NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Quarterly Business Meeting

June 21, 2023

CALL TO ORDER, SWEARING IN, AND OPENING REMARKS

Ms. Erin McJeon, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the President's National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC), called the June 2023 NIAC Quarterly Business Meeting (QBM) to order. She informed attendees that the NIAC is a Federal advisory committee, governed by the *Federal Advisory Committee Act*. As such, the meeting was open to the public. She noted that the NIAC received no public comments and announced that written comments would be accepted following the procedures outlined in the meeting's Federal Register Notice. She also mentioned that the meeting is going to be recorded. Ms. McJeon asked the members to state their names when speaking, took roll call, and turned the meeting over to the NIAC Chair, Mr. Adebayo Ogunlesi, Global Infrastructure Partners.

Mr. Ogunlesi thanked all those in attendance, especially the Water Security Subcommittee Chair and members for their hard work on their draft report, titled *Preparing United States Critical Infrastructure for Today's Evolving Water Crises*. He announced that the meeting will feature deliberations on the report, an update on the Electrification Subcommittee, and a briefing from the keynote speaker. He then turned the floor over to the NIAC's Vice Chair, Ms. Maria Lehman, GHD.

Ms. Lehman echoed Mr. Ogunlesi and praised the Water Security Subcommittee for their contribution to the draft report. She recognized that there is overlapping work on critical infrastructure coming from different councils within the White House office, which includes the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Management and Budget (OMB). She also noted commonalities among various councils and groups on water delivery systems and highlighted the need to focus on high-level strategies to create better, faster, and cheaper water infrastructure to ensure water safety and security. She wants to implement the best practices to bring innovations to the forefront, expedite the infrastructure progress, and promote consistent collaboration among the councils. Ms. Lehman also expressed excitement to hear about the progress on the Electrification Subcommittee study. She then turned the floor over to Mr. Ogunlesi who invited Ms. Caitlin Durkovich, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Homeland Security Advisor for Resilience and Response, to provide her opening remarks.

Ms. Durkovich welcomed everyone and thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for their comments. She expressed her gratitude to the NIAC and to the Water Security Subcommittee Chair and members for drafting the report. She praised the report for highlighting the critical water infrastructure issues and recognizing the impact of droughts on water sustainability in the Colorado River Basin, which feeds and fuels our nation's economy from California's Central Valley to the Rio Grande. She claimed that sustained draught conditions became the new normal, forcing the country to make tough decisions about where to locate water-intensive manufacturing processes (i.e., semiconductor production) and which crops to grow.

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Ms. Durkovich also pointed out that the declining availability of power generation, irrigation systems, and drinking water impact the way we live and do business. These same pressures motivate the Federal government and private sector entities to become innovative and to protect, reuse, and recycle water more effectively and efficiently. She acknowledged the work of Mr. Michael Lee Connor from the United States (U.S.) Army Civil Works and Ms. Camile Touton from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in securing the nation's access to and use of water. The two agencies have tirelessly worked on moving water across reservoirs while monitoring severe drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin and along the Mississippi River. They have already invested \$30 billion in new projects and security operations to protect the reservoirs' capacity and to build drought resilience in key locations. She mentioned the Mississippi River Project is a direct result of the government's investment, communication, and collaboration with the private sector.

Ms. Durkovich stated that the Biden Administration's priorities include water quality and water affordability. Currently, tens of millions of Americans do not have access to pipe water and over two million Americans live without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation services. She shared that race is the strongest predictor of water and sanitation access and poverty is a key obstacle to water access; in too many communities, basic water access has become increasingly unaffordable. To solve the problem, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimated that over \$600 billion is needed in drinking water infrastructure investments over the next two decades. Ms. Durkovich stated that the \$50 billion pledged by the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA) over five years would address only the most urgent water infrastructure issues and would help to eradicate lead service lines and update aging water infrastructure in the country. Therefore, she called for help from state, local, tribal, and territorial governments as well as private sector and non-governmental organizations and encouraged their collaboration on developing the financial plan to close the gap in funding. She added that this partnership approach would also help to address cybersecurity threats and recent attacks on American water supply and power generation systems. She suggested focusing on physical and cyber-attacks from malicious and non-state actors.

