BASIC ENERGY SCIENCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Advisory Committee Charter

1. **Committee's Official Designation.** Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (BESAC).

2. **Authority.** This charter establishes the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee under the authority of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The Committee is being renewed in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2.

3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The activities of the Committee include:

   - Periodic reviews of the diverse elements of the basic energy sciences program including aspects of materials sciences, chemistry, biosciences, geosciences, engineering, and underlying competencies such as computational sciences and recommendations based thereon.

   - Advice on competing long-range plans, priorities, and strategies to address more effectively the scientific aspects of energy-related basic energy sciences.

   - Advice on appropriate levels of funding to develop those plans, priorities and strategies, and to help maintain appropriate balance between competing elements of the basic energy sciences program.

   - Advice on scientific aspects of basic energy sciences issues of concern to DOE, as requested by the Secretary of Energy or the Director, Office of Science.

4. **Description of Duties.** The duties of the Committee are solely advisory in nature.

5. **Official(s) to Whom the Committee Reports.** The Committee will report to the Director, Office of Science.

6. **Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support.** The DOE. Within the Department, primary support shall be furnished by the Office of Science.

- **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The estimated annual costs associated with supporting the Committee is approximately $300,000; which includes one-half staff, per-year.

7. **Designated Federal Officer (DFO).** A full-time or permanent part-time DOE employee, appointed in accordance with agency procedures, will serve as the DFO (or designee). The DFO (or designee) will approve or call all of the advisory committee's and subcommittee's meetings, and 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.

8. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The Committee will meet periodically, approximately two to four times a year.

9. **Duration.** Continuing in nature.

10. **Termination (if less than 2-years from date of establishment or renewal).** The Committee terminates two years after the charter filing date, and may not meet if the Charter is not renewed biennially.

11. **Membership and Designation.** The Committee will be comprised of approximately 23-28 committee members, who will be appointed by the Under Secretary for Science and Energy (or designee). Members shall be experts in their respective fields and appointed as special Government employees or representatives of entities including, but not limited to, research facilities and academic institutions, should the Committee's task require such representation. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee will be appointed by the Under Secretary for Science and Energy (or designee) from among the Committee members.

    Members of the Committee will serve without compensation. However, each member may be reimbursed in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulations for authorized travel and per diem expenses incurred while attending Committee meetings.

12. **Subcommittee(s).** To facilitate the functioning of the Committee, subcommittees may be formed with DOE approval. The objectives of the subcommittees are to make recommendations to the parent committee with respect to particular matters related to the responsibilities of the parent committee. Such subcommittees or workgroups may not work independently of the chartered committee and must report their recommendations and advice to the full committee for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees and workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of Charter committee nor can they report directly to the Department of Energy.

13. **Recordkeeping.** The records of the Committee shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 and Administrative Records Schedule 16, Item 8b (1.1), 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.

14. **Filing Date.**

    Date filed with Congress: July 29, 2015

Erica De Vos
Acting Committee Management Officer