

2008 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Nuclear Regulatory Commission		2008	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste		1100	
4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	06/06/2007		
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date	
Yes	42 U.S.C. 2201	07/14/2007	
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Terminate	No		
11. Establishment Authority	Agency Authority		
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
42 U.S.C. 2201	01/06/1988	Continuing	No
15. Description of Committee	Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board		
16a. Total Number of Reports	17		
16b. Report Date	Report Title		
10/01/2007	Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLW) Minimization Strategies and Views on Commercial LLW Managemet		
10/02/2007	NRC Plans for Monitoring Disposal Actions for Waste Incidental to Reprocessing at Dept. of Energy Facilities at the Idaho National Lab and Savannah River Sites		
10/11/2007	Regulation of Advanced Spent Nuclear Fuel Reprocessing and Refabrication Facilities		
11/20/2007	Purpose Rulemaking to Prevent Legacy Sites		
11/26/2007	NUREG-1854, "NRC Staff Guidance for Activities Related to U.S. Department of Energy Waste Determinations - Draft Final for Interim Use"		
11/27/2007	Review of Draft Regulatory Guide 4012		
11/30/2007	Regulatory Guide Revision		
11/30/2007	Total System Performance Assessment Code Version 5.1		
01/08/2008	Seismic Design of Pre-closure Facilities at the Proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository Operatins Area		

02/26/2008 Postclosure Degradation of Emplacement Drifts and its Impacts on Engineered Barrier Sys. Perf. at the Prop. Yucca Mountain HLW Repository

02/28/2008 NRC Decommissioning Requirements and Guidance

02/29/2008 Waste Package and Drip Shield Corrosion, Juvenile Failure of Waste Packages, and Spent Fuel Dissolution

03/25/2008 2007 Strategic Assessment of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Regulatory Program

03/27/2008 Review of the ICRP Publication 103 - The 2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)

04/09/2008 Burnup Credit for Design of Criticality Safety Systems in PWR Spent Nuclear Fuel Casks

04/30/2008 Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials Low-Activity Radioactive Waste Working Group Meeting of February 13-14, 2008

05/22/2008 Working Group Meeting on the Effects of Low Radiation Doses

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 17

17a. Open 7 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 7

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
183rd Full Committee	10/16/2007	- 10/18/2007
184th Full Committee	11/13/2007	- 11/15/2007
185th Full Committee	12/17/2007	- 12/18/2007
186th Full Committee	02/12/2008	- 02/14/2008
187th Full Committee	03/19/2008	- 03/19/2008
188th Full Committee	04/08/2008	- 04/09/2008
189th Full Committee	05/20/2008	- 05/22/2008

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 7

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$182,676.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$605,858.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$13,935.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$73,888.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$10,788.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$77,829.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$964,974.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	7.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The ACNW&M was in existence only during the 1st half of FY08. The ACNW&M was established in 1988 to provide independent technical advice to the Commission in the

area of high level waste activities. In January of 2008, the Commission directed that the ACNW&M be merged into the ACRS. The Commission had concluded that the original objective of the ACNW&M had been fulfilled and that currently, the need for independent advice is in the area of nuclear materials and radiation protection related to licensing and certification reviews for new nuclear power reactors, MOX, and GNEP facilities. The last ACNW&M meeting was held in May 2008. The Committee reported to and provided the Commission independent review of and advice on technical matters related to nuclear waste and materials issues. The bases of ACNW&M reviews included 10 CFR Parts 20, 40, 50, 60, 61, 63, 71, and 72, and other applicable regulations and legislative mandates. The ACNW&M undertook studies and activities related to the transportation, storage, and disposal of high- and low-level radioactive waste, including the interim storage of spent nuclear fuel; materials safety; decommissioning; application of risk-informed and performance-based regulations; and evaluation of licensing documents, rules, regulatory guidance, and other issues, as requested by the Commission. The Committee interacted with representatives of the public, NRC, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, other Federal agencies, State and local agencies, Native American Nations, and private, international, and other affected organizations as appropriate to fulfill its responsibilities. The Committee issued written reports, provided advice to the Commission on matters within its scope of responsibilities and met periodically with the Commissioners in public meetings to discuss issues of mutual interest. The focus of the ACNW&M work during FY 2008 was on issues related to the decommissioning of nuclear facilities, on the proposed high-level waste repository at the Yucca Mountain, Nevada, site, and radiation protection. The ACNW&M members were chosen for their technical expertise relevant to waste and materials issues important to the Commission. Consultants were used on occasion to augment the expertise of the ACNW&M members in specific areas. The Committee had a full-time staff that provided technical support and administrative services, and assured compliance with FACA requirements. ACNW&M working groups comprised of ACNW&M members and consultants with the appropriate expertise, were used on occasion to address specific technical issues in depth. These working groups held public meetings, and their activities are also conducted under FACA requirements. Stakeholder participation in ACNW&M meetings were encouraged and routinely occurred. ACNW&M meeting agenda, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are available for downloading or viewing on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> or <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/>. The ACNW&M issued an Action Plan for Commission approval and a self-assessment which was included in its Annual Operating Plan. The ACNW&M conducted ongoing reviews of its plans and schedules to ensure that it properly addressed regulatory matters within its scope of responsibilities and that its schedules were consistent with the needs of its stakeholders. Input from the Commission, the NRC staff, and affected stakeholders was used in this process. A Memorandum of

