



CHARTER
of the
INTERAGENCY ARCTIC RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND SUSTAINABILITY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) is hereby established as a interagency working group (IWG) of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability (CENRS). The IARPC operates under the guidelines established by the NSTC for an IWG and reports directly to the CENRS.

B. Purpose and Scope

The *Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984* (ARPA), Public Law 98-373, July 31, 1984, as amended by Public Law 101-609, November 16, 1990,^{*} provides for a comprehensive national policy dealing with national research needs and objectives in the Arctic. The ARPA establishes an Arctic Research Commission (ARC) and an Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) to help implement the Act.

IARPC was formally created by Executive Order 12501. Its activities have been coordinated by the National Science Foundation (NSF), with the Director of the NSF as chair. On July 22, 2010, President Obama issued a Memorandum for the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy[†] making the NSTC responsible for the IARPC.

C. Functions

The functions of the IARPC are defined in Sections 108, 109, and 110 of the ARPA and include the following:

- (1) survey Arctic research conducted by Federal, State, and local agencies, universities, and other public and private institutions¹ to help determine priorities for future Arctic research, including natural resources and materials, physical and biological sciences, and social and behavioral sciences;
- (2) work with the ARC to develop and establish an integrated national Arctic research policy that will guide Federal agencies in developing and implementing their research programs in the Arctic;
- (3) consult with the ARC on-

¹ This includes Alaska native communities and/or organizations.

- a. the development of the national Arctic research policy and the 5-year plan implementing the policy;
 - b. Arctic research programs of Federal agencies;
 - c. recommendations of ARC on future Arctic research; and
 - d. guidelines for Federal agencies for awarding and administering Arctic research grants;
- (4) develop a 5-year plan to implement the national policy, as described in more detail in section 109 of ARPA (a copy of which is attached to this charter);
 - (5) provide the necessary coordination, data, and assistance for the preparation of a single integrated, coherent, and multiagency budget request for Arctic, as provided for in section 110 of ARPA (a copy of which is attached to this charter);
 - (6) facilitate cooperation between the Federal Government and State, local, and tribal governments² in Arctic research, and recommend the undertaking of neglected areas of research in accordance with the findings and purposes of this title;
 - (7) coordinate and promote cooperative Arctic scientific research programs with other nations, subject to the foreign policy guidance of the Secretary of State;
 - (8) cooperate with the Governor of the State of Alaska in fulfilling its responsibilities under this title;
 - (9) promote Federal interagency coordination of all Arctic research activities, including-
 - a. logistical planning and coordination; and
 - b. the sharing of data and information associated with Arctic research, as permitted by law;
 - (10) provide public notice of its meetings;
 - (11) provide an opportunity for the public to participate in the development and implementation of national Arctic research policy; and
 - (12) not later than January 31, 2012, and biennially thereafter, submit to the Congress through the President, a brief concise report containing-
 - a. a statement of its activities and accomplishments since its last report; and
 - b. a description of the activities of the ARC, detailing with particularity the recommendations of the ARC with respect to Federal activities in Arctic research.

D. Membership

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the IARPC:

Department of Agriculture;
 Department of Commerce;
 Department of Defense;
 Department of Energy;
 Department of Health and Human Services;
 Department of Homeland Security;
 Department of the Interior;
 Department of State;

² Including Alaska Native communities.

Department of Transportation;
Environmental Protection Agency;
National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
National Endowment for the Humanities;
National Science Foundation (Chair); and
Smithsonian Institution.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the IARPC:

Office of Management and Budget and
Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive branch organizations, departments, and agencies as the Co-Chairs may, from time to time, designate.

E. Private-Sector Interface

The IARPC may work with the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology to secure appropriate private-sector³ advice and will recommend to the CENRS and/or the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy the nature of additional private-sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The IARPC may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

F. Termination

Unless renewed by the Co-Chairs of the CENRS prior to its expiration, the IARPC shall terminate no later than October 31, 2016.