Ms. Durkovich followed up on the NIAC's *Cross-Sector Collaboration Protect Critical Infrastructure: Barriers and Recommendations for Improvement* report from earlier in 2023 and promised to share the feedback obtained from senior members of the government to open a dialogue between the NIAC and the White House on NIAC's recommendations. In the meantime, she shared progress made on the report's recommendations, which includes the following:

1. In the report, the NIAC urged the Federal government to examine forums and processes and develop new ones to promote cross-sector collaboration. Ms. Durkovich shared that there is a strong focus on cybersecurity and cross-sector collaboration, but a lot of work still needs to be done to address physical threats. She noted that the Cyber Safety Review Board evaluated major cyber events and made concrete recommendations to be used across private and public sectors; however, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) must identify existing forms and processes of collaboration on cyber defense with public and private entities to ensure strong and effective cybersecurity across critical infrastructure sectors.

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- 2. The NIAC recommended that the Federal government should engage vulnerable communities in planning and restoration efforts. Ms. Durkovich explained that currently the Federal Emergency Management Agency is working on an inclusive initiative based on equity for disaster recovery and planning. Additionally, the Department of Energy's (DOE) Justice40 Initiative dedicates 40% of certain Federal investment benefits to help disadvantaged communities overburdened by pollution.
- 3. The NIAC recommended enhancing coordination among local, state, tribal, and Federal government entities. Ms. Durkovich stated that the Federal government intends to revisit and update the <u>Presidential Policy Directive (PPD)-21</u> adopted in 2013 to reflect changes in the threat and technological landscape since then. She stated that the goal is to draft the policy by the end of the year with a focus on increasing electrification and digitalization of the present infrastructure ecosystem. The focus would remain on Sector Risk Management Agencies and a national coordination of infrastructure security resources. The National Security Council (NSC) would ensure that the policy is current and provides clear roles for cross-sector collaboration with non-government partners.

Mr. Ogunlesi thanked Ms. Durkovich and the Administration for the feedback on NIAC's recommendations provided in the NIAC's March 2023 report (*Preparing United States Critical Infrastructure for Today's Evolving Water Crises*) and invited Mr. Nitin Natarajan, Deputy Director of CISA, to address the NIAC.

Mr. Natarajan expressed his excitement to hear from the Water Security Subcommittee on the study and from the Electrification Subcommittee on its work. He stated that water and electricity are critical infrastructure sectors that play vital roles in the security of our country. He stated that people in the U.S. can rely on clean water and electricity thanks to the hard work, innovation, and support of water utilities. However, he noted that the decentralized water sector often impairs the water supply system. He added that climate change, contaminated water, decaying and inadequate water infrastructure, and the rapid growth of cities further challenge water security in the country. He cited physical and cyberattacks on water and wastewater systems and cross-sector interdependencies that disrupt water delivery. He noted that although the agreement between the Biden Administration and the states of the Colorado River Basin is a temporary solution, more work needs to be done. He ensured that CISA is dedicated to support and protect the water and wastewater sector and collaborate with water system owners and operators and with state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as other Federal agencies, including the EPA, to reduce the risks. He also noted that the Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Initiative – Water and Wastewater Sector Action Plan equips owners and operators of water utilities with a roadmap for high-impact actions to improve the cybersecurity of their operations. Mr. Natarajan thanked the NIAC Chair and Vice Chair, the Water Security Subcommittee Chair, for their leadership in this effort and Ms. McJeon, in her role as the NIAC DFO, for her contribution to the NIAC's success.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mr. Ogunlesi introduced the keynote speaker, Ms. Christine Harada, Executive Director of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC). Ms. Harada thanked the NIAC members for their dedicated time and service and briefly gave an overview of FPISC. Prior to

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2015, a project developer was responsible for coordinating all the authorizations for a given project, which typically involved multiple agencies' approval. In 2015, Title 41 of the Fixing <u>America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41)</u> established the FPISC to improve the transparency, predictability, and outcomes of the Federal environmental review and authorization process for certain large-scale critical infrastructure projects. Ms. Harada stated that the FPISC is unique because participation in the program is voluntary – it is up to the project developer if they would like the FPISC's assistance.

