



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Water Resources Department

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Resources Commission

FROM: Phillip C. Ward, Director

SUBJECT: Water Resources Commission Meeting
Agenda Item N, January 14, 2005

Climate Change Workshop

I. Issue Statement

As outlined in the Department's Sustainability Plan, a panel of experts and stakeholders will join the Commission for a discussion of global warming and its implications for water supplies in Oregon. *This is an informational report only; no Commission action is required.*

II. Background

Over the last decade, global warming has been the center of considerable discussion and investigation. Most agree that a warming trend, if prolonged, will result in profound changes in the climate, including snow pack and precipitation levels. These trends have significant implications for water supply and use in the Northwest.

In January 2004, the Department developed its Sustainability Plan in response to the Governor's Executive Order on Sustainability (EO 03-03). One of the goals identified in the Department's Sustainability Plan is to anticipate the possible effect of global warming on long-term water supplies. To that end, the Commission will host a panel of scientists, representatives from state and local government agencies, and stakeholders to discuss global warming and long-term water supplies in Oregon.

III. Recommendation

This is an informational report. No Commission action is required.

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