

# 2023 Current Fiscal Year Report: Governmental Advisory Committee to the United States Representative to the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Environmental Protection Agency		2023	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
Governmental Advisory Committee to the United States Representative to the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation		1914	
<b>4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	06/03/2022	06/03/2024	
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>	
No	E.O. 12915		
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	No	Not Applicable	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b> Presidential			
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
E.O. 12915 and the recent cont. E.O. 13708	05/13/1994	Continuing	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b> Non Scientific Program Advisory Board			
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
<b>17a. Open</b>	<b>17b. Closed</b>	<b>17c. Partially Closed</b>	<b>Other Activities</b>
0	0	0	0
<b>17d. Total</b> 0			

## Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current Next	
	FY	FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

### **20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

Committee accomplishes its purpose through advice letters.

### **20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

As called for in its authorizations, the GAC is comprised of representatives from state, local, and Tribal governments.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The GAC typically meets twice a year to discuss North American environmental issues. The Fall meeting is to discuss the CEC's Draft Operational Plan. The Spring meeting is to advise the EPA Administrator on deliverables for the annual summer Environmental Ministers meeting. In FY 2022, the GAC had one meeting in April and Chair participated in the Annual Environmental Ministers meeting.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The GAC is authorized authorized under Article 11 of the Environmental Cooperation Agreement (ECA) between the United States, Mexico and Canada, in parallel with the United States of America, United States of Mexico, and Canada (USMCA) trade agreement; and was established pursuant to Executive Order 12915, entitled "Federal Implementation of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation". The GAC was continued under the authority of Executive Order 14048.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

No meetings were closed or partially closed.

**21. Remarks**

All members are Tier 1 (parent committee members). There are no Tier 2 (subcommittee) members serving.

**Designated Federal Officer**

Oscar Carrillo Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
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Abkowitz, Kendra	08/25/2021	10/27/2023	TN Dept of Env. Conservation Tier 1, State Representative.	Representative Member
Acomb, Patty	10/22/2016	10/27/2023	State Legislature, Minnesota State Government, St. Paul, MN Tier 1, Principal Regional Planner,	Representative Member
Arias, Elisa	02/05/2019	10/27/2023	San Diego Association of Governments, San Diego, CA Tier 1, Senior Environmental Specialist,	Representative Member
Brock, Marina	10/22/2016	10/27/2023	Department of Health and the Environment, Barnstable County, Barnstable, MA Tier 1, Ombusman/Tribal Liaison, Arizona	Representative Member
Drago, Leonard	02/05/2019	10/27/2023	Department of Environmental Quality, Phoenix, AZ Tier 1, State Senator, Arizona	Representative Member
Gonzales, Sally Ann	10/22/2016	10/27/2023	State Legislator, Arizona State Government, Phoenix, AZ Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Commissioner, Austin, TX	Representative Member
Janecka, Robert	08/25/2021	10/27/2023	Tier 1, Council Member, City of Mission, Kansas	Representative Member
Kring, Debra	02/05/2019	10/27/2023	Tier 1, Secretary, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Montpelier, VT	Representative Member
Moore, Julia	02/05/2019	10/27/2023	Tier 1, Division Chief, El Paso County Attorney's Office, El Paso, TX	Representative Member
Morales, Erich	02/05/2019	10/27/2023	Chairman, San Javier District, Tohono O"odham Nation, Tucson, Arizona	Representative Member
Nunez, Austin	08/25/2021	10/27/2023		Representative Member

Sandoval, Carmen Nazaret	10/22/2016	10/27/2023	Tier 1, Environmental Engineer, Michigan Dept of Env, Great Lakes & Energy Detroit, MI	Representative Member
Wagner, Gerald	08/25/2021	10/27/2023	Environmental Director, Blackfeet Nation, Browning, Montana	Representative Member
Weintraub, June	08/25/2021	10/27/2023	Senior Epidemiologist, San Francisco Dept of Public Health, San Francisco, CA	Representative Member
Wright, Kelly	10/22/2016	10/27/2023	Tier 1, Program Manager, Shohone-Bannock Tribes, Fort Hall Indian Reservation, Fort Hall, ID	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 15**

**Narrative Description**

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) supports the agency's mission of protecting human health and the environment. The work of the GAC supports the EPA Administrator in achieving the goals of safeguarding the natural environment--air, water, and land, via trilateral activities in the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC). The CEC is a trilateral institution created by the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC) and funded by the Governments of the United States, Mexico, and Canada. The GAC provides the EPA Administrator with policy perspectives from state, local and tribal government representatives. Their advice is useful to the U.S. Government as it negotiates the cooperative 5-Year Strategic Plan, and the Operational Plan with Canada and Mexico and prepares for the outcomes of the annual Environment Ministers Council Session. Each year the committee reviews and provides advice on two major CEC products. One is the Operational Plan and secondly is the CEC's Annual Council Session and other topics as directed by the EPA Administrator. Every five years the Strategic plan is also reviewed by the GAC. The Operational Plan addresses key issues in the CEC Strategic Plan, which sets tri-lateral priorities for

environmental management in North America. The current five priority areas in the CEC Strategic plan are: 1) Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency, 2) Clean Air, Land and Water 3) Shared Ecosystems and Species, 4) Shared Ecosystems and Species, Resilient Communities and 5) Effective Enforcement of Environmental Laws. The GAC produced one advice letter on May 31, 2022 based on their April 28, 2022 meeting related to the CEC's Air Quality Improvement for Environmental Justice Project and on integrating climate change and environmental justice into the work of the CEC. EPA responded to their letter on June 16, 2022.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Outcome Comments**

NA

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

	Checked if Applies
None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000

Over \$10,000,000

Cost Savings Other

### **Cost Savings Comments**

NA

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

235

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

There have been 235 recommendations since the inception of the GAC. There were two recommendations in in FY-2022: 1. Air Quality Improvement for Environmental Justice Project 2. Integrating climate change and environmental justice into the work of the CEC.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

0%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

See description of accomplishments above. For more detailed information please see U.S. Government Response letters at committee website:  
<https://www.epa.gov/faca/nac-gac>.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

0%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

See description of accomplishments above. For more detailed information please see U.S. Government Response letters at GAC website: <https://www.epa.gov/faca/nac-gac>.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes  No  Not Applicable

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

The committee's recommendations are always in the form of letters. The agency

responds with a letter informing the GAC of the status of their advice i.e., whether they have implemented their recommendations or whether the EPA has decided on an alternative direction.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Proposed legislation              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**Action Comments**

NA

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

NA

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

- |                           |                                     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**Access Comments**

N/A