As Executive Director, Ms. Harada assists the FPISC member agencies in managing a portfolio of nearly \$100 billion large-scale infrastructure projects in the areas of renewable energy, coastal restoration, and electricity transmission projects. She noted that most projects are currently financed by the private industry and only one project has Federal funding. Ms. Harada works with Federal agencies in developing and implementing comprehensive, project-specific timetables for all required infrastructure permitting reviews and authorizations for the program's infrastructure projects, which advances the Biden Administration's infrastructure agenda to rebuild the economy.

Ms. Harada shared that all the FPISC-assisted projects may be publicly viewed by visiting the dashboard on the FPISC's <u>website</u>. On the dashboard, one can find information about the project, where it is located, and which Federal agencies are involved. By making the dashboard public, the projects garner more visibility from government leaders and stakeholders. Ms. Harada also showed the permitting timetable, where participants can view the full schedule of the project. She noted that project developers can join the program at any stage of the project's completion – the project does not have to be in initial stages to participate.

The 19 sectors eligible to apply for the FAST-41 program include the following:

- Renewable energy production
- Conventional energy production
- Electricity transmission
- Surface transportation
- Aviation
- Ports and waterways
- Water resource
- Broadband
- Pipelines
- Manufacturing
- Mining
- Carbon capture
- Semiconductors
- Artificial intelligence and machine learning
- High-performance computing and advanced computer hardware and software
- Quantum information science and technology
- Data storage and data management
- Cybersecurity
- Industrial storage

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In addition, the project must meet the criteria of at least one of the four following categories:

- Objective:
 - Subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Requires investment of \$200 million
 - Ineligible for abbreviated environmental review
- Tribal:
 - Subject to NEPA
 - Sponsored by the tribe and located at least partially on tribal land
 - The \$200 million threshold does not apply
- Discretionary:
 - The \$200 million threshold does not apply
 - The FPISC determines whether the project would benefit from coverage
- Carbon capture:
 - Any system that captures, utilizes, or sequesters carbon dioxide emissions
 - Has the primary purpose of facilitating development of carbon dioxide pipelines
 - There is no NEPA requirement

Ms. Harada stated that the FAST-41 program's structure fundamentally enables project developers to have a seat at the table, where historically developers had experienced surprises in permitting changes or delays. Moreover, permitting timetable modifications now require approval from the Executive Director for date changes of more than 30 days from the original date. In addition, OMB approval is required if a project extension exceeds 150% of the original project timetable length, and Congress must be notified. These regulations combined with participant's access to view the project timetable increases awareness for developers involved. Further, the FPISC statute is very prescriptive and short; it details deadlines around how and when a project developer obtains coverage. If a developer applies for the program, the government has 14 days to deem it eligible for the FPISC program. Then, the government has 60 days to create the project plan. Ms. Harada added that the FPISC has a unique authority to transfer funds and provide financial assistance to state and tribal agencies, which may speed up the typical process.

Ms. Harada addressed common questions about the FAST-41 program. The FAST-41 program works on policy issues, including ensuring sustainable projects are developed that address stakeholders. They also consider litigation risks and policy risks for projects. The FAST-41 program does *not* dictate the outcome of any environmental review or authorization process, reduce engagement with tribes and other stakeholders, prescribe deadlines, modify or set rigid timeframes for NEPA and other processes, and it does not reduce quality of project review. Ms. Harada added if any NIAC members are interested in the FAST-41 program, FPISC wants to know about the project details, as they seek to be of value for project developers. Ms. Harada then opened her discussion up for questions from the NIAC, of which there were none.

FINAL REPORT OF WATER SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Ogunlesi turned the floor over to the Chair of the Water Security Subcommittee, Dr. Norma Jean Mattei, University of New Orleans, who thanked the subcommittee members for their contribution to the report. Dr. Mattei also expressed her appreciation to Ms. McJeon and Ms. Leilani Coates, NIAC Alternate DFO (ADFO), as well as the NIAC staff for their assistance during the report creation process. Lastly, she thanked briefers from Kiewit and the U.S. Society

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on Dams, Army Civil Works, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Salt River Project, California Water Service, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, Rural Water Association of Utah, South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems, Tennessee Valley Authority, Huntsville Utilities, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and various water utility owners and operators.

