



May 18, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Sent via email: [michael.l.connor10.civ@army.mil](mailto:michael.l.connor10.civ@army.mil)

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

We are writing regarding the new Western Water Cooperative Committee, authorized by §8158 of WRDA 2022. We have enclosed appointment letters from most of the western state governors and attorneys general, designating state representatives. Our joint letter from March 21, 2023, is also enclosed.

It has come to our attention that the Army Corps of Engineers has been discussing internally and with members of Congress whether the newly created Committee is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5a USC §§3-4). The provisions under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) regarding state, local, and tribal government input (2 USC § 1534) clearly exempt the Committee from the FACA requirements. Notably, the UMRA applies where: (1) meetings are held exclusively between federal officials and elected state officials, or their designated employees with authority to act on their behalf; and (2) such meetings are solely for the purposes of exchanging views, information, or advice relating to the management or implementation of federal programs established pursuant to public law that explicitly or inherently share intergovernmental responsibilities or administration. However, we understand that the Corps still has Committee funding concerns to address, as Congress directed the Corps to cover travel expenses for the members of the Committee, including per diem in lieu of subsistence (§8158(a)(7)(B)).

The Cooperative Committee is required to meet at least once a year in one of the Western States at a place accessible to the public. We offer our assistance in planning, organizing, and communicating information about this meeting with our members and the state appointees. We see great benefit in meeting in the near future due to the ongoing water supply issues in Western States.

We look forward to working with you and the Corps through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

Karen White  
Executive Director  
Conference of Western Attorneys General

Tony Willardson  
Executive Director  
Western States Water Council

cc: Robyn Colosimo - [robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil](mailto:robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil)



March 21, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Sent via email: [michael.l.connor10.civ@army.mil](mailto:michael.l.connor10.civ@army.mil)

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee  
2022 WRDA Implementation, Docket #COE-2023-0002-0001

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

As part of WRDA 2022, Congress created the Western Water Cooperative Committee (§8158). The purpose is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States [AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, and WY] are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” The membership of the Cooperative Committee includes the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, the Chief of Engineers, two representatives from each Western State appointed by the governor and the attorney general, and one employee from each of the impacted regional offices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

As you know, the Corps owns and operates significant infrastructure in the West and has numerous federal priorities it considers. The Corps’ interpretations and implementation of its priorities sometimes conflict with the States’ water management laws and policies. We are hopeful the Committee will strengthen a spirit of cooperative federalism and practical problem-solving as water management continues to be critical to western states. Ideally, the Committee will provide an opportunity to: (1) facilitate ongoing state-federal communication; and (2) ensure that Corps policies and management of projects are consistent with Congressional intent to defer to Western States on matters of water allocation.

States are in the best position to protect and allow for the orderly and rational allocation and administration of the resource through state laws and regulations that are specific to their individual circumstances. The Conference of Western Attorneys General (CWAG) and Western States Water Council (WSWC) support the preservation of the States’ inherent right to develop, use, control, and distribute water, and supports legislation to require the Corps to comply with substantive and procedural state law as it relates to the States’ surface waters, including natural flows, similar to the Bureau of Reclamation. Nothing in any federal rule, regulation, directive, order, or policy should affect, erode, or interfere with the primacy of state laws relating to water allocation.

Water resources management must be recognized as a critical public policy priority given the importance of the resource to our public health, economy, food security, environment, and western way of life. An integrated, collaborative, and grassroots approach to water resources management is critical to the

efficient and environmentally sound use of our water resources. Rather than attempt to dictate water policy, the federal government should engage States early in meaningful consultation. We support efforts to foster cooperation and collaboration between the federal agencies and States in addressing how to coordinate our respective roles in water resource development and management.

The Cooperative Committee is required to meet at least once a year in one of the Western States at a place accessible to the public. We offer our assistance in planning, organizing, and communicating information about this meeting with our members and their respective state appointees.

We look forward to working with the Corps through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,



Karen White  
Executive Director  
Conference of Western Attorneys General



Tony Willardson  
Executive Director  
Western States Water Council

cc: Robyn Colosimo - [robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil](mailto:robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil)

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001  
907-465-3500



550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1700  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907-269-7450

Governor Mike Dunleavy  
STATE OF ALASKA

May 4, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20314

Re: *Western Water Cooperative Committee*

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Julie Pack, Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative of the State of Alaska to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purposed of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Dunleavy".

Mike Dunleavy  
Governor

cc: Karen White, Executive Director, AG Alliance and Conference of Western Attorneys  
General



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Law

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

1031 West Fourth Avenue, Ste. 200  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Main: (907) 269-5100  
Fax: (907) 276-3697

May 4, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: *Western Water Cooperative Committee*

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Jennifer Currie, Chief Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative of the State of Alaska to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” Water is critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Treg Taylor".

