

Presidential Transition 2000: List of Geoscience-Related Federal Appointments

The new administration that takes office this coming January, Republican or Democrat, will seek to fill a wide range of politically appointed positions in the executive branch. Many of those positions deal with issues important to geoscientists. Indeed, many positions could be filled by qualified geoscientists. AGI encourages its member societies to use this list to identify positions that are important to them and to propose qualified individuals to the presidential transition team.

This list includes positions ranging from Cabinet level to personal assistants found in many different departments and independent agencies as well as the Executive Office of the President. There are three major types of appointed positions:

Presidential Appointments requiring Senate confirmation (★) These positions require approval by the appropriate Senate committee with jurisdiction over that particular sector of the federal government (e.g. the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee would have oversight on the Assistant to the President for Science & Technology Policy). Most high-ranking positions in both departments and independent agencies are this type of appointment.

Schedule C Appointment (□) These positions are appointed under Schedule C of the civil service rules, meaning that these positions are appointed by the agency head. Many of the support and technical positions within an office are filled by people in this group, such as the Senior Policy Advisor for Environmental Affairs at the Department of Energy and the Special Assistant to the NOAA Administrator.

Non-Career Senior Executive Service Appointment (○) These appointment are top-level executive, policy-making, managerial, and supervisory positions that do not fall under the general civil service hierarchy, such as the Associate Chief for Natural Resources at the Forest Service. Senior Executive Service (SES) appointments do not require congressional oversight but do require approval by the Office of Personal Management.

In addition to the appointed positions listed here, there are several regular civil service positions that are likely to turn over in a new administration. For example, the Minerals Management Service Director is indicated as a career SES but typically this position has been filled by a political appointee. As you look over the list below, please let us know if you are aware of any other positions that are *de facto* appointments.

This list was compiled by Margaret Baker, AGI Government Affairs Program, from the *Federal Yellow Book* (Online Edition) and other sources. Please direct any questions to mab@agiweb.org or 703-379-2480 ext. 212.

Position	Current Officeholder
Executive Office of the President	
<i>Office of Science and Technology Policy</i>	
★ Assistant to the President for Science & Technology Policy	Neal Lane
○ Chief of Staff	Holly Gwin
★ Associate Director for Environment	Rosina Bierbaum
○ Deputy to the Associate Director	Clifford Gabriel
★ Associate Director for Science	Arthur Bienenstock
□ Confidential Assistant	Elizabeth Gregory
<i>Council on Environmental Quality</i>	
★ Chair, Council on Environmental Quality	George Frampton
□ Special Assistant to Chair of CEQ	Nancy Marlow
□ Associate Director for Toxics & Environmental Protection	Gabrielle Tenzer
★ Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Initiatives	Roger Ballentine
<i>Office of Management and Budget</i>	
○ Associate Director of Natural Resources, Energy & Science	Wesley Warren
□ Confidential Assistant	Evangeline DeShields
Department of Agriculture	
★ Under Secretary of Natural Resources & Environment	James Lyons
□ Executive Assistant	Margaret Wetherald
□ Deputy Undersecretary for Conservation	Glenda Humiston
<i>Forest Service</i>	
○ Associate Chief for Natural Resources	Hilda Diaz-Soltero
<i>Natural Resources Conservation Service</i>	
○ Associate Chief	Danny Sells
Department of Commerce	
<i>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</i>	
★ Under Secretary of Oceans & Atmosphere/Administrator	James Baker
○ Counselor to the Under Secretary	Susan Fruchter
□ Special Assistant to the Under Secretary	Dana Palmer
★ Asst. Secretary/Dep Administrator for Oceans & Atmosphere	Vacant
○ Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans & Atmosphere	Sally Yozell
★ Chief Scientists	vacant
□ Director, Office of Public and Constituent Affairs	Barbara Semedo
○ Director, Office of Legislative Affairs	Brian Wheeler
○ Director, Policy and Strategic Planning	Susan Fruchter
<i>National Ocean Service</i>	
○ Director of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management	Jeffrey Benoit
Department of Defense	
<i>Defense Research and Engineering</i>	
★ Director for Defense Research & Engineering	Hans Mark
□ Confidential Assistant	Dede Anderson
<i>Office of Acquisition, Technology & Logistics; Environmental Security</i>	
○ Deputy Under Secretary	Sherri Goodman
○ Environmental Cleanup Asst Deputy Under Secretary	Karla Perri
<i>Navy Research, Development and Acquisition</i>	
★ Assistant Secretary	Herbert Lee Buchanan