G. Determination

I hereby determine that the establishment of the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive branch by law and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

³ The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private sector," but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or Tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, international bodies, etc.

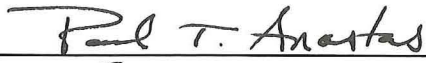
Approved:



Steve Fetter
Co-Chair of the CENRS, and
Principal Assistant Director, Environment & Energy Division
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President

8/2/11


Date



Paul Anastas
Co-Chair of the CENRS, and
Assistant Administrator for Research and Development and
Science Advisor
Environmental Protection Agency

9/3/11

Date



Jane Lubchenco
Co-Chair of the CENRS, and
Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere and
Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Department of Commerce

AUG 23 2011

Date

* Relevant language from Title 1 of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984, (Pub. L. 98-373, as amended by Pub. L. 101-609):

ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION

SEC. 103 "15 USC 4102'. (a) The President shall establish an Arctic Research Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Commission').

(b) (1) The Commission shall be composed of five members appointed by the President, with the Director of the National Science Foundation serving as a nonvoting, ex officio member. The members appointed by the President shall include –

(A) three members appointed from among individuals from academic or other research institutions with expertise in areas of research relating to the Arctic, including the physical, biological, health, environmental, social, and behavioral sciences;

(B) one member appointed from among indigenous residents of the Arctic who are representative of the needs and interests of Arctic residents and who live in areas directly affected by Arctic resource development; and

(C) one member appointed from among individuals familiar with the Arctic and representative of the needs and interests of private industry undertaking resource development in the Arctic.

(2) The President shall designate one of the appointed members of the Commission to be chairperson of the Commission.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the term of office of each member of the Commission appointed under subsection (b)(1) shall be four years.

(2) Of the members of the Commission originally appointed under subsection (b)(1) --

(A) one shall be appointed for a term of two years;

(B) two shall be appointed for a term of three years; and

(C) two shall be appointed for a term of four years.

(3) Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled, after notice of the vacancy is published in the Federal Register, in the manner provided by the preceding provisions of this section, for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(4) A member may serve after the expiration of the member's term of office until the President appoints a successor.

(5) A member may serve consecutive terms beyond the member's original appointment.

(d) (1) Members of the Commission may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code. A member of the Commission not presently employed for compensation shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the rate for GS-16 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, for each day the member is engaged in the actual performance of his duties as a member of the Commission, not to exceed 90 days of service each year "5 USC 8101'. Except for the purposes of chapter 81 of title 5 "5 USC 8101' (relating to compensation for work injuries) and chapter 171 of title 28 "28 USC 2671' (relating to tort claims), a member of the Commission shall not be considered an employee of the United States for any purpose.

(2) The Commission shall meet at the call of its Chairman or a majority of its members.

(3) Each Federal agency referred to in section 107(b) may designate a representative to participate as an observer with the Commission. These representatives shall report to and advise the Commission on the activities relating to Arctic research of their agencies.

(4) The Commission shall conduct at least one public meeting in the State of Alaska annually.

DUTIES OF COMMISSION

SEC. 104 "15 USC 4103'. (a) The Commission shall --

- (1) develop and recommend an integrated national Arctic research policy;
- (2) in cooperation with the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee established under section 107, assist in establishing a national Arctic research program plan to implement the Arctic research policy;
- (3) facilitate cooperation between the Federal Government and State and local governments with respect to Arctic research;
- (4) review Federal research programs in the Arctic and suggest improvements in coordination among programs;
- (5) recommend methods to improve logistical planning and support for Arctic research as may be appropriate and in accordance with the findings and purposes of this title;
- (6) suggest methods for improving efficient sharing and dissemination of data and information on the Arctic among interested public and private institutions;
- (7) offer other recommendations and advice to the Interagency Committee established under section 107 as it may find appropriate; and
- (8) cooperate with the Governor of the State of Alaska and with agencies and organizations of that State which the Governor may designate with respect to the formulation of Arctic research policy.

