



CHARTER
of the
AIR QUALITY RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND
SUSTAINABILITY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Subcommittee on Air Quality Research (AQRS) is hereby reestablished by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability (CENRS).

B. Purpose

The purpose of the AQRS is to advise and assist the CENRS and the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Office (OSTP) on the coordination and enhancement of the effectiveness of U.S. air quality research. The research scope of the AQRS will include the observation, understanding, prediction, and assessment of the causes and consequences, both physical and biological, of degraded air quality, and the development of effective preservation and remediation strategies.

C. Functions

Reporting to and coordinating with the CENRS, the AQRS will:

1. Identify research information required to inform policy decisions and identify research that would benefit from interagency collaboration in addressing those needs.
2. Develop Federal research strategies that will provide an improved scientific basis for the cost-effective improvement of air quality in the U.S. across the short- and long-term.
3. Coordinate Federal research & development priorities in accordance with the scientific needs of existing Federal air quality efforts, such as those related to particulate matter and the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program.
4. Serve as a forum to facilitate research planning, coordination, and communication among those Federal agencies engaged in air quality research.
5. As permitted by law, provide information to strengthen the interface between research and those organizations who formulate and/or recommend policy, including Federal, State, industry, and nongovernmental entities.
6. Identify and help coordinate research topics that inform the work of other NSTC groups and relevant Federal interagency groups.

7. Periodically assess the effectiveness of Federal air quality research programs.
8. Sponsor, as appropriate and as permitted by law, meetings or workshops to assess the scientific basis for understanding air quality phenomena.

D. Leadership and membership

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the AQRS:

Department of Agriculture;
Department of Commerce (Co-chair);
Department of Defense;
Department of Energy;
Department of Health and Human Services;
Department of Housing and Urban Development;
Department of the Interior;
Department of State;
Department of Transportation;
Environmental Protection Agency (Co-chair);
National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
National Science Foundation; and
Tennessee Valley Authority.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the AQRS:

Council on Environmental Quality;
Office of Management and Budget; and
Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive organizations, departments, and agencies as the Co-chairs may, from time to time, designate.

E. Private-Sector Interface

The AQRS may seek advice from members of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology to secure appropriate private-sector¹ advice, and will recommend to the CENRS and/or the OSTP Director the nature of any additional non-Federal advice needed to accomplish its mission. The AQRS may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

F. Termination date

¹ The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private sector," but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or Tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, international bodies.

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the CENRS prior to its expiration, the AQRS shall terminate no later than December 31, 2015.

G. Determination

I hereby determine that the reestablishment of the Subcommittee on Air Quality Research is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:



Paul Anastas
Co-chair of the CENRS, and
Assistant Administrator for Research and Development and
Science Advisor
Environmental Protection Agency

11/8/11
Date



Steve Fetter
Co-chair of the CENRS, and
Assistant Director at Large and Principal Assistant Director of the Environment Division
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President

9/13/11
Date



Jane Lubchenco
Co-chair of the CENRS, and
Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere and
Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Department of Commerce

OCT 21 2011
Date