

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Environmental Education Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Environmental Protection Agency

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Environmental Education
Advisory Council

3b. GSA

Committee No.

125

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

10/31/2022

6. Expected Renewal Date

10/31/2024

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

20 U.S.C. 5501 et.
seq.

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

20 U.S.C. 5501 et. seq.

13. Effective Date

11/16/1990

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

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 National Environmental Education Advisory Council (NEEAC) is charged with developing a biennial report assessing environmental education in the United States.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

NEEAC's balance is achieved through active recruiting of representatives from the following sectors (as prescribed by the National Environmental Education Act): business and industry; primary and secondary education;

college and university; State Department of Education and natural resources; non-profit; and senior Americans.

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

The NEEAC expects to meet approximately one to two times a year in a face to face or virtual meetings, subject to availability of appropriation funding. The NEEAC expects to meet in FY 2024 as soon as the new members are empaneled.

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

The NEEAC represents the leading policy makers, practitioners, providers, and researchers in environmental education. No other EPA advisory committee has the expertise necessary to provide advice to the Agency on the issue of environmental education as a tool for achieving environmental protection and health goals and in supporting EPA's goals and priorities through state capacity building, environmental education research, and education reform. Environmental education is a process that develops the critical thinking and problem-solving skills citizens need to make good environmental and health protection decisions for their communities, nationally and globally. Environmental education is based on sound science and effective education practices and is used as a tool to promote and protect human health and the environment and to encourage student academic achievement. Environmental education is multi-disciplinary in focus.

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

NEEAC meetings are not closed or partially closed

to the public.

21. Remarks

All members are Tier 1 (parent committee) members. There are no Tier 2 (subcommittee) members serving.

Designated Federal Officer

Javier Araujo Environmental Education Specialist

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Arens, Rachael	07/30/2023	12/15/2025	Educator	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Bronzaft, Arline	07/30/2023	12/15/2025	College Professor	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Ferdinand, Rashida	07/30/2023	12/15/2025	Founder and CEO	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Keniry, Lisa	07/30/2023	12/15/2025	Principal ESDI Group	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Leonard, Joshua	08/13/2023	12/15/2025	Tier 1, Education Director, Belwin Outdoor Science Center, Afton, MN	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Muskett, Milford	08/13/2023	03/21/2024	Department Chair (University)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Poole, Tanya	07/30/2023	12/15/2025	Tier 1, Wildlife Education Specialist, State Department of Education and Natural Resources, Pisgah Forest, NC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rogoff, Marc	08/13/2023	12/15/2025	Educator	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Schifter, Laura	07/30/2023	12/15/2025	Adjunct lecturer on Education	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Sewell, Said	07/30/2023	12/15/2025	College Professor	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 10

Narrative Description

The NEEAC is charged with developing a biennial report assessing environmental education in the United States. NEEAC expects to meet as soon as the new members are empaneled in FY 2024. The National Environmental Education Act mandates the creation of the National Environmental Education Advisory Council (NEEAC). The purpose of the Council is “to advise, consult with, and make recommendations” to the EPA Administrator on matters relating to the activities, functions and policies of the National Environmental Education Act. The Office of Environmental Education carries out the design, implementation and management of those programs mandated by the Act, as well as the establishment of the advisory committee. The work of the Council focuses on providing the Office of Environmental Education (OEE) and the EPA Administrator with recommendations on improving and enhancing environmental education in the Agency. In addition, the Council serves as a national voice for environmental education, helping to provide a strategic vision in support of the field.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

N/A

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" 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

For the life of the Council, recommendations have had an impact on the spending decisions made by the Office of Environmental Education. OEE's resources are better targeted to cost-effective programs and initiatives that include federal and other sector resources, at the greatest leverage points, and support the overall goals of environmental education and environmental protection. It is very difficult to do a cost/benefit analysis and other types of assessments for education programs. Research indicates that long-term, longitudinal studies are required to glean some understanding of the success of education programs on increased knowledge and improved student achievement as well as achieving environmental protection goals.

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

21

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Council makes formal recommendations to the Agency through their reports to Congress. They have written 3 such documents, for a total of 21 recommendations.

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

95%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

There is only one recommendation that the Agency has not fully or partially implemented: Update the National Environmental Education Act for the 21st Century. The Agency does not have the authority to implement this recommendation; only the Congress can pass legislation that would update the current environmental education act.

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

5%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

One of the recommendations has been partially implemented. The OEE Strategic Plan and EE Grants program is currently being integrated into the current OEE Strategic Plan.

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 Agency provides both verbal and written comments to the Council through the DFO who collates all the comments from the Environmental Education Division.

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 type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

N/A

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

Not Applicable

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

Access Comments

N/A