

## **ESIP Winter 2013 Meeting**

### **Proposed ESIP Energy and Climate WG Sessions**

#### **Session I. Renewables - Dynamic Decision Tools Catalog and Community of Practice**

Teaser:

Prototype demo for Dynamic Decision Tools Catalog and Community of Practice to evaluate environmental impacts with renewables site selection.

Abstract:

One of the challenges Federal agencies face today when reviewing renewable energy related projects (e.g. wind and solar power site selection) is a method to assess risks associated with those projects. Project proponents and NGOs evaluating environmental impacts have similar concerns. Some key challenges facing the users and stakeholders today are transparency of tools in terms of models used and underlying data, and a better understanding of value proposition and potential interoperability among tools.

This session will include a presentation of a prototype, currently under development with support from AWWI, USGS and other organizations, that is intended to demonstrate how ESIP is beginning to address these challenges by (a) providing a dynamic catalog of currently available decision tools, updates, and a preview of forthcoming releases and new offerings, and (b) by establishing a community of practice that involves developers, users and stakeholders in a constructive dialog to enable transparency, interoperability, and further improvements. Ideas for further development and agency involvement will be discussed.

#### **Session II. Energy, Water, and Air Quality in Climate Change Context**

Teaser:

Discussion of global energy and water nexus, and air quality issues in the context of climate change - data and actionable information.

Abstract:

This session will focus on Global energy and Water issues in the context of climate change with views from various government agencies including USGCRP, DOE, DoD, USAID, and World Bank. Specific topics from the national climate assessment will be addressed relating to climate change impact on water and energy - two deeply interrelated resources for sustainability and growth. Water shortage is already evident in many parts of the world, and there is a pent-up need for energy to support the population and economic growth. The competition for water for agriculture vs. energy has already become a major issue; both are needed and sustainability and security planners must contend with trade-offs. Shale gas

drilling has caused concerns about air quality in the regions where well concentrations are high. The challenges relating to the availability of water and energy to serve the needs of growing populations and continue worldwide economic growth, and issues of air quality are likely to be exacerbated by climate change in coming decades.

Presentations in this session will address some of these needs, tradeoffs, and projects being undertaken by various agencies. Our goal in ESIP is to compile data and information on the topic, and serve as a focal point for its members to have access to the relevant data to generate actionable information, and wherever possible facilitate a dialog for generating new information that cuts across agency boundaries and serves unmet needs. To that end, new project ideas will be discussed.