

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

A. Official Designation

The Subcommittee on Air Quality Research is hereby established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (CENR).

B. Purpose and Scope

Under the CENR, the purpose of the Air Quality Research Subcommittee is to coordinate and enhance the effectiveness of U.S. air quality research and to help ensure that research results adequately inform policy decisions in this regard. The research scope of the subcommittee 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 CENR, the Air Quality Research Subcommittee will:

- Identify research information needs required to inform current policy decisions and identify research that would benefit from interagency collaboration in addressing those needs.
- Develop 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.
- Coordinate research programs and 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.
- Serve as a forum to facilitate research planning, coordination, and communication among the Federal agencies engaged in air quality research.
- Provide information to strengthen the interface between research and policy-formulating and policy-recommending organizations and groups, including Federal, State, industry, and nongovernmental entities.
- Identify and help coordinate research topics that inform the work of other NSTC Subcommittees and relevant interagency groups.
- Periodically assess the effectiveness of Federal air quality research programs.
- Sponsor, as appropriate, meetings or workshops to assess the scientific basis for understanding air quality phenomena.

D. Membership

NOAA and EPA will serve as the Co-Chairs of this subcommittee. The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Subcommittee Co-Chairs. Membership of the Subcommittee shall be senior full-time Federal officials who will represent their organization in the science of air quality and associated science policy issues. The following departments/agencies are represented:

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

Other participating agencies shall include:

- Office of Management and Budget
- Office of Science and Technology Policy
- Council of Environmental Quality

The subcommittee may establish working groups, as appropriate, for focused topics and matters of specific interest.

E. Private Sector Interface

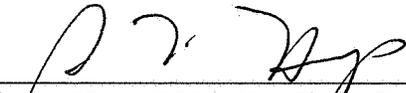
The Subcommittee on Air Quality Research may work with the President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) to secure appropriate private sector advice, and will recommend to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources the nature of additional private sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The Subcommittee may also interact with and receive ad hoc advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

F. Termination Date

Unless renewed by the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, the Air Quality Research Subcommittee shall terminate no later than March 31, 2009.

G. Determination

I hereby determine that the formation 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.



Dr. Sharon Hays, OSTP (Co-Chair, CENR)

11.8.06
Date



VADM Conrad Lautenbacher, NOAA (Co-Chair, CENR)

10/5/06
Date



Dr. George Gray, EPA (Co-Chair, CENR)

10/05/06
Date