Treg Taylor  
Attorney General

cc: Karen White, Executive Director, AG Alliance & Conference of Western Attorneys General



STATE OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KATIE HOBBS  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 4, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor,

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Tom Buschatzke, Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources, as my designated representative of Arizona to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

Water is a critical priority for Arizona and we look forward to continued work to foster communication between the Corps and Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

Sincerely,

Katie Hobbs  
Governor  
State of Arizona



State of California  
Office of the Attorney General

**ROB BONTA**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 27, 2023

The Honorable Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

RE: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Mr. Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Eric M. Katz, Supervising Deputy Attorney General, as my designated representative of the State of California to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by § 8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rob Bonta".

ROB BONTA  
Attorney General

**PHIL WEISER**  
Attorney General

**NATALIE HANLON LEH**  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

**ERIC R. OLSON**  
Solicitor General

**ERIC T. MEYER**  
Chief Operating Officer



**RALPH L. CARR**  
**COLORADO JUDICIAL CENTER**  
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone (720) 508-6000

**STATE OF COLORADO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW**

**Office of the Attorney General**

May 9, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Scott Steinbrecher, Deputy Attorney General as my designated representative of Colorado to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

Philip J. Weiser  
Attorney General  
State of Colorado



AUSTIN KNUDSEN



STATE OF MONTANA

April 5, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Michael Russell, Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative of Montana to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

Austin Knudsen  
MONTANA ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

215 North Sanders  
PO Box 201401  
Helena, MT 59620-1401

(406) 444-2026  
Contactdoj@mt.gov  
mtdoj.gov



**Jim Pillen**  
Governor

## STATE OF NEBRASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
P.O. Box 94848 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4848  
Phone: (402) 471-2244 • jim.pillen@nebraska.gov

April 6, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Tom Riley, Director of the Department of Natural Resources, as my designated representative for Nebraska to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

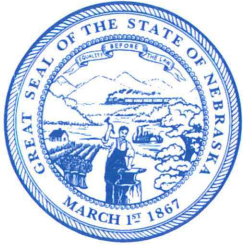
The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Pillen".

Jim Pillen  
Governor of Nebraska



STATE OF NEBRASKA  
**Office of the Attorney General**

2115 STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
LINCOLN, NE 68509-8920  
(402) 471-2682  
TDD (402) 471-2682  
FAX (402) 471-3297 or (402) 471-4725

**MIKE HILGERS**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 10, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Justin D. Lavene, Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative of Nebraska to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MH", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mike Hilgers  
Nebraska Attorney General



AARON D. FORD  
*Attorney General*

CRAIG NEWBY  
*First Assistant Attorney General*

CHRISTINE JONES BRADY  
*Second Assistant Attorney General*

TERESA BENITEZ-  
THOMPSON  
*Chief of Staff*

LESLIE NINO PIRO  
*General Counsel*

HEIDI PARRY STERN  
*Solicitor General*

STATE OF NEVADA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

100 North Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

May 2, 2023

Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Gregory Ott, Chief Deputy Attorney General for Government and Natural Resources as my designated representative of Nevada to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Ford", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Aaron D. Ford  
Attorney General of Nevada



# State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
*Governor*

May 2, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Sydney Lienemann, Deputy Cabinet Secretary for Administration at the New Mexico Environment Department, as my designated representative of New Mexico to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Lujan Grisham".

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



RAÚL TORREZ  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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April 4, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Zachary E. Ogaz, Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative of New Mexico to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RT" or similar initials.

Raul Torrez  
New Mexico Attorney General



May 3, 2023

Mr. Michael L Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

Please accept this letter as the appointment notification of Andrea Travnicsek, Director of Water Resources, as the North Dakota designated representative to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflict between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water rights in North Dakota are a high priority, and we look forward to continuing open dialogue to ensure North Dakota's water rights will be upheld and respected.

Thank you for continuing this process, and we look forward to working with the Army Corps of Engineers on future projects and initiatives as well as other states through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Burgum".

Doug Burgum  
Governor



STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
**OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
www.attorneygeneral.nd.gov  
(701) 328-2210

Drew H. Wrigley  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 21, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Jennifer Verleger, Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative of North Dakota to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Drew H. Wrigley".

Drew H. Wrigley  
Attorney General

Cc: Doug Burgum  
Andrea Travnicek





J. Kevin Stitt  
Office of the Governor  
State of Oklahoma

April 10, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Julie Cunningham, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, as my designated representative of Oklahoma to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Stitt".

J. Kevin Stitt  
Governor, State of Oklahoma



GENTNER DRUMMOND  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 21, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Jennifer Lewis, Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative of Oklahoma to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gentner Drummond".

