

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 Windstorm Working Group is to advance knowledge and policies that reduce the loss of life and property from windstorms. The Windstorm Working Group will actively coordinate Federal research and investment; serve as an interagency forum to leverage expertise, inform policy-makers; 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 Windstorm Working Group include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. **Provide Near-term Analysis and Recommendations for delivery to the SDR that will:**
  - 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, including progress achieved during the preceding two fiscal years. The clearance process for these reports will be through the National Science and Technology Council.
  
2. **Work towards Long-term Goals that will:**
  - Enhance federal activities for windstorm hazard reduction through interagency dialogue, collaboration, and the leveraging of synergies and resources;
  - Identify and close gaps in federal efforts to improve windstorm hazard understanding, impact assessment, and impact reduction;
  - Promote policies and actions consistent with the *Grand Challenges for Disaster Reduction* implementation plans: *Tornado* and *Hurricane*.

Through its Co-chairs, the Windstorm Working Group will recommend action on policy and R&D issues to the SDR for approval.

**D. Membership**

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the Windstorm Working Group:  
Department of Commerce (NIST and NOAA);  
Department of Homeland Security (FEMA);  
Department of Transportation (FHWA); and  
National Science Foundation.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the Windstorm Working Group:

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, in consultation with the Office of Science and Technology Policy, shall appoint the Co-chairs of the Windstorm Working Group. The Windstorm Working Group Co-chairs, or their designee, shall report on activities of the working group at meetings of the SDR on a quarterly basis or as requested by the SDR Co-chairs.

#### **F. Private-Sector Interface**

The Windstorm Working Group may work with the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology to secure appropriate private-sector advice, and will recommend to the SDR and/or the Office of Science and Technology Policy Liaison to the SDR the nature of additional private-sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The Windstorm Working Group 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 Windstorm Working Group shall terminate no later than December 31, 2014.

#### **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.