

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Construction Safety Team Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Construction Safety Team
Advisory Committee

3b. GSA

Committee No.

15122

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

5. Current Charter

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

No 10/04/2020 10/04/2024

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

No

9. Agency

Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b.

Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

P. L. 107-231

13. Effective Date

10/01/2002

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Other Committee

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 Next
FY 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?

This Committee advises the Director of NIST on carrying out the provisions of P.L. 107-231 and reviews the procedures developed under section 2(c)(1) of the Act and reports issued under section 8 of the Act. The Committee advises the Director of NIST by providing advice on the functions of National Construction Safety Teams under section 2(b)(2); providing advice on the composition of Teams under section 3; providing advice on the exercise of authorities under sections 4 and 5; providing advice on the procedures developed under section 2(c)(1); and providing advice on the reports issued under section 8.

20b. How does the Committee balance its

membership?

Members reflect the wide diversity of technical disciplines and competencies involved in the National Construction Safety Teams investigations. Members are drawn from industry and other communities having an interest in the National Construction Safety Teams investigations, such as, but not limited to, universities, state and local government bodies, non-profit research institutions, and other Federal agencies and laboratories.

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

The Committee meets at least once per year. To promote efficient spending, as directed by Executive Order 13589, the Committee conducts web conferences or teleconferences in lieu of face-to-face meetings, when feasible.

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

This Committee is required by law. The law requires this Advisory Committee to help the Director of NIST to fulfill his/her responsibilities under the National Construction Safety Team Act, P.L. 107-231.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

Three hybrid (in-person and web conference) meetings were held in FY 2023. This Committee functions solely as an advisory body, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Committee brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the

National Construction Safety Team and has proven to be a very valuable asset.

Designated Federal Officer

Tina Faecke Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Dusenberry, Donald	09/01/2022	08/31/2025	Professional Engineer	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Izquierdo-Encarnación, Jose	10/01/2020	09/30/2026	Principal, PORTICUS	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Peek, Lori	04/03/2023	04/02/2026	Professor, University of Colorado Boulder	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shoaf, Kimberly	05/01/2020	04/30/2026	Professor, Utah School of Medicine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Zerva, Aspasia	09/01/2022	08/31/2025	Professor, Drexel University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 5

Narrative Description

The National Construction Safety Team Act (P.L. 107-231) was signed into law by the President on October 1, 2002. The Act authorizes the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to establish National Construction Safety Teams (NCST) for deployment after events causing the failure of a building or class of buildings that has resulted in substantial loss of life or that posed the potential for substantial loss of life. The Act directs NIST to establish a Federal Advisory Committee to advise the Director on carrying out this Act and to review the procedures developed under Section 2(c)(1) of the Act and the reports issued under Section 8 of the Act. The National Construction Safety Team

Advisory Committee is composed of individuals who are experts in their respective fields. The committee advises the NIST Director and NCST teams on the conduct of investigations, reviews and provides advice on the technical approaches used in investigations, reviews and provides advice on findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from NCST investigations, and reviews and provides comments on written investigation reports. The NCST Advisory Committee provides an outside perspective to NCST investigations that lends credibility to the resulting findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

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

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

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
Cost Savings Other



Cost Savings Comments

NA

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

51

Number of Recommendations Comments

The total number of recommendations for the life of the Committee is 51. Out of the 51 recommendations, 53% are “fully implemented”, 37% are “partially implemented”, 6% are “still ongoing”, and 4% were “declined”. In the NCSTAC’s most recent annual report to Congress (submitted December 12, 2022) seven new recommendations to NIST were included, as summarized below. 1) Interagency Agreement (IAA) with NSF: NCSTAC recommends that NIST takes advantage of the agreement with NHERI by exploring more specifically how these programs can cooperate. 2) Design Guidelines for Tornado Effects: NCSTAC encourages additional efforts to broaden recommendations for design guidelines for tornado effects to include classes of buildings and other structures in addition to high-impact buildings, to include the building code Risk Category II, which includes most common buildings. 3) Standard Protocols for Verbal Autopsies: NCST investigations and mortality studies in general will greatly benefit if a standard protocol for conducting verbal autopsies is developed. 4) Conclusions of the Hurricane Maria study should emphasize that loss of function, a key measure of resilience, is not only dependent on structural damage, but also depends on other building systems and surrounding infrastructure. 5) It may be useful to consult Spanish language speakers who can comment about nuances that may be lost by translating interviews and surveys conducted in Spanish into English to facilitate coding and analyses for the Hurricane Maria study. 6) NCSTAC recommends careful attention to the following highly challenging elements of the Champlain Towers South investigation: a) potentially valuable information that can only be gained through interviews that may not be tied to physical evidence; b) find a set of calculations for a similar building in South Florida designed in in the late 1970s or early 1980s; such a set would be helpful in establishing probable design practices and the standard of care; c) recognize the uncertainty of pre-collapse conditions and conduct tests on specimens that represent a reasonable range of probable conditions; d) computational models and laboratory test results should be adjusted to reflect the effects of long-term sustained load, which cannot be fully simulated in the laboratory tests. 7) Champlain Towers South Investigation Timeline: In light of the significance of the collapse and its

potential impact on the US construction industry, we urge NCST to expedite their investigation and issue interim summaries of critical lessons learned as the investigation progresses.

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

53%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

NIST implemented the consensus advice received from the NCST Advisory Committee in finalizing the issues described above and preparing the recommendations for changes to codes, standards, and practices documented in the final report. Of the 51 formal recommendations made over the life of the Committee, 27 have been fully implemented, 19 have been partially implemented, 3 are still ongoing, and 2 recommendations were declined (identified in the "% of Recs Partially Implemented Comment" of the FY22 FACA report).

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

37%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NIST implemented the consensus advice received from the NCST Advisory Committee in finalizing the issues described above and preparing the recommendations for changes to codes, standards, and practices documented in the final report. Of the 51 formal recommendations made over the life of the Committee, 27 have been fully implemented, 19 have been partially implemented, 3 are still ongoing, and 2 recommendations were declined (as identified in this section of the FY22 FACA report).

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

NIST provides feedback directly to the Advisory Committee during its meetings, either face-to-face, via teleconference, or web conferencing.

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

Access Comments

All annual Committee reports to Congress are posted on the Committee's web site at <http://www.nist.gov/el/disasterstudies/ncst/>