Dr. Mattei then read the NIAC charge of how the Federal government should help critical infrastructure owners and operators prepare for the evolving water crisis, especially in the Colorado River Basin. She shared that the members spent several weeks debating on the pertinent water security topics to be included in the draft report. Subcommittee members also investigated diverse water infrastructures such as dams, rivers, and water reservoirs and discussed water management from the perspectives of Federal, state, and local governments as well as private water utilities. She concluded that water meant different things to different people. Dr. Mattei and the Water Security Subcommittee members also considered national water prioritization in the light of the evolving water crisis.

Dr. Mattei explained that the report included three sections that focused on critical water infrastructure challenges and recommendations. The first section of the report was dedicated to help water supply utility owners and operators face new challenges of unsustainable water use issues. It concentrated on problems with maintaining water quality, water inequity, and water affordability. It also noted water fragmentation, climate change's impact on water security, workforce challenges including aging workforce and lack of skilled workers. It identified the barriers to innovations and implementations of capabilities and elaborated on emergency management topics. The recommendations section focused on standards of water usage, water quality, removing barriers, and new ways of funding water projects. It discussed investments in innovation in water infrastructure and workforce and national resilience in flood and other waterrelated crises. The second section of the draft report described the mechanisms to mitigate crosssector impacts. The subcommittee looked at all sectors but focused its research on the energy sector, agricultural sector, and transportation sector from the waterways perspective and flood control management. The third section flagged the importance of elevating water national consciousness and the need for water strategy and creation of the Department of Water at a cabinet level since it had been brought up by multiple briefers during the Water Security Subcommittee meetings. She encouraged NIAC members to comment on the draft report today.

UPDATE ON ELECTRIFICATION STUDY

The Chair of the Electrification Subcommittee, Mr. Gil Quiniones, ComEd, reiterated the subcommittee's charge from NSC:

What are the most significant risks to security and resilience of our Nation's infrastructure posed by electrification and what actions should the Federal government and infrastructure owners and operators take to manage those risks.

He explained that the Electrification Subcommittee kicked off its work in March of 2023. The Electrification Subcommittee members are currently in the process of organizing their ideas for the final product to be delivered at the September QBM. The NSC suggested narrowing the focus of the study to five sectors, including: energy, transportation, financial, communications, and manufacturing. The Electrification Subcommittee has already received several briefings,

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including hearing from the perspective of state and regional areas, and learning about electrification growth trends in the transportation sector, supply delivery and use, new technology from the edge of the grid, the government's approach for energy transition (the Office of Science and Technology Policy), and heavy transportation (the Denver Airport and the American Association of Port Authorities). The Electrification Subcommittee is beginning to draft the report. Subcommittee members are specifically considering the impact of the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act, issues around harmonizing Federal and state policy, issues around charging supply and the projection of growth, delivery infrastructure, and end-use digitization.

The subcommittee plans to gain more input from the state level and examine modeling of general electrification that is trending in the U.S. Other aspects the subcommittee plans to address will include standards, supply chain, workforce issues, and creative public-private partnerships. Regarding the timeline, Mr. Quiniones said that drafting will occur until mid-July, and the Electrification Subcommittee will review the draft report at the end of July. They will send the draft to the full NIAC for review in August, and they plan to finalize the draft in late August to meet the product deadline in September. In closing, he thanked the partners in government at DHS and CISA.

COUNCIL DELIBERATION

Mr. Ogunlesi asked if any NIAC members would like to discuss changes to the draft report, *Preparing United States Critical Infrastructure for Today's Evolving Water Crises*. Ms. Durkovich and several NIAC members requested amendments.

Ms. Durkovich asked two questions relating to the draft report. First, she requested the report address which aspects of the State of Israel's successful water system may be applicable to the U.S. water system. Second, she asked about the relationship between the NIAC's proposed Department of Water and the existing EPA. She pointed out that the <u>NIAC's 2016 Water Sector</u> *Resilience: Final Report and Recommendations* already considered creating a Department of Water at a cabinet level.

