

Andrea Gyger

From: Al Kolwicz [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 28, 2013 7:41 PM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Subject: Colorado Voter Group Response #1 to SOS request.
Attachments: 2013 Rules - Colorado Voter Group Response .pdf

Please find attached our initial response to your request for comments on the draft rules.

Al Kolwicz

Colorado Voter Group

<http://www.ColoradoVoterGroup.org>

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July 28, 2013

Dear Secretary of State Gessler and Deputy Secretary Staiert,

Thank you for your July 26th invitation to share our thoughts and recommendations as you re-codify the Rules.

We applaud your taking the initiative to reach out to the public to learn our suggestions and concerns before you submit a draft rule to the rulemaking process.

Since this is a somewhat unique undertaking, we are immediately anxious to read and learn about the project governance mechanisms that will be used for this project. We particularly want to verify that you will:

1. create an administrative structure that invests significant decision-making authority in non-government stakeholders
2. create a document standard defining the scope of the rules and acceptable revisions
3. publish and maintain a detailed schedule of tasks and deliverables, both planned and actual
4. define required documentation including daily reports
5. promptly publish all project materials including public input and project documents including intermediate work products and drafts under consideration
6. require written determinations of all public input including who made the determination and why
7. define management process for ongoing conflict identification and resolution that includes full-duplex discussion and debate (both oral and written)
8. create a mechanism for participants to communicate with each other -- it would be helpful if the project initiates and administers a web-based discussion group

You have initiated a massive undertaking that will take considerable time and effort. Before proceeding, a few key areas need to be addressed. To proceed before completing the following will most certainly impede future progress.

1. An up-to-date copy of the Colorado Statutes, including all titles that relate to any aspect of the election system.
2. An agreed to functional diagram of the system. The current rules are based on informally identified functions and relationships.
3. An agreed to set of precise definitions. The draft set in the draft Rule 1.1 is incomplete, lacking precise definitions for such key terms as "cast", "ballots counted", "votes counted", and differentiation between key terms such as "elector" and "voter".

We might study the staff-draft rules and could have might make many recommendations. This assumes that the governance structure indicates that our efforts will not be rewarded by: non-response, arbitrary rejection, and no opportunity for discussion and debate.

We are looking forward to your response to these sugestons.

Al Kolwicz

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