Position	Current Officeholder
Department of Energy	
★ Secretary of Energy	Bill Richardson
□ Senior Policy Advisor for Electricity & Energy Efficiency	Richard Glick
□ Senior Policy Advisor for Environmental Affairs	Ellen Livingston-Behan
○ Director, Office of Policy	Melanie Kinderdine
★ Assistant Secretary for International Affairs	David L. Goldwyn
□ Chief of Staff	Matt Willis
□ Senior Advisor	Teresa Beeman
★ Deputy Secretary	T. J. Glauthier
★ Asst Secretary for Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	Dan Reicher
□ Chief of Staff	Brian Castelli
□ Principle Deputy Assistant Secretary	David Leiter
□ Special Assistant	Gregory Kats
★ Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy	vacant
□ Executive Officer	Gerald Reed
□ Senior Staff Assistant	Kristin Thorn
<i>Natural Gas & Petroleum Technology</i>	
○ Deputy Assistant Secretary	Emil Pena
□ Special Assistant for Deputy Assistant Secretary	Marti Thomas
★ Under Secretary for Energy, Science and Environment	Ernest Muniz
★ Director, Office of Science	Mildred S. Dresselhaus
□ Special Assistant	Robert Sevigny
□ Staff Assistant	Stuart Goldstein
□ Assistant Director for Comms & Science Education	Samual Rodriguez
□ Special Assistant	Lourdes Tinajero
★ Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management	Carolyn Huntoon
□ Special Assistant	Matt Nerzig
<i>Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management</i>	
★ Director	Ivan Itkins
<i>Energy Information Administration</i>	
★ Administrator	vacant
Department of the Interior	
★ Secretary of the Interior	Bruce Babbitt
□ Special Assistant	Elizabeth Johnson
□ Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff	Katherine Lapin
□ Assistant to the Secretary for Alaska	Marilyn Heiman
□ Special Assistant to the External Affairs Director	Suzanna Hubbell
★ Deputy Secretary	David Hayes
★ Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Jamie Rappaport Clark
<i>National Park Service</i>	
○ Deputy Director	Denis Galvin
★ Assistant Secretary for Lands and Mineral Management	Sylvia Baca
□ Special Assistant	David Alberwerth
<i>Bureau of Land Management</i>	
★ Director of the Bureau of Land Management	Thomas Fry
□ Special Assistant	Gregory Evans
□ Special Assistant	Denise Ryan

Position	Current Officeholder
<i>Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Chief of Staff □ Special Assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katherine Henry Margy White Richard Fiesta
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Assistant Secretary for Water and Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Counselor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Doyle David Cottingham
<i>US Geological Survey</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Director 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charles "Chip" Groat
<i>Bureau of Reclamation</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Commissioner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Special Assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eluid Martinez Christopher Thompson
Department of State	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Assistant Secretary for Oceans, International Environment & Scientific Affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Sandalow
Environmental Protection Agency	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Administrator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Chief of Staff ★ Assistant Admin. for Administration & Resource Management ★ Assistant Admin. for Air and Radiation ★ Assistant Admin. for Research and Development ★ Assistant Admin. for Solid Waste and Emergency Response ★ Assistant Admin. for Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deputy Assistant Admin. ○ Deputy Assistant Admin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carol Browner Reid Wilson Romulo Diaz Robert Perciasepe Norine Noonan Timothy Fields Charles Fox Dana Minerva Diane Regas
Federal Emergency Management Agency	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Director of FEMA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Executive Assistant ★ Deputy Director ★ Inspector General ★ Associate Director for Mitigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> James Lee Witt Michael Coen vacant George Opfer Michael Armstrong
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Director 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Goldin
National Science Foundation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Deputy Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Head of the Polar Research Support Section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rita Colwell Joseph Bordogna Erick Chiang
<i>National Science Board</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Chair and Members of the National Science Board (fixed terms) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> several
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Chair and Commissioners (fixed terms) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> several