In response to Ms. Durkovich's first question, Dr. Mattei explained that Israel is a much smaller country than the U.S.; because water is scarce, water issues are prioritized, and the public understands its value and conserves it. In response to Ms. Durkovich's second question, Dr. Mattei stated that the EPA is focused more on water quality enforcement and water as a national resource rather than on water infrastructure. The proposed Department of Water would consolidate water (state, private, local) and water data under one agency, which would allow for better management and coordination of water infrastructure. Dr. Mattei suggested using the Department of Transportation (DOT) as a model for the proposed Department of Water because it manages privately and state-owned entities. Additionally, she cited the gas tax revenue as an example of the DOT's policy to follow in the water sector.

Ms. Durkovich then asked Dr. Mattei whether she implied that the proposed Department of Water should subsume the responsibilities of the EPA. Dr. Mattei denied this, stating that the roles of both entities would be different. Ms. Connie Lau, Hawaiian Electric Industries (Former), explained that Dr. Mattei and the subcommittee looked at water from the perspective of critical

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infrastructure where resilience in delivering water to users is crucial and requires protection from potential cyberattacks, which the EPA does not currently do. She agreed that water in the U.S. is fragmented, and the proposed Department of Water would consolidate it, thus contributing to better water navigation across the country.

Ms. Madhu Beriwal, Innovative Emergency Management Inc., referred to the DOT and DOE's vital role in the economy and suggested that there is not an equal focus on water. She pointed out that no U.S. agency currently tracks and investigates portable water, wastewater, and stormwater on a systemic and comprehensive basis and suggested that the proposed Department of Water do that. Ms. Durkovich proposed incorporating those concepts into the draft report.

Ms. Beverly Scott, Beverly Scott & Associates, also supported the proposed Department of Water since water in the U.S. is fragmented. She referenced the DOT's previous fragmentation issues and noted that since water in the U.S. is managed locally and lacks consolidation, it is challenging to coordinate. Ms. Lau added that the DOE is easier to work with because the DOE consolidates all energy matters and funnels funds under one agency, unlike what we have with water. Ms. Beriwal pointed out that municipally and government-owned water systems significantly differ from the power sector system, which is in general privately owned.

Ms. Lehman agreed that a Department of Water is needed because of the complexity of the U.S. water management system, due to states' water rights and the numerous utility owners and operators. She emphasized the need to standardize the fragmented water infrastructure, suggesting that standardization would provide a bare minimum, elevate water to a higher priority, and allow conversations about water to be more systemic. Further, Ms. Lehman suggested acting on the nation's aquifer health. Dr. Mattei questioned how to bring water aquifers back to sustainable levels and considered water injection and mechanisms to retrieve water from underground aquifers.

Dr. Conrad Vial, Sutter Health, urged the NIAC to include lead pipe removal in the report. He wanted specific language added to the report to draw government attention to the impact lead poisoning disproportionately has on disadvantaged communities. Although causes of and solutions to lead pipe issues are well known, they require more funding to be addressed. He noted a \$45 billion deficit in the water system that is expected to be absorbed by utility providers and customers. He suggested finding a collaborative cross-sector approach to address the funding gap and accelerate the time to eradicate this public hazard.

Dr. Mattei replied that utility companies can use chemical substances to treat lead-poisoned water to make it suitable for drinking, but she agreed that the problem disproportionately affects disadvantaged communities like the ones in Jackson, Mississippi and Flint, Michigan. Dr. Vial said that the utilities' chemical treatment for lead is a temporary fix, like putting a band-aid on an artery wound. He advocated against neglecting the problem until it becomes a public hazard and called for changing people's mindset about how we characterize water problems to gain attention.

Mr. Quiniones recommended weaving cyber and physical risks into the report under the fifth recommendation in the first section of the report, as water security has been targeted for water systems on multiple occasions.

Dr. Sadek Wahba, I Squared Capital, suggested adding the following five points to the report:

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- 1. Water pricing must change depending on the season, system, and state. He noted that the technology, water household subsidies, regressive tax, and smart metering are the alternative ways of discriminating the costs of water.
- 2. Water must be subsidized through agricultural projects more effectively. He cited the subsidized project of Everglades Agriculture Area in Florida which cost taxpayers \$500 million dollars to address damages caused by the sugar industry's massive infrastructure there.
- 3. He said technology and institutions are going to be important elements in managing water resources and conservancy. An increase in efficiency will decrease the water price, but the question of who would pay for that must be addressed in the report.
- 4. The roles and responsibilities of the proposed Department of Water and how it would interact with the EPA in managing water resources must be addressed in the report.
- 5. He suggested adding a point in the report about creating reservoirs capable of storing water through droughts and unpredictable weather.

