



CHARTER
of the
WINDSTORM WORKING GROUP
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER REDUCTION
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND SUSTAINABILITY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Windstorm Working Group (WWG) is hereby established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC); Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability (CENRS); Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction (SDR).

B. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the WWG is to advance knowledge and policies that reduce the loss of life and property from windstorms. The WWG will actively coordinate Federal research and investment; serve as an interagency forum to leverage expertise; inform policymakers; promote technology integration; work to unify Federal messaging across agencies; and encourage risk-wise behavior. The group is expected to produce near-term, actionable recommendations as well as address longer-term issues.

C. Functions

The functions of the WWG include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Provide near-term analysis and recommendations for delivery to the SDR to fulfill the reporting requirement specified by the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 to produce, on a biennial basis and not later than 180 days after the end of the preceding two fiscal years, a report to Congress describing the status of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program (NWIRP), including progress achieved during the preceding two fiscal years.¹ The clearance process for these reports will be through the National Science and Technology Council.
2. Enhance Federal activities for windstorm hazard reduction through interagency dialogue, collaboration, and the leveraging of synergies and resources;
3. Identify and close gaps in Federal efforts to improve windstorm hazard understanding, impact assessment, and impact reduction;
4. Promote policies and actions consistent with the *Grand Challenges for Disaster Reduction Implementation Plan* for tornadoes and hurricanes.

Through its Co-chairs, the WWG will recommend action on windstorm science and technology policy and research and development issues to the SDR for approval.

¹ 42 U.S.C. § 15703(f) (2012).

D. Membership

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

Department of Commerce;
Department of Homeland Security;
Department of Transportation; and
National Science Foundation.

The following components of the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the WWG:

Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include such other Executive Branch organizations, departments, and agencies as the Windstorm Working Group Co-chairs may, from time to time, designate.

E. Leadership and Reporting

The SDR Co-chairs shall appoint the Co-chairs of the WWG.² The WWG Co-chairs, or their designee, shall report on activities of the WWG at meetings of the SDR on a quarterly basis or as requested by the SDR Co-chairs.

F. Private-Sector Interface

The WWG may seek advice from the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and will recommend to the SDR and/or the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology the nature of additional private-sector advice³ needed to accomplish its mission. The WWG may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

G. Termination Date

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the SDR prior to its expiration, the WWG shall terminate no later than March 31, 2017.

H. Determination

I hereby determine that the establishment of the Windstorm Working Group 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.

² 42 U.S.C. § 15703(c) (2012).

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, and international bodies.