

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL OF ADVISORS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
U.S. Department of Energy

Advisory Committee Charter

1. **COMMITTEE'S OFFICIAL DESIGNATION:** President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST).
2. **AUTHORITY:** PCAST is required by Executive Order 13895. PCAST is being reestablished 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:** PCAST shall advise the President on matters involving science, technology, and innovation policy. PCAST shall also provide advice from the nonfederal sector to the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) in response to a request from NSTC. The heads of the executive departments and agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide the PCAST with information concerning scientific and technological matters, when requested.
4. **DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES.** The duties of PCAST are solely advisory and are stated in Executive Order 13895.
5. **OFFICIAL(S) TO WHOM THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:** PCAST shall report to the President, directly at its meetings with the President and also through the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) (the "Director"). OSTP will be responsible for fulfilling the requirements of §6(b) of the Act.
6. **AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING NECESSARY SUPPORT:** The Department of Energy (DOE) shall provide such administrative services as PCAST may require, with the approval of the Director of the Office of Science. In addition, DOE shall provide such funding as PCAST may require.
7. **ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS AND STAFF YEARS:** The estimated annual costs associated with supporting the committee is \$1,000,000; including 2.0 staff per year.
8. **DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER:** The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) will approve or call all of the advisory committee's and subcommittees' meetings, prepare all meeting agendas, attend all committee and subcommittee meetings, and adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest.

9. **ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:** Meetings may occur as frequently as needed and approved by the DFO.

As required by FACA, PCAST will hold open meetings unless the Secretary of Energy determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with subsection (c) of section 552b of title 5, United States Code. Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before PCAST, or file comments with PCAST.

10. **DURATION:** The PCAST will be needed on a continuing basis.
11. **TERMINATION:** The charter is subject to biennial review and will expire two years from the filing date (see section 15); however, PCAST will terminate two years from October 22, 2019, consistent with Executive Order 13895, unless extended by the President.
12. **MEMBERSHIP:** PCAST shall be composed of not more than 17 members, one of whom shall be the Director, and 16 of whom shall be distinguished individuals from the nonfederal sector appointed by the President. The nonfederal sector members shall have diverse perspectives and expertise in science, technology, education, and innovation. The Director shall serve as the Chair of PCAST. PCAST members (other than the Director) shall be appointed as special Government employees (SGEs). Members serve at the pleasure of the President.

So that PCAST may provide advice and analysis regarding classified matters, the Director may request that members of PCAST, its standing subcommittees, or ad hoc groups, who do not hold a current clearance for access to classified information, receive security clearance and access determinations pursuant to Executive Order 12968, as amended, or any successor Executive Order.

Members of PCAST shall serve without any compensation for their work on the PCAST, but may receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in the government service (5 U.S.C. §§ 5701–5707).

13. **SUBCOMMITTEES:** In consultation with the Director, PCAST is authorized to create standing subcommittees, and ad hoc groups, including technical advisory groups to assist PCAST and provide preliminary information directly to the PCAST.
14. **RECORDKEEPING:** The records of PCAST and any subcommittees shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 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.

15. **DATE CHARTER FILED:** NOV 15 2019


Rachael J. Beitler
Acting Committee Management Officer