# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
# NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
# CHARTER OF THE
# ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COMMERCIAL REMOTE SENSING

1. **Committee's Official Title.** Advisory Committee on Commercial Remote Sensing

2. **Authority.** The Secretary of Commerce, having determined that it is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of Commerce (the Department) by law, and with the concurrence of the General Services Administration, has established the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Advisory Committee on Commercial Remote Sensing (ACCRES), pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** ACCRES will provide information, advice, and recommendations to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (the Under Secretary) on matters relating to the U.S. commercial remote sensing space industry and on NOAA's activities to carry out the responsibilities of the Department of Commerce set forth in the National and Commercial Space Programs Act of 2010 (51 U.S.C. §§ 60101 *et seq.*). ACCRES functions solely in an advisory capacity and in accordance with the provisions of FACA. ACCRES does not exercise program management or regulatory development responsibilities, nor make any decisions directly affecting the programs on which it provides advice. ACCRES provides a forum for the development, consideration, and communication of information from a knowledgeable, independent perspective.

4. **Description of Duties.** ACCRES undertakes such information gathering activities as necessary to define issues submitted by NOAA for consideration by the committee, develops positions on those issues, and presents the committee's positions to the Under Secretary.

   ACCRES evaluates economic, technological, and institutional developments relating to commercial remote sensing and submits to the Under Secretary recommendations on promising new ideas and approaches for Federal policies and programs.

   ACCRES serves as a forum for the discussion of issues involving the relationship between industry activities and Government policies, programs, and regulatory requirements.

5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports.** ACCRES shall report to the Under Secretary or his/her designated representative, usually the NOAA Assistant Administrator for Satellites and Information Services (NESDIS).

6. **Support.** NOAA/NESDIS shall furnish support services for the operation of ACCRES.

7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs.** The estimated annual operating cost of ACCRES is approximately $50,000. This includes approximately 0.2 person years of staff support.

8. **Designated Federal Officer.** The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) will be a full time employee of NESDIS and will be appointed by the NOAA Assistant Administrator for Satellites and Information Services in accordance with agency procedures. The DFO will approve and call all committee meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all meetings (unless represented by his/her designee), adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Assistant Administrator.

9. **Meeting Number and Frequency.** ACCRES will meet approximately twice per year, but may meet more frequently if required by NOAA. ACCRES meetings will be open to the public unless closed as authorized by Section 10(d) of FACA.

10. **Duration.** Continuing

11. **Termination.** This charter shall terminate two years from the date of its filing with the appropriate U.S. Senate and House of Representatives Oversight Committees unless terminated earlier or renewed by the proper authority.

12. **Membership and Designation.** ACCRES will have a fairly balanced membership consisting of approximately 9 - 20 members serving in a representative capacity. All members should have expertise in remote sensing, space commerce or a related field. Additionally, ACCRES may include members from the government in order to provide guidance on regulations and space policy. Each candidate member shall be recommended by the Assistant Administrator and shall be appointed by the Under Secretary for a term of two years at the discretion of the Under Secretary. Members whose terms have expired may continue to serve until their replacement has been appointed.

    A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be chosen by the Under Secretary upon recommendation of the Assistant Administrator for Satellite and information Services, and may be asked to assist in the selection of other committee members from candidates suggested by appropriate entities.

    Members may be represented at committee meetings and activities by alternates representing the same interest as the member. Alternates shall have the full rights and duties of membership. Selection of an alternate shall be made by the member's organization in writing to the Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services, with the approval of the Chairperson, at any time prior to the meeting or activity for which the selection is made. Unless otherwise specified by the Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services, the selection is valid for only one meeting or activity, including any continuation of that meeting or activity.

    Members of the committee shall not be compensated for their participation, but may, upon request, be allowed travel and per diem expenses on a case-by-case basis as authorized by 5 U.S.C. §§ 5701 *et seq.*

13. **Subcommittees.** NOAA may establish such subcommittees of its committee members as may be necessary, subject to the provisions of FACA, the FACA implementing regulations, and Department of Commerce guidance. Such subcommittees may be established to examine in detail issues of interest to the committee falling within the scope of this charter and to make recommendations to the full committee regarding same. Subcommittees must report back to ACCRES, and will not provide advice or work products directly to NOAA.

14. **Recordkeeping.** Records of ACCRES, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of ACCRES, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

Ellen Herbst
Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary of Administration

3/9/2016
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