



Developing an Army Water Security Strategy

Presented by

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AEPI's Interest in an Army Water Security Strategy

- Outgrowth of AEPI's groundbreaking work on sustainability
- Integrate different analytical perspectives
- Holistic and long-term opportunities
- Actionable recommendations



Army Water Security Strategy: Motivators

Institutional / Training	 Future imbalances between supply and demand Uncertainties concerning future availability, quality, and cost Uncertainties related to climate change and demography 		
	 Renewable energy increases water demands More realistic training scenarios to match deployment water situation 		

	 Vulnerabilities associated with extended use of bottled water 		
Operations	 Use of integrated watershed management 		
	Uncertain duration makes optimal choice for water delivery less clear		
	Complex interagency and international coordination requirements		
	 Integration of Army civil works expertise 		

- Spatial and temporal risk associated with embedded water
- Use Army market power to increase sustainability of suppliers

Supply Chain



Linkages with Leadership Initiatives





Marstel-Day's Methods





The capacity to ensure that water of suitable quality is provided at a sustained rate sufficient to support all current and future Army missions as needed. Army water security should

- include deliberate efforts to minimize direct costs
- minimize associated energy and transportation costs
- mitigate occupational and combat-related risks
- avoid damage to the environment (at home and in host nations)
- ensure long-term, sustainable access
- engage other users of shared water resources to plan for future water needs





Water Resource Vulnerabilities in Army Overseas Operations





Intersection with Other Resources



Energy / Power Generation

- Water intensive: Fuel production (conventional, renewable, biofuels) and power generation
- Energy intensive: Pumping, treating, and transporting water; desalinization



Agriculture/Environment/Ecosystem Services Resources

- Increased competition: Agriculture and local communities needs
- Water quality concerns: on and off the installation
- **Changing water patterns**: Impacts on raw water source, T&E habitats; challenges to and imperative for preservation of natural infrastructure



- Policy is compliance-driven; i.e., how to treat water entering and being discharged from an installation
- Little focus on quality, volume, and sustainability of offbase or shared water sources
- Long-term water projections not used
 - Base Realignment and Closure
 - Stationing
- Embedded water in supply chain; not identified as policy, security, or procurement issues
- Water supply in operations more coordinated and focused



Initial Key Insights: Institutional

- A unified water management program at the Secretariat and installation levels is needed
- Protecting Army water rights is vital
- Quality and type of information collected is questioned
- Municipal utility model may offer approach to comprehensive coordination, planning, management
- Attention to infrastructure tends to be reactive; longterm investment a challenge



Initial Key Insights: Institutional (2)

- Privatization can provide compelling savings and investments in infrastructure, but security issues
- Conservation planning done for compliance; longterm water security planning, as broadly defined here, is not included
- Conservation may not result in water security
- Water security issues not factored into land conservation programs
- Among installation, more action is taken where the water security problems are more severe



Initial Key Insights: Operational

- Institutions, organizations, personnel, and processes dedicated to improving solutions for meeting warfighter water needs
- Key concerns remain
 - Operator skill
 - Packaging and treatment technologies
- Rebuilding and sustaining Army skill sets in key capabilities is necessary
 - Civil engineering design (not just assembly)
 - Well drilling
 - Master planning
 - Integrated water resources management regionally



Initial Key Insights: Operational (2)

- Split Warrant Officer responsibilities into energy and water
- Diverse perspectives on bottled water; requires a hybrid solution
 - Proponents—benefits of soldier hydration; transportability
 - Opponents—focus on waste, life cycle cost, and operational vulnerabilities
- Best practices for contingency bases
 - Siting and planning access to local water sources
 - Leadership preparation (e.g. "Mayoral Cell" concept)
 - High sensitivity to host nation community perceptions / needs





- Translating the key findings into goals and objectives in a draft strategy document
- Circulating draft strategy for review
- Hosting review workshop in summer timeframe
- Finalizing and publishing strategy in fall timeframe



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Questions