The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy

Advisory Committee Charter

A. **COMMITTEE'S OFFICIAL DESIGNATION**: The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST).

B. **AUTHORITY**: PCAST is being established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. and Executive Order No. 13539. This charter establishes the PCAST under the authority of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

C. **OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES**: PCAST shall advise the President on matters involving science, technology, and innovation policy. PCAST shall also provide advice from the nonfederal sector to the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) in response to a request from NSTC. The heads of the executive departments and agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide the PCAST with information concerning scientific and technological matters when requested.

D. **DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES**. The duties of PCAST are solely advisory.

E. **OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE COMMITTEE REPORTS**: PCAST shall report to the President, directly at its meetings with the President and also through the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology (the Science Advisor).

F. **AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING NECESSARY SUPPORT**: OSTP shall provide such administrative services as PCAST may require, with the approval of the Science Advisor. Any PCAST expenses shall be paid from the OSTP funds available for the expenses.

G. **ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS AND STAFF YEARS**: To be determined.

H. **DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER**: The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) will approve or call all of the advisory committee's and subcommittees' meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee and subcommittee meetings, and adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest.

I. **ESTIMTED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**: Meetings may occur as frequently as needed and approved by the DFO.

As required by FACA, PCAST will hold open meetings unless the Science Advisor determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance

with subsection (c) of section 552b of title 5, United States Code. Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before PCAST, or file comments with PCAST.

Members of PCAST shall serve without any compensation for their work on PCAST, but may receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in the government service (5 U.S.C. §§ 5701–5707).

J. **DURATION**: The PCAST will be needed on a continuing basis.

K. **TERMINATION**: PCAST shall terminate 2 years from the date of its Executive Order unless extended prior to that date.

L. **MEMBERSHIP**: PCAST shall be composed of not more than 21 members, one of whom shall be the Science Advisor, and 20 of whom shall be distinguished individuals from the nonfederal sector appointed by the President. The nonfederal sector members shall have diverse perspectives and expertise in science and technology to ensure balance. PCAST members (other than the Science Advisor) shall be appointed as SGEs. Members serve at the pleasure of the President.

So that PCAST may provide advice and analysis regarding classified matters, the Science Advisor may request that members of PCAST, its standing subcommittees, or ad hoc groups, who do not hold a current clearance for access to classified information, receive security clearance and access determinations pursuant to Executive Order 12968, as amended, or any successor Executive Order.

M. **SUBCOMMITTEES**: In consultation with the Science Advisor, PCAST is authorized to create standing subcommittees, including, but not limited to, the President's Innovation and Technology Advisory Committee, and ad hoc groups, including, but not limited to, technical advisory groups, to assist PCAST and provide preliminary information directly to PCAST.

N. **MANAGEMENT**: A Management Subcommittee shall, in conjunction with OSTP management, oversee the general management of PCAST and its subcommittees, review PCAST's budget, and coordinate contracting requirements, among other duties as determined by the Co-Chairs. The Management Subcommittee shall be co-chaired by the Co-Chairs of PCAST. The Co-Chairs shall designate no more than three current PCAST members as Vice Chairs of the Management Subcommittee. The Vice Chairs shall serve for a period of two years or until a new PCAST charter is filed, whichever comes first.

O. **RECORDKEEPING**: The records of PCAST and any subcommittees shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 and 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.

P. **DATE CHARTER FILED**: November 1, 2010.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

November 1, 2010

Library of Congress
Federal Advisory Committee Desk
Government Documents Section
101 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20540

Re: PCAST Modified Charter

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed is a copy of the modified charter for the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, which is being filed in your office in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C., App.

Copies of this charter are also being filed with the House Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I may be reached at (202) 456-6125.

Sincerely,

Rachael Leonard

Rachael Leonard
General Counsel
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President

Enclosure

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

November 1, 2010

Chairman Jay Rockefeller
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6125

Re: PCAST Modified Charter

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

November 1, 2010

Chairman Daniel Lipinski
Committee on Science and Technology
Subcommittee on Research and Science Education
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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