

The Water Innovations Alliance was honored to be invited by Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN) of the House Science Committee to provide testimony in regards to his new legislation H.R. 1145: The National Water Research and Development Initiative Act of 2009. It is always a trilling and insightful experience to be able to have an exchange of this kind with our Nation's political leaders. We found both sides of the aisle to be incredibly thoughtful, focused and informed on water technology issues.

First off on the Bill, it is a fantastic first step towards developing realistic and formidable structure to appropriately funding and developing water innovations and technologies and setting up an appropriate federal framework towards real action. . Chairman Gordon is to be hugely commended for his visionary efforts in linking science and technology development to water and the environment in general. Here is a link to his opening remarks:

<http://democrats.science.house.gov/publications/OpeningStatement.aspx?OSID=2690>.

I was joined on the panel by an illustrious grouping of water visionaries:

Dr. Henry Vaux, Jr., UCLA
Dr. Peter Gleick, Pacific Insitute
Ms. Nancy Stoner, NRDC
Ms. Christine Furstoss, GE Water

It was an honor to be on the panel with them. And we are looking forward to finding new ways of collaborating with them in the future. Rather than go into our commentary on their remarks, you can see for yourself here:

http://science.house.gov/publications/hearings_markups_details.aspx?newsid=2365

We certainly urge all our members to support HR 1145 and to engage in a dialog with the Committee and your own Congressional delegation. This is indeed a real opportunity to get the development of new water innovations off the back burner and front and center where it belongs.

We also want to thank the 100 or so of you who answered our call for input into our testimony. Aside from these concise statements we had to submit (linkable from the Science Committee page) we also submitted additional commentary, articles and presentations into the Congressional record from the many emails and calls we received. I want to give special thanks to IBM (www.ibm.com) and Lux Research (www.luxresearchinc.com) for all the information, charts and diagrams they provided.

In the weeks ahead we are going to continue to work with the Committee on this legislation and other efforts. One such action item will be putting together a briefing on water IT on Capitol Hill. We urge you all to provide additional thoughts on areas we can provide extensive learning opportunities for office holders and Congressional staff.

Let me denote now, we also need you all on board as members. In order to develop a coordinated response and ensure that water innovations and technologies remain on the

Congressional agenda and that additional funding is made available for infrastructure projects, corporate development and university R&D, we need you on board as partners. By working with us you will have a voice on Capitol Hill, access to the latest in research developments in water, and the ability to craft the future of water technology and innovations.

We are accepting memberships for the Water Innovations Alliance. Yes, you have the opportunity to be a founding member of our Alliance. We have attached a membership form or you may go to our website <http://www.waterinnovations.org/become.php> Please call Vincent Caprio at 203.733.1949 or e-mail at vince@waterinnovations.org with any membership questions.

In conjunction with our 501c6 Alliance public policy organization, we are also launching a 501c3 Water Innovations Foundation to develop new educational efforts for the water technology and innovations field. One such effort will be a collaboration with the University of Denver College of Engineering and Computer Science on a water innovations leading agenda and curriculum. More on the DU collaboration in a future edition of this newsletter.

Thanks again for all your support and we look forward to hearing more from you in the weeks to come.

F. Mark Modzelewski, Executive Director
Water Innovations Alliance
Cambridge, MA

WATER INNOVATIONS NEWS

Business Insider, Water Research Is Woefully Underfunded:

<http://www.businessinsider.com/water-research-is-woefully-underfunded-2009-3>

Reuters, Clean Water Drives Funding:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/deborahCohen/idUSTRE51M5VC20090224>

Earth Portal, House members weigh 'smart grid' plan:

<http://www.earthportal.org/news/?p=2222>

Water Technology Online, Construction Under Way on Water Tech Center:

http://www.watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71518

Bloomberg, Las Vegas Running Out of Water Means Lights in LA Dimming:

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601082&sid=a_b86mnWn9.w&refer=canada

Boston Globe, Preventing a Water Crisis:

http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2009/03/09/preventing_a_water_crisis/

Hill Heat, 21st Century Water Planning: The Importance of a Coordinated Federal Approach:
<http://www.hillheat.com/events/2009/03/04/21st-century-water-planning-the-importance-of-a-coordinated-federal-approach>
and

Scott Trade, Water Research Agenda In Congress:
<http://research.scottrade.com/public/markets/news/news.asp?docKey=100-063x7910-1§ion=headlines>

Forbes, Fixing the Nations Water Pipes:
http://www.forbes.com/2009/02/24/insituform-water-robotics-technology-breakthroughs_insituform.html

Forbes/AP, Water Rush: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2009/02/11/ap6037639.html>

Water & Wastes Digest, House Committee Discusses Smart Water Grid Plans:
<http://www.wwdmag.com/House-Committee-Discusses-Smart-Water-Grid-Plans-NewsPiece17719>

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If you have any questions, suggestions, or submissions for the newsletter please do not hesitate to contact us at:

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