(b) Not later than January 31 of each year, the Commission shall --

- (1) publish a statement of goals and objectives with respect to Arctic research to guide the Interagency Committee established under section 107 in the performance of its duties; and
- (2) submit to the President and to the Congress a report describing the activities and accomplishments of the Commission during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

COOPERATION WITH THE COMMISSION

SEC. 105 "15 USC 4104'. (a) (1) The Commission may acquire from the head of any Federal agency unclassified data, reports, and other nonproprietary information with respect to Arctic research in the possession of the agency which the Commission considers useful in the discharge of its duties.

(2) Each agency shall cooperate with the Commission and furnish all data, reports, and other information requested by the Commission to the extent permitted by law; except that no agency need furnish any information which it is permitted to withhold under section 552 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) With the consent of the appropriate agency head, the Commission may utilize the facilities and services of any Federal agency to the extent that the facilities and services are needed for the establishment and development of an Arctic research policy, upon reimbursement to be agreed upon by the Commission and the agency head and taking every feasible step to avoid duplication of effort.

(c) All Federal agencies shall consult with the Commission before undertaking major Federal actions relating to Arctic research.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 106 "15 USC 4105'. The Commission may --

- (1) in accordance with the civil service laws and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5 "5 USC 5331', United States Code, appoint and fix the compensation of an Executive Director and necessary additional staff personnel, but not to exceed a total of seven compensated personnel;
- (2) procure temporary and intermittent services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code;
- (3) enter into contracts and procure supplies, services, and personal property; and

(4) enter into agreements with the General Services Administration for the procurement of necessary financial and administrative services, for which payment shall be made by reimbursement from funds of the Commission in amounts to be agreed upon by the Commission and the Administrator of the General Services Administration.

LEAD AGENCY AND INTERAGENCY ARCTIC RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE

SEC. 107 "15 USC 4106'. (a) The National Science Foundation is designated as the lead agency responsible for implementing Arctic research policy, and the Director of the National Science Foundation shall insure that the requirements of section 108 are fulfilled.

(b) (1) The President shall establish an Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Interagency Committee").

(2) The Interagency Committee shall be composed of representatives of the following Federal agencies or offices:

(A) the National Science Foundation;

(B) the Department of Commerce;

(C) the Department of Defense;

(D) the Department of Energy;

(E) the Department of the Interior;

(F) the Department of State;

(G) the Department of Transportation;

(H) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(I) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(J) the Environmental Protection Agency; and

(K) any other agency or office deemed appropriate.

(3) The representative of the National Science Foundation shall serve as the Chairperson of the Interagency Committee.

DUTIES OF THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE

SEC. 108 "15 USC 4107'. (a) The Interagency Committee shall --

(1) survey Arctic research conducted by Federal, State, and local agencies, universities, and other public and private institutions to help determine priorities for future Arctic research, including natural resources and materials, physical and biological sciences, and social and behavioral sciences;

(2) work with the Commission to develop and establish an integrated national Arctic research policy that will guide Federal agencies in developing and implementing their research programs in the Arctic;

(3) consult with the Commission on --

(A) the development of the national Arctic research policy and the 5 year plan implementing the policy;

(B) Arctic research programs of Federal agencies;

(C) recommendations of the Commission of future Arctic research; and

(D) guidelines for Federal agencies for awarding and administering Arctic research grants;

(4) develop a 5-year plan to implement the national policy, as provided for in section 109;

(5) provide the necessary coordination, data, and assistance for the preparation of a single integrated, coherent, and multiagency budget request for Arctic research as provided for in section 110;

