2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Energy	2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee	445

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	12/08/2023	12/08/2025	

8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No	AGEN	

9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	No	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Commitee Type	14c. Presidential?
AGEN	11/22/1983	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports	
	No Reports for this FiscalYear

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

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	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	$0.00	$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	$0.00	$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	$0.00	$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	$0.00	$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	$0.00	$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.)	$0.00	$0.00
18d. Total	$0.00	$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The committee addresses topical issues such as bioenergy, genomics, structural biology, biogeochemistry, and Earth system observation and modeling. The committee forms subcommittees, with DOE approval, of BERAC members and other scientists to address charges from the Director of the Office of Science and to review and make recommendations on current and future program plans and progress. Subcommittee draft reports are presented to the committee for discussion, modification, and approval. These reports review ongoing research programs from a broad programmatic point of view and examine opportunities for extending and improving programs.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The composition of the membership is very broad and diverse, and reflects the multi-disciplinary program scope and interests of the Office of Biological and Environmental Research. The research areas covered include genomics, cellular and molecular biology, data management and analytics, environmental and Earth system sciences, and structural biology. Members come from public and private universities, Federal agencies, and private industry. Particular attention is paid to obtaining diverse membership with a balance of disciplines, interests, experiences, points of view and geography.

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

The full committee meets at least two times a year. The meetings are very relevant and important to the Office of Biological and Environmental Research. The meetings serve as opportunities for information exchange between the full committee and the Office. Reports of subcommittees are discussed, modified, and approved or returned to the subcommittees for additional work. Changes and plans for the Office are presented and discussed. New and ongoing charges from the Director of the Office of Science are presented and discussed.

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

No other committee exists within or outside of the DOE that has the breadth of knowledge and/or expertise needed to review the programs and plans of the Office of Biological and Environmental Research to address the Department's energy,

environmental and science missions. Because the committee is dedicated to the Office, it has insights into the programs and their management that provide a sound and broad base from which to make its recommendations. In addition, the regular turnover of the membership brings fresh points of view to the committee.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

None

Designated Federal Officer

Tristram West Senior Technical Advisor, Office of Biological and Environmental Research

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Ajo-Franklin, Caroline	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	Rice University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Argueso, Cris	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	Colorado State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Assmann, Sarah	02/26/2015	12/16/2023	Pennsylvania State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Barros, Ana	10/21/2021	12/16/2023	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Basso, Bruno	12/17/2020	12/16/2023	Professor	Representative Member
Chiao, Sen	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	Howard University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Donner, Leo	12/17/2018	12/16/2024	NOAA GFDL	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Fields, Matthew	10/21/2021	12/16/2023	Montana State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Fischetti, Robert	04/25/2019	12/16/2024	Argonne National Laboratory	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Fridlind, Ann	12/17/2018	12/16/2024	NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Gonzalez-Cruz, Jorge	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	City College New York	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hungate, Bruce	03/22/2016	12/16/2024	Northern Arizona University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Johnson, Randi	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	Retired	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jones Prather, Kristala	04/20/2017	12/16/2024	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kleese van Dam, Kerstin	04/25/2018	12/16/2023	Brookhaven National Lab	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kreidenweis, Sonia	10/21/2021	12/16/2023	Colorado State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Liu, Xiaohong	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	Texas A&M University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
McCann, Maureen	04/25/2019	12/16/2024	Purdue University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Meehl, Gerald	02/26/2015	12/16/2023	National Center for Atmospheric Research	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Muday, Gloria	03/22/2016	12/16/2023	Wake Forest University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Niyogi, Dev	12/17/2021	12/16/2024	Professor	Representative Member

Pakrasi, Himadri	04/25/2019	12/16/2024	Washington University at St. Louis	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Reed, Patrick	04/25/2018	12/16/2023	Cornell University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Reguera, Gemma	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	Michigan State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Schmutz, Jeremy	04/25/2019	12/16/2024	HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Segre, Daniel	04/25/2018	12/16/2023	Boston University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Seto, Karen	04/21/2022	12/16/2024	Yale University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shupe, Matthew	04/25/2018	12/16/2023	University of Colorado	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 28

Narrative Description

DOE's mission is to advance the energy, environmental, and nuclear security of the United States; promoting scientific and technological innovation in support of that mission; sponsoring basic research in the physical sciences; and ensuring the environmental cleanup of the nation’s nuclear weapons complex. The Department also has three strategic goals toward achieving its mission: 1)Science and Energy; 2)Nuclear Security; 3)Management and Performance. With respect to the Science and Energy strategic goal, DOE leads the nation in the transformational research, development, demonstration, and deployment of an extensive range of energy and efficiency technologies. The DOE world-leading research in physical, chemical, biological, environmental, and computational sciences contributes fundamental scientific discoveries and technological solutions that support the nation’s primacy in science and innovation. The committee ensures that BER supports a balanced and

state-of-the-art research portfolio of research projects that contribute to all aspects of the DOE mission and impacting all strategic 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?
567

Number of Recommendations Comments
Since January 2006, 31 reports have been issued covering all aspects of user facilities, research, planning, and program management for the Office of Biological and Environmental Research. These reports contain more than 500 separate and distinct recommendations with individual reports having as few as three and as many as eighty recommendations.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?
80%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments
All separate and distinct recommendations have been evaluated and considered and an estimated 85% or more have been implemented.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?
20%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments
An attempt is always made to at least partially implement those recommendations that are not or cannot be fully implemented.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?
Yes ☑ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments
Reports on progress and implementation made at subsequent Committee meetings and/or in writing are posted on the Committee website.

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

	Checked if Applies
Reorganized Priorities	☑
Reallocated resources	☑

Issued new regulation	☐
Proposed legislation	☐
Approved grants or other payments	☐
Other	☐

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	✓
Online Agency Web Site	✓
Online Committee Web Site	✓
Online GSA FACA Web Site	✓
Publications	✓
Other	☐

Access Comments

N/A