Regarding the proposed Department of Water, Mr. Natarajan suggested meeting with the EPA's Office of Water and possibly Office of Research and Development to help shape the NIAC's recommendations, especially recognizing any alignments or misalignments in areas like water treatment and infrastructure as well as watersheds. He emphasized the need to include the specifics that NIAC members have been mentioning in the meeting to make the recommendations more actionable.

Mr. Ogunlesi stated that the report is very clear on the gaps between the cost of water and the price people pay for water. Dr. Mattei said that water is local and belongs to the city mayors, thus making it a political issue. Mr. Ogunlesi added that people do not want to pay more for water. Ms. Camille Batiste, Archer Daniels Midland, emphasized the importance of discussing who would pay for the water because some groups can afford it and others cannot. Ms. Beriwal pointed out that pricing water for what it costs would create a hardship for low-income and disadvantaged communities and suggested focusing on leak detection and conservation efforts to preserve water instead.

Mr. Michael Hayford, NCR Corporation, asked if the Water Security Subcommittee considered the possibility for violent outbreaks and fighting over water resources. Mr. Vance Taylor, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, recalled discussing concerns about breakdowns of social norms and civic behavior over water. He said there are very few steps between where we are now and the point of violence. Ms. Durkovich agreed and suggested working on water resilience. She added the NSC is very concerned about the potential outbreaks of violence and pointed out that the Americans view water as a right not as a privilege even when facing water scarcity.

Dr. Wahba claimed that water security is a global issue and has the potential to become a foreign policy asset. He stated that water security ensures geopolitical stability and supported the idea of

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developing a Department of Water for better cooperation. He said the Biden Administration is looking to identify areas of collaboration with China, and this could be an area of collaboration.

Mr. Christopher Wiernicki, American Bureau of Shipping, wondered whether the subcommittee considered incorporating water metrics into companies' environmental, social, and governance (ESG) reports, using environmental carbon dioxide (CO2) reduction as an example. Ms. Beriwal suggested adding that point to the water conservation methods piece in the report.

Due to the extensive amount of input received from the NIAC members during the discussion, Ms. Durkovich decided that the NSC would extend the deadline for the report submission. This would allow for more time to incorporate the ideas brought up during the meeting into the report. She provided an option to deliver the report during an ad-hoc interim meeting in two months or present it for approval during the September NIAC QBM. Ms. McJeon promised to follow up on the subject with the NIAC. Ms. Lehman expressed her strong preference to deliver the report at the ad-hoc interim meeting to include the discussion with the EPA on the creation of the Water Department at a cabinet level.

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Durkovich thanked Dr. Mattei and the Water Security Subcommittee for their work on the report and the rest of the NIAC for their leadership. She reminded everyone that the NIAC will reconvene in person on September 19, 2023, and she is looking forward to the work of the Electrification Subcommittee in the meantime. Lastly, Ms. Durkovich thanked Ms. McJeon for her work planning QBMs and coordinating the work in the background. She also thanked the rest of the CISA team and her own colleagues at the NSC.

Ms. Lehman and Mr. Ogunlesi reiterated Ms. Durkovich's words of thanks to Ms. McJeon and the Water Security Subcommittee. In closing, Ms. Lehman commented on conversations she had with international clients in advanced manufacturing and the critical mineral space that are currently investing in the same industries in the U.S. She added that the IIJA and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) are proving very successful so far, and the European Union (EU) is planning to replicate similar legislation in Europe. Ms. McJeon adjourned the meeting at 3:22 p.m. EST.

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June 21, 2023, NIAC QBM Participants List

NAME

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Mr. Anthony Thomas Dr. Conrad Vial Dr. Sadek Wahba Mr. Christopher Wiernicki

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National Security Council National Security Council National Security Council National Security Council Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

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