UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHARTER

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

1. Committee's Official Designation (Title):

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council

2. Authority:

This charter renews the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2. The NEJAC is in the public interest and supports the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in performing its duties and responsibilities.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities:

The NEJAC will provide independent advice and recommendations to the Administrator about broad, crosscutting issues related to environmental justice. The NEJAC's efforts will include evaluation of a broad range of strategic, scientific, technological, regulatory, community engagement and economic issues related to environmental justice. The major objectives will be to provide advice and recommendations about EPA efforts to:

a. Integrate environmental justice considerations into Agency programs, policies and activities
b. Improve the environment or public health in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms and risks
c. Address environmental justice to ensure meaningful involvement in EPA decision-making, build capacity in disproportionately-burdened communities, and promote collaborative problem-solving for issues involving environmental justice
d. Strengthen its partnerships with other governmental agencies, such as other Federal agencies and state, tribal, or local governments, regarding environmental justice issues
e. Enhance research and assessment approaches related to environmental justice

4. Description of Committees Duties:

The duties of the NEJAC are solely to advise the EPA.

5. Official(s) to Whom the Committee Reports:

The NEJAC will provide advice and recommendations, and report to the EPA Administrator through the Office of Environmental Justice, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

6. Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support:

EPA will be responsible for financial and administrative support. Within EPA, this support will be provided by the Office of Environmental Justice, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Work Years:

The estimated annual operating cost of the NEJAC is $295,600, which includes 1.5 person-years of support.

8. Designated Federal Officer:

A full-time or permanent part-time employee of EPA will be appointed as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO or a designee will be present at all of the meetings of the advisory committee and subcommittees. Each meeting will be conducted in accordance with an agenda approved in advance by the DFO. The DFO is authorized to adjourn any meeting when he or she determines it is in the public interest to do so, and will chair meetings when directed to do so by the official to whom the committee reports.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

The NEJAC expects to meet approximately two (2) to four (4) times a year. Meetings may occur approximately once every three to six months, as needed and approved by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO), or his/her designee. EPA may pay travel and per diem expenses when determined necessary and appropriate.

As required by FACA, the NEJAC will hold open meetings, unless the EPA Administrator determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c). Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before the committee as time permits, and file comments with the NEJAC.

10. Duration and Termination:

The NEJAC will be examined annually and will exist until the EPA determines the Council is no longer needed. This charter will be in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress. After this two-year period, the charter may be renewed in accordance with Section 14 of FACA.

11. Member Composition:

The NEJAC will be composed of approximately 27 members who will serve as Representative members of non-federal interests, Regular Government Employees (RGE), or Special Government Employees (SGE). Representative members are selected to represent the points of view held by organizations, associations, or classes of individuals. In selecting members, EPA will consider candidates from among, but not limited to: community-based groups; industry and business; academic and educational institutions; state and local governments; indigenous organization and Federally-recognized tribal governments and Indigenous groups; and non-governmental and environmental groups, as deemed appropriate.

12. Subgroups:

EPA, or the NEJAC with EPA approval, may form subcommittees or work groups for any purpose consistent with this charter. Such subcommittees or work groups may not work independently of the chartered committee and must report their proposed recommendations and advice to the chartered NEJAC for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or work groups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered committee nor can they report directly to the EPA.

13. Recordkeeping:

The records of the committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, will be handled in accordance with NARA General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 and EPA Records Schedule 181 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. Subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, these records will be available for public inspection and copying, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

8/8/2014

Agency Approval Date

AUG 20 2014

GSA Consultation Date

SEP 12 2014

Date Filed with Congress