

Session Title: Impact of Climate Change Countermeasures on Civilization

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Abstract Title: Water, Energy, and Climate

As the world grapples with efforts to both mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to now unavoidable climate changes, smarter water technologies and strategies offer an opportunity to do both. A sustainable future requires that we rethink freshwater management and use, moving to alternative supply options like advanced treatment and reuse, improved water-use efficiency and productivity policies and technologies, and smarter economics and institutions. The good news is that because substantial amounts of energy (and hence greenhouse gases) are required to run our water systems, there are great opportunities to both improve water systems and reduce carbon emissions. Water-efficiency measures save water and energy. Leak detection and elimination programs save water and energy. New energy recovery systems for wastewater and desalination save energy. This talk will summarize recent advances in these areas.