Gentner Drummond  
Oklahoma Attorney General

cc: Michelle Bushman  
Clive Strong  
Steve Emmen  
Jennifer Lewis



TINA KOTEK  
GOVERNOR

April 11, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Ivan Gall, Deputy Director of Water Management for the Oregon Water Resources Department, as my designated representative of Oregon to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

CC:ZP



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Justice Building  
1162 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301-4096  
Telephone: (503) 378-6002

March 27, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that Oregon is appointing Renee Moulun, Assistant Attorney General, as designated representative of the Oregon Department of Justice to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps “flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States.” Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

LISA M. UDLAND  
Deputy Attorney General



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KRISTI NOEM | GOVERNOR

April 17, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor,

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Eric Gronlund, Program Administrator for Water Rights as my designated representative of South Dakota to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristi Noem", written over a horizontal line.

Kristi Noem  
Governor

CC: Attorney General Marty Jackley  
Secretary Hunter Roberts

*Marty J. Jackley*  
ATTORNEY GENERAL



*Mark W. Barnett*  
CHIEF DEPUTY

*Office of the Attorney General*  
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

March 22, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Civil Chief Deputy Charlie McGuigan as my designated representative of South Dakota to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to working with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Jackley", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marty J. Jackley  
ATTORNEY GENERAL



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

April 17, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

Please be advised that I am making the following appointment to the **Western Water Cooperative Committee** for a term to expire at the pleasure of the Governor:

**Member State Representative:**

Jonathan K. "Jon" Niermann  
Commission Chairman  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, TX 78711-3087  
Phone: 512-239-5505  
Email: jon.niermann@tceq.texas.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg Abbott".

Greg Abbott  
Governor

GA:pv

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE  
2023 APR 20 PM 3:14  
TEXAS COMMISSION  
ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
*Governor*

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
*Lieutenant Governor*

Office of the Governor

April 11, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Teresa Wilhelmsen, State Engineer and Director of the Division of Water Rights, as my designated representative of Utah to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Spencer J. Cox".

Spencer J. Cox  
Governor



STATE OF UTAH  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



SEAN D. REYES  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Spencer E. Austin  
Chief Criminal Deputy

Daniel Burton  
General Counsel

Ric Cantrell  
Chief of Staff

Melissa A. Holyoak  
Solicitor General

Brian L. Tarbet  
Chief Civil Deputy

April 28, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Wendy Crowther as my designated representative of Utah to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. D. Reyes".

Sean D. Reyes  
Utah Attorney General



**Bob Ferguson**  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON**  
**1125 Washington Street SE – PO Box 40100 – Olympia, WA 98504-0100**

May 2, 2023

Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

**Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee Appointment for State of Washington**

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Stephen North, Assistant Attorney General, as my designated representative for the state of Washington to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act. Mr. North's contact information is as follows:

Stephen North, Assistant Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General / Ecology Division  
P.O. Box 40117  
Olympia, WA 98504-0117  
360-586-3509 [stephen.north@atg.wa.gov](mailto:stephen.north@atg.wa.gov)

The purpose of the Western Water Cooperative Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority, and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and the Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

BOB FERGUSON  
Washington State Attorney General

RWF/jlg

cc: Stephen North, Assistant Attorney General, State of Washington



May 3, 2023

Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor,

I am pleased to inform you that I am appointing Wyoming State Engineer Brandon Gebhart as my designated representative for Wyoming to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by §8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that the Army Corps of Engineers', "...flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority for Wyoming and the West and we support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps, Wyoming, and the other Western States regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the Corps of Engineers through the Western Water Cooperative Committee.

Sincerely,

Mark Gordon  
Governor

MG:nr:kh

cc: Senator John Barrasso  
Senator Cynthia Lummis  
Representative Harriet Hageman



# *Office of the Attorney General*

**Governor**  
Mark Gordon

109 State Capitol  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002  
307-777-7886 Telephone  
307-777-3687 Fax

**Chief Deputy Attorney General**  
Ryan Schelhaas

**Attorney General**  
Bridget Hill

April 5, 2023

Mr. Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army (USACE)  
Civil Works Headquarters  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Re: Western Water Cooperative Committee

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

This letter is to inform you that I am appointing Chris Brown as my designated representative from the Wyoming Attorney General's Office to serve on the Western Water Cooperative Committee established by § 8158 of the 2022 Water Resources Development Act.

The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Corps "flood control projects in Western States are operated consistent with congressional directives by identifying opportunities to avoid or minimize conflicts between the operation of the Corps of Engineers projects and water rights and water laws in such States." Water is a critical priority in Wyoming, and I support the effort of this Committee to foster communication between the Corps and all western states regarding our respective roles in the management of water resources.

I look forward to further fostering a good relationship with the Corps through the Committee. If you have any questions regarding this appointment, please contact my office at 307-777-7841.

Regards,

Bridget Hill, Attorney General

CC: Governor Mark Gordon