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October 20, 2015

On October 20, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to consider the nomination of Dr. Suzette M. Kimball to be Director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Dr. Kimball joined the USGS in 1998 and has held multiple important positions throughout her time at the agency, ranging from Regional Executive for Biology to Associate Director for Geology.

Dr. Kimball has served as the Acting Director of the USGS for the past two years. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee unanimously approved Dr. Kimball's nomination last year; however her confirmation was never brought to a vote by the full Senate.

The Committee now has an opportunity to submit questions to Dr. Kimball for the record. It will then schedule another business meeting to vote on sending the nomination to the Senate for full approval.

Sources: senate.gov, americangeosciences.org, eos.org