web addresses for reports to consider as models for the format of the GNEB Report (Dr. Margaret Wilder).

- Send a reminder of deadlines and assignments to the Board members via email (Dr. Paul Ganster).
 - Provide to Ms. Ann-Marie Gantner suggestions for case studies.
 - By June 22, provide pictures, graphs and charts with attribution to Ms. Ann-Marie Gantner.
 - By June 22, provide revised sections to Ms. Ann-Marie Gantner (Workgroup Chairs).
 - Edit the revised draft (Dr. Paul Ganster).
 - Discuss developing a communication plan for the GNEB Report with Mr. Mark Joyce and Ms. Ann-Marie Gantner (Dr. Paul Ganster).
- Next meeting of the GNEB: August 26, 2016, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. EDT.

Appendix A: Meeting Participants

Chair

Paul Ganster, Ph.D.

Director
Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA

Designated Federal Officer

Ann-Marie Gantner

Acting Designated Federal Officer
Good Neighbor Environmental Board
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.

Nonfederal, State, Local and Tribal Members

Lauren Baldwin, LEED-GA

Sustainability Program Specialist
City Manager's Department
Office of Resilience and Sustainability
City of El Paso
El Paso, TX

Rebecca L. Palacios, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Public Health Sciences
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM

Keith Pezzoli, Ph.D.

Teaching Professor, Department of
Communication
Director, Urban Studies and Planning Program
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, CA

Federal Members

Department of Commerce—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Jeff Payne, Ph.D.

Acting Director
Office for Coastal Management
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
Mount Pleasant, SC

Scott D. Storment

Principal
Green Hub Advisors, LLC
San Antonio, TX

Margaret Wilder, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
School of Geography and Development
Center for Latin American Studies
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

Department of Homeland Security

Teresa R. Pohlman, Ph.D., LEED, AP

Executive Director
Sustainability and Environmental Programs
Undersecretary for Management
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C.

Department of Transportation

Sylvia Grijalva
U.S.-Mexico Border Planning Coordinator
Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
Phoenix, AZ

Environmental Protection Agency

Samuel Coleman, P.E.
Deputy Regional Administrator
Region 6
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Dallas, TX

Nonfederal Alternate

Stephen M. Niemeyer, P.E.
Border Affairs Manager and Colonias
Coordinator
Intergovernmental Relations Division
Austin, TX

Federal Alternates

***Department of Commerce—National Oceanic
and Atmospheric Administration***

Michael Migliori
Program Specialist
Stewardship Division
Silver Spring, MD

Department of State

Beverly Mather-Marcus
Energy and Environment Officer
Office of Mexican Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Department of Health and Human Services

Lori Navarrete, M.P.H.
Binational Operations Coordinator
U.S. Section, U.S.-México Border Health
Commission
El Paso, TX

***International Boundary and Water
Commission***

Russell Frisbie
Special Assistant
International Boundary and Water Commission,
U.S. Section
Liaison
Office of Mexican Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office Participants

Region 6

Jenna Manheimer
Region 6
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Dallas, TX

Kevin Shade

Region 6
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Dallas, TX

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Participants

Marta Jordan

Office of International and Tribal Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.

Mark Joyce

Associate Director
Office of Diversity, Advisory Committee
Management and Outreach
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.

Contractor Support

Jennifer Lee, Ph.D.

Science Writer/Editor
The Scientific Consulting Group, Inc.
Gaithersburg, MD

Appendix B: Meeting Agenda



Good Neighbor Environmental Board

Agenda

Friday, May 20, 2016

12:00 – 4:00 p.m. EDT

Call-in: 866-299-3188, conference code: 2022330068

- 12:00 p.m. **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Ann-Marie Gantner**, Acting Designated Federal Officer
Office of Diversity, Advisory Committee Management and Outreach
 - **Paul Ganster**, Chair
Good Neighbor Environmental Board
 - **Board Introductions**
- 12:15 – 12:25 p.m. **Overview of Agenda**
- **Paul Ganster**, Chair
Good Neighbor Environmental Board
- 12:25 – 12:35 p.m. **Public Comments**
- 12:35 – 1:45 p.m. **Report Out by Workgroup Chairs**
- Chapter One – Climate Issues Along the U.S.-Mexico Border: **Jeff Payne**
 - Chapter Two – Existing Federal Programs and Resources: **Sam Coleman**
 - Chapter Three – Case Studies of U.S.-Mexico Border Environmental Impacts From Climate Risks
 - Water and Land Use Risks: **Lauren Baldwin**
 - Air Risks: **Teresa Pohlman**
 - Community Stability and Vulnerability Risks: **Rebecca Palacios**
 - Chapter Four – Recommendations
- 1:45 – 3:45 p.m. **Discussion of the Draft Report**
- Missing Information
 - Case Studies
 - Recommendations
- 3:45 – 4:00 p.m. **Next Steps**
- Missing Information – Assignments, Due Dates
 - Pictures, Graphs, Charts, etc.
 - SCG
 - Next Meeting: Friday, August 26, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. EDT
- 4:00 p.m. **Adjournment**
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These minutes are an accurate description of the matters discussed during this meeting.



Paul Ganster
Chair
Good Neighbor Environmental Board

07/22/2016

Date

The Good Neighbor Environmental Board was created by the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative Act of 1992. The board is responsible for providing advice to the President and Congress on environmental and infrastructure issues and needs within the states contiguous to Mexico. The findings and recommendations of the Board do not represent the views of the Agency, and this document does not represent information approved or disseminated by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Gantner, Ann-Marie

From: Paul Ganster <pganster@mail.sdsu.edu>
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2016 12:53 PM
To: Gantner, Ann-Marie
Subject: Approval of May 20, 2016, Minutes

Hi Ann-Marie,
I have read and approve the minutes of the GNEB's May 20, 2016,
meeting via teleconference.

Best wishes,

Paul

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Dr. Paul Ganster
Chair, Good Neighbor Environmental Board

Director, Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias
Director, Field Stations Program
Associate Director, Office of International Programs
San Diego State University
+1-619-594-5423