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Dear Paul, Howie and Dave,

On behalf of the steering committee, I am pleased to submit to you a report on the Post-ESH workshop, held on March 29 and 30, 2007 at the American Geophysical Union. The goal of this workshop was to highlight the important role paleoclimate research can play in improving our understanding of the climate system and reduce the uncertainties in predictions of future climate perturbations caused by rapidly increasing greenhouse gas concentrations.

The workshop was attended by a diverse group of forty scientists engaged in the many sub-disciplines of paleoclimate research now supported by the Geosciences Directorate. The report was produced by the steering committee with the help of workshop participants. It has been reviewed extensively by the members of steering committee and further opportunity for review was provided to all workshop participants. It is a consensus report with the broad support of the paleoclimate community.

In the report you will find:

- A description of the research, a series of five thematic lines of inquiry, each linked to the strategic research questions identified by the US Climate Change Science Program Element on "Climate Variability and Change";

- An appendix (for your reference) which lists the Strategic Research Questions of the US CCSP Program Element on "Climate Variability and Change";
- Several appendices listing the members of the steering committee, the workshop participants, and the agenda which guided the discussions during the meeting.

Paleoclimate research provides unique contributions to our understanding of Earth's climate system and the likely future effects of rising greenhouse gas concentrations. We hope that this report and the recent External Review of the ESH program provide you with the advice you need to develop a new, effective and focused program to continue this important research.

Please let us know if there is anything more we can do to help.

With best regards,

William B. Curry