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Saclay, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2017

To: Dean Williams

**Subject: Letter of support to the 2017 DOE ESGF proposal**

With this letter, I express strong support to the Earth System Grid Federation DOE proposal. I express this interest as coordinator of the Infrastructure for the European Network for Earth System modelling (ENES), IS-ENES, as Chair of ENES and on behalf of its Data Task Force.

ESGF plays an essential role to support the data distribution of model output from the World Climate Research Program (WCRP) international coordinated experiments (CMIP). This has been successfully demonstrated within the 5<sup>th</sup> phase of CMIP (CMIP5) and will be essential for the upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> phase with a very large amount of data (over 20 PB) expected in 2017-2019. The European community supported by the IS-ENES first and second phase projects (2009-2017), has been very proactive in supporting ESGF development in collaboration with DOE, co-leading about half of its working teams. We do plan to continue this strong collaboration for CMIP6 with both national and European supports. Indeed, we are preparing a third phase IS-ENES project and benefit from support from the Copernicus Climate Change program.

The role of DOE is essential in leading the overall ESGF process and would not work without its strong support. The whole CMIP process, led by the Working Group on Coupled Models and its Infrastructure panel (WIP), is counting on ESGF. Thanks to the international governance put in place in 2015, ESGF is organised to face the big data challenge of CMIP6 and to interface with the scientific community through the WIP.

With my colleagues from the ENES Data Task Force, we strongly support this ESGF proposal and do count to continue our strong collaboration for the benefit of climate science and its essential support to climate policy.

Yours faithfully,



Sylvie Joussaume  
Coordinator of IS-ENES and on behalf of the ENES Data Task Force