

# 2006 Current Fiscal Year Report: FCC's Independent Panel Reviewing Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks

Report Run Date: 04/26/2024 12:26:44 PM

<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>
Federal Communications Commission	2006
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>

FCC's Independent Panel Reviewing Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks	28021
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<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>
Yes	01/09/2006		06/15/2006

<b>8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
Yes	Per Completion of Final Report (June 12, 2006)	06/15/2006

<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>
Terminate	No	

**11. Establishment Authority** Agency Authority

<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
Per directive from Office of Chairman	09/15/2005	Ad hoc	No

**15. Description of Committee** Other Committee

**16a. Total Number of Reports** 1

<b>16b. Report Date</b>	<b>Report Title</b>
06/12/2006	Report and Recommendations to the FCC

**Number of Committee Reports Listed:** 1

<b>17a. Open</b>	5	<b>17b. Closed</b>	0	<b>17c. Partially Closed</b>	0	<b>Other Activities</b>	0	<b>17d. Total</b>	5
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## Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
To discuss tentative timeline and process for completion of Panel's task by June 15, 2006 and the Panel's structure. The Panel will also introduce and receive brief statements from Panel members about the impact of Hurricane Katrina on their company's or industry sector's communications infrastructure as well as issues on which the Panel should focus.	01/30/2006	01/30/2006
To receive oral presentations regarding: (1) the impact of Hurricane Katrina on the telecommunications and media infrastructure including public safety communications; (2) the sufficiency and effectiveness of the recovery effort with respect to this infrastructure; and (3) ways to improve disaster preparedness, network reliability and communications among first responders. In addition, the informal working groups will provide reports on their progress.	03/06/2006	03/07/2006
The Panel will hear presentations from its 3 informal working groups regarding their work to date. The Panel may also hear presentations and/or demonstrations from invited representatives of government agencies and/or other entities that address emergency response and disaster preparedness issues.	04/18/2006	04/18/2006
The Panel will discuss proposed issues, findings and recommendations to be included in its Final Report to the FCC which is due by June 15, 2006.	05/12/2006	05/12/2006
To consider and vote on a draft report.	06/09/2006	06/09/2006

## Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 5

	Current FY	Next 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>	\$150,671.00	\$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>	\$5,082.00	\$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>	\$2,311.00	\$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>	\$36,236.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$194,300.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	1.90	0.00

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

The Independent Panel will review the impact of Hurricane Katrina on the telecommunications and media infrastructure and make recommendations on ways to improve disaster preparedness, network reliability, and communication among first responders. The Independent Panel will gather data and information necessary to formulate recommendations for assuring optimal communications services during Hurricanes and other natural disasters.

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

A balanced membership will be selected comprised of individuals from public safety organizations, as well as individuals from the public and private telecommunications sectors.

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

Estimated Number of Meetings per Year - 3  
Estimated Total Meetings - 3

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this**

### **committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, it became apparent that a review was necessary to determine how communications services can be improved to increase effectiveness and to minimize disruptions. An Independent FACA Panel presents the most optimum forum from which recommendations can be formulated to improving telecommunications services during natural disasters.

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

### **21. Remarks**

Because of the urgency of the upcoming Hurricane season, which commences in July 2006, the Independent Panel will present their recommendations no later than June 15, 2006 so that many of the recommendations can be implemented before the start of the 2006 Hurricane season. As a result, we request that the 15-day waiting period (for establishing new committees) be waived before filing the charter with Congressional officials and the Library of Congress.

### **Designated Federal Officer**

Lisa Fowlkes Designated Federal Official

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Agnew, Carson	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President, Mobile Satellite Ventures, LP	Representative Member
Anderson, Michael	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Chairman, PART-15.ORG	Representative Member
Bailey, Robert	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Telecommunications Mgr., Harrison Co. Emergency Comm. Comm.	Representative Member
Beary, Kevin	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Sheriff, Orange County, Florida	Representative Member

Bicket, Greg	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President/Regional Manager	Representative Member
Booth, Joseph	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Deputy Superintendent, Louisiana State Police	Representative Member
Davis, Steve	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President - Engineering	Representative Member
Dawson, Robert	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	President & CEO	Representative Member
Dean, Stephen	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Fire Chief, City of Mobile, AL	Representative Member
Delahousey, Steve	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President of Operations, American Medical Response	Representative Member
Flessas, Dave	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President - Network Operations	Representative Member
Hadfield, Martin	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President - Engineering	Representative Member
Jacot, Jim	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President	Representative Member
Kent, Tony	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President - Engineering & Network Operations	Representative Member
Kirwan, Kelly	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice - President, State & Local Govt and Commercial Markets Division	Representative Member
Linkous, Jonathan	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Executive Director	Representative Member
Nweze, Adora	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	President, Florida State Conference, NAACP	Representative Member
Pena, Eduardo	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Board Member	Representative Member
Pitts, Billy	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	President of Government Affairs	Representative Member
Sauter, Michael	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Commander of New Orlean's Policy Dept's Office of Technology & Communications	Representative Member
Scott, Marion	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President - Operations	Representative Member
Sears, Kay	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Vice President of Sales & Marketing, G2 Satellite Solutions	Representative Member
Sexton, Edmund	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	President, National Sheriffs Association	Representative Member
Smith, Edwin	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Chief, Barton Rouge Fire Department	Representative Member

Smith, William	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	Chief Technology Officer	Representative Member
Victory, Nancy	11/26/2005	06/15/2006	Partner, Wiley Rein & Fielding, LP	Representative Member
Yoes, Patrick	01/09/2006	06/15/2006	National Secretary, Fraternal Order of Police	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 27**

### Narrative Description

The Communications Act requires the Commission to, among other things, promote the safety of life and property through the use of communications. The Katrina Panel's mission was to study the impact of Hurricane Katrina on communications infrastructure and make recommendations to the Commission on ways to improve disaster preparedness, network reliability and communications among first responders.

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

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Unable to Determine	<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Cost Savings Comments**

NA

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

18

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

NA

**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**

The Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in June 2006 seeking comment on the Katrina Panel's recommendations. The Commission received over 100 comments in that proceeding. The Commission staff is now reviewing those comments.

**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**

In June 2006, the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking comment on the Katrina Panel's recommendations. The comment period for the rulemaking closed on August 21, 2006 and the Commission's staff is currently reviewing the comments.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to**

**implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

**Agency Feedback Comments**

NA

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

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Action Comments**

On June 19, 2006, the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking comment on the Katrina Panel's recommendations. The comment period for this proceeding closed on August 21, 2006 and the Commission received over 100 comments. The Commission staff is currently reviewing the comments.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**



Information and documents related to the Katrina Panel may also be obtained in the Commission's Public Information Reference Room, which is located at the FCC, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554