- (6) facilitate cooperation between the Federal Government and State and local governments in Arctic research, and recommend the undertaking of neglected areas of research in accordance with the findings and purposes of this title;
- (7) coordinate and promote cooperative Arctic scientific research programs with other nations, subject to the foreign policy guidance of the Secretary of State;
- (8) cooperate with the Governor of the State of Alaska in fulfilling its responsibilities under this title;
- (9) promote Federal interagency coordination of all Arctic research activities, including --
 - (A) logistical planning and coordination; and
 - (B) the sharing of data and information associated with Arctic research, subject to section 552 of title 5, United States Code; and
- (10) provide public notice of its meetings and an opportunity for the public to participate in the development and implementation of national Arctic research policy.
 - (b) Not later than January 31, 1986, and biennially thereafter, the Interagency Committee shall submit to the Congress through the President, a brief, concise report containing --
 - (1) a statement of the activities and accomplishments of the Interagency Committee since its last report; and
 - (2) a description of the activities of the Commission, detailing with particularity the recommendations of the Commission with respect to Federal activities in Arctic research.

5-YEAR ARCTIC RESEARCH PLAN

SEC. 109 "15 USC 4108'. (a) The Interagency Committee, in consultation with the Commission, the Governor of the State of Alaska, the residents of the Arctic, the private sector, and public interest groups, shall prepare a comprehensive 5-year program plan (hereinafter referred to as the "Plan") for the overall Federal effort in Arctic research. The Plan shall be prepared and submitted to the President for transmittal to the Congress within one year after the enactment of this Act and shall be revised biennially thereafter.

- (b) The Plan shall contain but need not be limited to the following elements:
 - (1) an assessment of national needs and problems regarding the Arctic and the research necessary to address those needs or problems;
 - (2) a statement of the goals and objectives of the Interagency Committee for national Arctic research;
 - (3) a detailed listing of all existing Federal programs relating to Arctic research, including the existing goals, funding levels for each of the 5 following fiscal years, and the funds currently being expended to conduct the programs;
 - (4) recommendations for necessary program changes and other proposals to meet the requirements of the policy and goals as set forth by the Commission and in the Plan as currently in effect; and
 - (5) a description of the actions taken by the Interagency Committee to coordinate the budget review process in order to ensure interagency coordination and cooperation in (A) carrying out Federal Arctic research programs, and (B) eliminating unnecessary duplication of effort among these programs.

COORDINATION AND REVIEW OF BUDGET REQUESTS

SEC. 110 "15 USC 4109'. (a) The Office of Science and Technology Policy shall --

- (1) review all agency and department budget requests related to the Arctic transmitted pursuant to section 108(a)(5), in accordance with the national Arctic research policy and the 5-year program under section 108(a)(2) and section 109, respectively; and
- (2) consult closely with the Interagency Committee and the Commission to guide the Office of Science and Technology Policy's efforts.

(b) (1) The Office of Management and Budget shall consider all Federal agency requests for research related to the Arctic as one integrated, coherent, and multiagency request which shall be reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget prior to submission of the President's annual budget request for its adherence to the Plan. The Commission shall, after submission of the President's annual budget request, review the request and report to Congress on adherence to the Plan.

(2) The Office of Management and Budget shall seek to facilitate planning for the design, procurement, maintenance, deployment, and operations of icebreakers needed to provide a platform for Arctic research by allocating all funds necessary to support icebreaking operations, except for recurring incremental costs associated with specific projects, to the Coast Guard.

DEFINITION

SEC. 112 "15 USC 4111". As used in this title, the term "Arctic" means all United States and foreign territory north of the Arctic Circle and all United States territory north and west of the boundary formed by the Porcupine, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Rivers; all contiguous seas, including the Arctic Ocean and the Beaufort, Bering, and Chukchi Seas; and the Aleutian chain.

† Relevant language from the July 22, 2010 Presidential Memorandum signed by President Barack Obama:

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

SUBJECT: Designation of the National Science and Technology Council to Coordinate Certain Activities Under the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (Title I of Public Law 98-373) (the "Act"), I hereby assign responsibility to the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) to coordinate activities assigned to the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee in sections 107 and 108 of the Act, including through committees of the NSTC.

The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.