

2010 Current Fiscal Year Report: Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee

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| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Department or Agency | 2. Fiscal Year |
| Department of the Interior | 2010 |
| 3. Committee or Subcommittee | 3b. GSA Committee No. |
| Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee | 12152 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 4. Is this New Fiscal Year? | 5. Current Charter | 6. Expected Renewal Date | 7. Expected Term Date |
| No | 04/30/2010 | 04/30/2012 | |

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year? | 8b. Specific Termination Authority | 8c. Actual Term Date |
| No | | |

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year | 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate? | 10b. Legislation Pending? |
| Continue | | |

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 12. Specific Establishment Authority | 13. Effective Date | 14. Committee Type | 14c. Presidential? |
| P.L. 106-503 | 11/13/2000 | Continuing | No |

15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports 1

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 16b. Report Date | Report Title |
| 08/16/2010 | Report for 2008-2009 of the Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee |

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

| | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 17a. Open | 17b. Closed | 17c. Partially Closed | Other Activities | 17d. Total |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Meetings and Dates

| Purpose | Start | End |
|--|------------|--------------|
| The Committee will receive updates and provide guidance on Earthquake Hazards Program activities and the status of teams supported by the Program. | 01/26/2010 | - 01/26/2010 |

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

| | Current FY | Next FY |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| 18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff | \$29,657.00 | \$30,027.00 |
| 18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members | \$11,000.00 | \$14,000.00 |
| 18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff | \$0.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| 18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants | \$0.00 | \$6,000.00 |
| 18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category) | \$0.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| 18e. Total Costs | \$40,657.00 | \$62,027.00 |
| 19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE) | 0.20 | 0.20 |

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Advisory Committee advises the Director on matters relating to the United States Geological Survey's (USGS) participation in the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, including the United States Geological Survey's roles, goals and objectives within that program, its capabilities and research needs, guidance on achieving major objectives, and establishing and measuring performance goals. The Advisory Committee shall issue an annual report to the Director of the USGS for submission to Congress on or before September 30 of each year.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Individuals are qualified in the seismic sciences and other appropriate fields. Selection of individuals shall be based solely on the established records of distinguished service and a reasonable cross-section of views and expertise is represented. Due consideration is given to recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences, professional societies, and other appropriate organizations.

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

Estimated Number of Meetings per Year - 2

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

The Advisory Committee is established pursuant to the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Authorization Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-503). The Committee advises the Director of the USGS on matters relating to the USGS's participation in the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction

Program, including roles, goals, and objectives within that Program.

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

We have not suggested a closed meeting.

21. Remarks

Designated Federal Officer

David Applegate DFO

| Committee Members | Start | End | Occupation | Member Designation |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|---|--|
| Archuleta, Ralph | 09/01/2008 | 12/31/2012 | University of California, Santa Barbara | Ex Officio Member |
| Nishenko, Stu | 06/10/2010 | 06/01/2013 | Pacific Gas & Electric Company | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Parrish, John | 03/18/2010 | 04/01/2013 | State Geologist/State of California | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Rathje, Ellen | 03/08/2010 | 03/01/2013 | University of Texas, Austin | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Rogers, Garry | 08/10/2010 | 12/31/2012 | Pacific Geoscience Center/Geological Survey | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Simpson, David | 08/16/2010 | 10/01/2013 | Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Tullis, Terry | 07/02/2009 | 12/31/2012 | Brown University | Ex Officio Member |
| Zoback, Mark | 03/08/2010 | 03/01/2011 | Stanford University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

Number of Committee Members Listed: 8

Narrative Description

The Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee was

appointed and charged, through Public Law 106-503, to advise the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey on matters relating to that agency's participation in the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program. The charge includes review of the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program roles, goals, and objectives, assessment of its capabilities and research needs, guidance on achieving major objectives, and establishment of performance goals.

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

Checked if Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$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?

4

Number of Recommendations Comments

1) SESAC strongly recommends full funding of the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS) at levels authorized in the current National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) legislation and support for research and development on earthquake early warning systems. 2) SESAC is pleased to see USGS expand its multi-hazard initiative to the Pacific Northwest and encourages further expansion to include other high-risk areas of the Nation. 3) It is imperative for the USGS to develop a comprehensive monitoring, analysis and research program to study the significance of ETS events with respect to changes of earthquake probability. 4) Hiring and direct support is critical for the ability of USGS to fulfill its NEHRP responsibilities.

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

25%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Recommendation #2 has been fully implemented. The USGS initiated the multi-hazard demonstration project for southern California in FY2007 with \$300K coming from the Earthquake Hazards Program. Funding was expanded in FY 2008 with a \$2 million congressional increase to the Earthquake Hazards Program that has been used to increase activity in southern California focused on delivery of a multi-hazard scenario for a major event on the southern San Andreas fault and to expand the multi-hazard initiative's activities in the Pacific Northwest and Central U.S. An additional \$1M was provided by FY2009, and those funds were similarly directed toward demonstration project activities in southern California, the Pacific Northwest, and Central U.S. In FY 2010, a further \$1 million was provided for critically needed LIDAR and other seismological studies of areas with high earthquake risk and community danger.

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

75%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

For Recommendation #1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided funds to USGS for seismic monitoring. Approximately \$19 million of these funds are being used to undertake the modernization component of ANSS, replacing out-dated sensors still in use by regional networks within ANSS. Funds from the multi-hazards demonstration project were used to support additional ANSS stations in southern California and the Pacific Northwest. For Recommendation #3, USGS has established a task in the Pacific Northwest directed toward improved understanding of episodic tremor and slip. USGS organized and co-funded a second workshop building on one held in 2008 to explore this topic. The workshop brought together researchers and emergency managers in March 2009 at the University of Washington. For Recommendation #4, the USGS has used funding increases described in the above Comments section to support additional USGS-hired research scientists as well as to provide support for external researchers.

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 Director of the USGS and the Associate Director for Geology have participated in the SESAC meetings and made presentations on topics of interest or timely issues brought before the Committee or the U.S. Geological Survey. The Senior Science Advisor for Earthquake and Geologic Hazards reviews the committee recommendations and provides a status update to the committee at least once a year.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

online agency web site: <http://earthquakes.usgs.gov/aboutus/sesac/meetings.php>