

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHARTER

Total Coliform Rule/Distribution System Advisory Committee

1. Committee's Official Designation:

Total Coliform Rule/Distribution System Advisory Committee (TCRDSAC).

2. Authority:

This charter establishes the Total Coliform Rule/Distribution System Advisory Committee (TCRDSAC) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App.2 § 9 (c). The establishment of this Committee is in the public interest and supports the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in performing its duties and responsibilities under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300/SDWA 1401).

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities:

The TCRDSAC will advise and make recommendations to the Agency on revisions to the Total Coliform Rule (TCR), and on what information about distribution systems is needed to better understand the public health impact from the degradation of drinking water quality in distribution systems. The Committee's activities will include efforts to utilize available information for revisions to the TCR and to address public health risks from contamination of distribution systems by determining what further information is needed to characterize and address those public health risks.

The major objectives will be to provide advice on and recommendations on:

- a. How the Agency should revise the TCR while maintaining or improving public health protection.
- b. What data should be collected, research conducted, and/or risk management strategies evaluated to better inform distribution system contaminant occurrence and associated public health risks.

4. Description of Committee Duties:

The duties of TCRDSAC are solely advisory in nature.

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

The TCRDSAC will report its advice and recommendations to the EPA Administrator through EPA's Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water.

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 Water.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Work Years:

The estimated annual cost of the TCRDSAC is approximately \$1,700,000, which includes 6.7 person-years of support.

8. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

The TCRDSAC expects to meet approximately ten (10) times a year. Meetings are expected to occur approximately every 6 weeks or as needed and approved by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). EPA may pay travel and per diem expenses to any Committee member when necessary and appropriate. A full-time or permanent part-time employee of EPA will be appointed as the DFO. The DFO or designee will be present at all meetings and 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.

As required by FACA, TCRDSAC 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 subsection c of Section 552 (b) of Title 5, United States Code. Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before the committee as time permits, and file comments with the TCRDSAC.

9. Duration and Termination:

The TCRDSAC will be examined annually and will exist until EPA determines the committee is no longer needed. This charter will be in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress. After the initial two-year period, the charter may be renewed as authorized in accordance with Section 14 of FACA(5 U.S.C. App.2 § 14).

10. Member Composition:

The TCRDSAC will be composed of approximately sixteen (16) members who will serve as Representative members or Regular Government Employees (RGE). In selecting members, EPA will consider candidates from EPA, State and local public health and regulatory agencies; Native American tribes; large and small drinking water suppliers; consumer, environmental and public health organizations; and local elected officials.

11. Subgroups:

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

June 15, 2007

Agency Approval Date

June 20, 2007

GSA Consultation Date

July 16, 2007

Date Filed with Congress