Understanding with the NRC staff provided a framework for interactions between the ACNW&M and the staff.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Commission appointed ACNW&M members with the scientific and engineering expertise needed to address the waste and materials issues of importance to the Commission. Members were sought who could provide an independent perspective on these issues, and who possess outstanding scientific and technical ability, balanced and mature judgment, and a willingness to devote the time required to carry out the timely completion of the Committee's work. Members were appointed for 4-year terms and, absent unusual circumstances; and did not serve more than two terms. Members were reappointed at the end of a 4-year term only if there was a compelling continuing need for their expertise. Vacancies in the ACNW&M membership was filled from the pool of applicants which existed after solicitations of interest are published in the Federal Register, trade and professional society publications, and the press. Recommendations to the Commission as to the selection of qualified candidates from this pool were made by the ACNW&M Member Candidate Screening Panel. The ACNW&M members normally provide input to this Panel. The diversity of viewpoints represented by current members was based on special fields of interest, professional experience, and technical expertise. These member attributes provided the Committee with the balance of highly qualified technical expertise and diverse perspectives necessary to effectively carry out the Committee's statutory requirements. By the time of its merger with ACRS, the Committee included one member from academia, two members from a national laboratory (one retired), and one member from private industry. The ACNW&M included members experienced in radioactive waste and materials, chemistry, health physics, decommissioning, risk assessment, earth sciences, environmental engineering, and performance assessment. There was a systematic effort to obtain members with backgrounds that could address the difficult and diverse questions associated with radioactive waste and materials management. This concentration of the relevant scientific proficiency within the Committee, together with a diversity of viewpoints and perspectives, provides assurance that adequate, independent, and open discussion and analysis of the potential hazards associated with the management of nuclear waste and materials took place.

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

Normally, all ACNW&M members met 8 times a year for 2-3 days in Committee meetings. In FY 2008, the ACNW&M held 7 Committee meetings. The number of meetings held was directly related to the scope of NRC's efforts on the high-level waste geologic repository and other issues involving waste and materials ; the number of criteria, guides, and

technical positions referred to the ACNW&M for review and comment; the number of special reviews requested by the NRC staff; and the number of important topics of concern to the Committee and its stakeholders. Status Plan for Fiscal Years 2007 and 2008 formed the basis for the selection of issues to be addressed during its 2008 meetings. The written reports that contain the ACNW&M's advice were issued during Committee meetings. When resources were available, the ACNW&M held working group meetings on particularly complex issues. At these meetings, additional time and expertise was used in support of understanding the technical details of any issues under the Committee's consideration. Reviews were conducted during each Committee meeting to assess the relevance of proposed topics, resource needs, and the priority of each activity. These assessments had the benefit of input from the Commission, NRC's Executive Director for Operations (EDO), and other stakeholders. All ACNW&M meetings for this reporting period addressed matters delineated in the ACNW&M's Action Plan, specific requests from either the Commission or the EDO, or other important regulatory matters within the scope of the responsibilities.

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

The ACNW&M was in existence only during the 1st half of FY08. The ACNW&M was established in 1988 to provide independent technical advice to the Commission in the area of high level waste activities. In January of 2008, the Commission directed that the ACNW&M be merged into the ACRS. The Commission had concluded that the original objective of the ACNW&M had been fulfilled and that currently, the need for independent advice is in the area of nuclear materials and radiation protection related to licensing and certification reviews for new nuclear power reactors, MOX, and GNEP facilities. The last ACNW&M meeting was held in May 2008. The ACNW&M was a body of recognized experts in the field of nuclear waste and materials whose mandate was to provide independent advice to the Commission. The ACNW&M provided the public assurance that an independent technical review and evaluation of nuclear waste and materials safety issues was accomplished and that there was an opportunity for public input.

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

During FY 2008, the Committee held 7 Full Committee meetings, all of which were open to public attendance. .

21. Remarks

NONE

Designated Federal Officer

Michele Kelton DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Clarke, James	01/25/2005	01/24/2009	Professor, Vanderbilt University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Croff, Allen	07/12/2004	07/11/2008	Retired, Oak Ridge National Laboratory	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hinze, William	01/11/2005	12/31/2007	Professor Emeritus, Purdue University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Ryan, Michael	06/26/2006	06/25/2010	Consultant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Weiner, Ruth	09/15/2007	09/15/2011	Consultant, Sandia National Laboratories	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 5

Narrative Description

The ACNW&M was in existence only during the 1st half of FY08. The ACNW&M was established in 1988 to provide independent technical advice to the Commission in the area of high level waste activities. In January of 2008, the Commission directed that the ACNW&M be merged into the ACRS. The Commission had concluded that the original objective of the ACNW&M had been fulfilled and that currently, the need for independent advice is in the area of nuclear materials and radiation protection related to licensing and certification reviews for new nuclear power reactors, MOX, and GNEP facilities. The last ACNW&M meeting was held in May 2008. The ACNW&M developed an Operating Plan and an Action Plan which described the priorities and planned activities for the Committee for the current fiscal year. These priority and program activities were closely linked to the NRC's Strategic Plan. The ACNW&M staff participated in the Agency's formulation of the Strategic Plan and its goals. The mission of the ACNW&M was to support the NRC's mission in the areas of nuclear materials and waste management.

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?

900

Number of Recommendations Comments

NA

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

90%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

NA

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

10%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NA

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

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

Through written responses to letter report and recommendations.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A