

NATIONAL COTTON COUNCIL 2021 ANNUAL MEETING GOES VIRTUAL

Wednesday, November 10, 2020 By National Cotton Council

The National Cotton Council (NCC) recently announced that the 2021 Annual Meeting will be conducted in a virtual format to minimize risks to industry members due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The NCC staff is working to develop a schedule and will distribute along with a calendar meeting notifications soon. At this time, they anticipate the committee meetings will take place during the weeks of **January 25, 2021 and February 1, 2021**. For the Board and General Session meetings, continue to hold the dates of **February 11-12**.

For more information or direct questions, you can email info@cotton.org.

U.S. COTTON TRUST PROTOCOL JOINS THE COTTON 2040'S PLATFORM & SUSTAINABILITY GUIDE

Monday, November 9, 2020 By National Cotton Council

The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol has been invited to join Cotton 2040.

Convened by sustainability non-profit Forum for the Future, the Cotton 2040 coalition is a unique partnership that brings together representatives from standards, producers, brands and retailers, and existing industry initiatives specifically to build on and accelerate collective action to scale up and overcome barriers to sustainable cotton uptake across multiple standards.

The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol is a new system for responsibly-grown cotton that provides annual data for six areas of sustainability aligned with the U.N. Sustainability Goals. This year-over-year data, available for the first time, allows brands and retailers to better measure progress towards meeting sustainability commitments.

The Trust Protocol also will be included in Cotton 2040's CottonUP guide (<http://cottonupguide.org>), a toolkit to help sourcing directors make sustainable decisions. The CottonUP guide to sourcing sustainable cotton seeks to address one of the main barriers for companies looking to start sourcing or increase the amount of sustainable cotton they source: the time and resource required to research and implement the most appropriate sourcing approach for their organization's sustainability priorities. The guide highlights the business case and main sourcing options for sustainable cotton, provides guidance on creating a sourcing strategy and on working with suppliers, and shares case studies from companies that have already navigated the complex challenges of sourcing more sustainable cotton.

"We are pleased to see the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol recognized by Cotton 2040 and listed on their CottonUp guide," said Dr. Gary Adams, president of the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol. "The Trust Protocol is a unique tool for brands and retailers, and we will continue to partner with them in their efforts to demonstrate progress toward sustainability goals."

"The apparel sector is under huge pressure to reduce its social and environmental impact and increasing demand for more sustainable fibers is key to securing future supply. The CottonUP guide addresses a long-standing need in the industry for clarity around cotton sourcing options, providing brands and retailers with the resources to help them go further, faster. It can be a key enabler for systemic change in the industry and could be a blueprint for other commodities in the future," said Sally Uren, CEO at Forum for the Future. "We're happy to include the Trust Protocol as a new sustainability standard."

Cotton 2040's interactive CottonUp guide recognizes the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol as a sustainable cotton standard alongside BCI, CmiA, Fairtrade, myBMP, Organic and recycled cotton. The CottonUp toolkit is a comprehensive guide to help stakeholders within the cotton sector to navigate the complexity, and better understand the major sustainable cotton standards they could adopt, how they work, and select the best options for their business. Facilitated by sustainability non-profit Forum for the Future, with funding support from the Laudes Foundation, the Cotton 2040 envisages a sustainable global cotton industry which is resilient in a changing climate; uses business models that support sustainable production and livelihoods, and where sustainably-produced cotton is the norm.

Cotton 2040 is a pre-competitive multi-stakeholder initiative which exists to support the shift to a sustainable global cotton industry, Cotton 2040 aims to accelerate progress and maximise the impact of existing sustainability initiatives across the global cotton industry, by bringing together leading international brands and retailers, sustainable cotton standards, existing industry initiatives and other stakeholders across the value chain.

The CottonUP Guide is a practical resource to inform and guide business leaders and sourcing teams on the issues, benefits and options for sourcing more sustainable cotton. The guide has been produced through the Cotton 2040 initiative, a multi-stakeholder initiative to significantly increase the use of sustainable cotton internationally.

HPWD SCHEDULES PUBLIC HEARING – NOV. 24TH

Friday, November 13, 2020

By HPWD

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) Board of Directors have scheduled a public hearing to receive comments on proposed revisions to the Water District's rules on **Tuesday, November 24, 2020** at 1:30 p.m.

This hearing will be held in the Board Room at the High Plains Water District office, 2930 Avenue Q, in Lubbock. There is also a special board meeting scheduled at 2:30 p.m.

To review a draft of the proposed rule changes visit (<https://bit.ly/3pivUJ2>) and to review the summaries of the proposed rule revisions visit (<https://www.hpwd.org/rulesummaries>).

Written public comments may be submitted by email or mail. Comments by email should be submitted to rulecomments@hpwd.org or by mail to High Plains Water District, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79411.