

Commission. The letter shall contain the following information:

(1) An explanation of why the committee is essential to the conduct of NRC business and is in the public interest;

(2) An explanation of why the committee's functions cannot be performed by NRC, another existing NRC advisory committee, or other means (such as a public hearing); and

(3) A description of NRC's plan to attain balanced membership on the committee.

For purposes of attaining balance in an NRC advisory committee's membership, the Commission shall consider for membership interested persons and groups with professional, technical, or personal qualifications or experience to contribute to the functions and tasks to be performed.

(b) Each proposed committee charter submitted for review pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall contain the following information:

(1) The committee's official designation;

(2) The committee's objectives and the scope of its activity;

(3) The period of time necessary for the committee to carry out its purposes;

(4) The NRC official to whom the committee will report;

(5) The NRC office responsible for providing support for the committee;

(6) A description of the duties for which the committee will be responsible, and if such duties are not solely advisory, a specification of the authority for the functions that are not advisory;

(7) The estimated annual operating costs, in dollars and man-years, for the committee;

(8) The estimated number and frequency of committee meetings; and

(9) The committee's termination date, if less than two years from the date of the committee's establishment. The date the charter is filed pursuant to §7.8 shall be added to the charter when such filing takes place.

(c)(1) A subcommittee that does not function independently of its parent advisory committee shall be subject to the requirements of this part, except that it shall not be subject to the re-

quirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section. Such a subcommittee shall not, however, be subject to the requirements of this part with respect to any meeting of its members devoted solely to a function described in §7.2(c)(3)(viii).

(2) The requirements of this part, including the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, shall apply to any subcommittee that functions independently of the parent advisory committee (such as by making recommendations directly to the agency rather than to the parent advisory committee), regardless of whether the subcommittee's members are drawn in whole or in part from the parent advisory committee.

(d) After the GSA Secretariat has notified the Commission of the results of its review of a proposal to establish or utilize an NRC advisory committee, submitted pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, the Commission shall notify the GSA Secretariat in writing whether the advisory committee is actually being established. Filing of the advisory committee charter pursuant to §7.8 shall be deemed to fulfill this notification requirement. If the advisory committee is not being established, the Commission shall so advise the GSA Secretariat in writing, stating whether NRC intends to take any further action with respect to the proposed advisory committee.

(e) The date of filing of an advisory committee charter pursuant to §7.8 shall appear on the face of the charter and shall constitute the date of establishment, renewal, or reestablishment of the committee.

§7.6 Amendments to advisory committee charters.

(a) Final authority for amending the charter of an NRC advisory committee established or utilized by the NRC is vested in the Commission.

(b) Any proposed minor technical changes made to a current charter for an NRC advisory committee whose establishment is required or authorized by statute or by Executive Order of the President shall be coordinated with the General Counsel to ensure that they

are consistent with the applicable statute or Executive Order. When the statute or Executive Order that directed or authorized the establishment of an advisory committee is amended to change the language that has been the basis for establishing the advisory committee, those sections of the current charter affected by the statute or Executive Order shall also be amended, and the amended charter shall be filed as specified in § 7.8.

(c)(1) The charter of an NRC advisory committee established under general agency authority may be amended when the Commission determines that the existing charter no longer reflects the objectives or functions of the committee. Such changes may be minor (such as revising the name of the advisory committee or modifying the estimated number or frequency of meetings), or they may be major (such as revising the objectives or composition of the committee). The procedures specified in paragraph (b) of this section shall be used in the case of charter amendments involving minor changes.

(2) In the case of a major amendment to the charter of an advisory committee established under general agency authority, a letter requesting review of the proposed amendment and transmitting the proposed amended charter shall be submitted to the GSA Secretariat. The letter shall explain the purpose of the changes and why they are necessary.

(3) A committee charter that has been amended pursuant to this paragraph is subject to the filing requirements set forth in § 7.8.

(4) Amendment of an existing advisory committee charter pursuant to this paragraph does not constitute renewal of the committee for purposes of § 7.7.

§ 7.7 Termination, renewal, and rechartering of advisory committees.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, each NRC advisory committee shall terminate two years after it is established, reestablished, or renewed, unless—

(1) It has been terminated sooner;

(2) It has been renewed or reestablished before the end of such period in accordance with the procedures set

forth in paragraph (b) of this section; or

(3) Its duration has been otherwise designated by law.

The NRC Committee Management Officer shall notify the GSA Secretariat in writing of the effective date of termination of any advisory committee that has been terminated by the NRC.

(b)(1) An NRC advisory committee that is established by statute shall require rechartering by the filing of a new charter every 2 years after the date of enactment of the statute establishing the committee. If a new charter is not filed, the committee is not terminated, but it may not meet or take any actions.

(2) Any other NRC advisory committee may be renewed, provided that such renewal is carried out in compliance with the procedures set forth in § 7.5 at least 30 and not more than 60 days before the committee would otherwise terminate; except that an advisory committee established by the President may be renewed by appropriate action of the President and the filing of a new charter. Renewal of an NRC advisory committee shall not be deemed to terminate the appointment of any committee member who was previously appointed to serve on the committee.

§ 7.8 Charter filing requirements.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, an NRC advisory committee may not operate, meet, or take any action unless a copy of the committee's charter has been filed with (1) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate, and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the United States House of Representatives; (2) the Library of Congress, Exchange and Gift Division, Federal Documents Section, Federal Advisory Committee Desk, Washington, DC 20540; and (3) the GSA Secretariat. The copy filed with the GSA Secretariat shall indicate the Congressional filing date.

(b) When either the President or the Congress establishes an advisory committee that advises the President and for which NRC is responsible, the Commission shall—