

05/20/2010

SUBJ: Research, Engineering, and Development Advisory Committee

1. **Committee's Official Designation (Title)**: Research, Engineering and Development (R,E&D) Advisory Committee.

2. Authority: This order revises the Research, Engineering and Development Advisory Committee charter, as required under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App.

The Aviation Safety Research Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-591) required that "not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall establish in the FAA a research advisory committee." The law was signed November 3, 1988. In order to obtain the best possible R,E&D program within the constraints of the FAA's available resources, it is appropriate that external organizations have a vehicle to participate in the FAA R,E&D program development and contribute their broad perspectives to the FAA's R,E&D program. Therefore, an R,E&D Advisory Committee was established in the interest of obtaining advice and recommendations from an outside, balanced representative group of aviation-oriented organizations, associations, and academic interests. Legislative requirements enacted as part of P.L. 101-508, Federal Aviation Administration Research, Engineering and Development Authorization Act of 1990, further expanded the responsibilities of this committee, and are reflected in this revised charter.

3. Objective and Scope of Activities: The objective of the committee is to provide advice to the Administrator regarding the needs, objectives, plans, approaches, content, and accomplishments with respect to the aviation research program.

4. Description of Duties: The committee shall consider aviation research, future technology, and the National Airspace System—present and future. The committee shall also assist in ensuring that such research is coordinated with similar research being conducted outside the FAA. In addition, the committee shall review and comment on the aviation research grants program and on the research and training to be carried out by air transportation centers of excellence.

5. Official to Whom the Committee Reports: In accordance with Public Law 100-591, the Advisory Committee will submit advice to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

6. Support: The support will be provided by the Federal Aviation Administration, Office of NextGen and Operations Planning.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years: The direct annual operating cost of the committee and subcommittees, which includes travel costs of members and miscellaneous cost, shall not exceed one-tenth of one percent of the annual research and development appropriation. No other limitations of funds available for obligation by or for the advisory committee shall be applicable. The estimated annual U.S. Government staff support by the FAA is 1.5 full-time equivalents (FTE).

8. Designated Federal Official: The Office of NextGen and Operations Planning, Research and Technology Development will designate an Executive Director (an FAA Designated Federal Official). The DFO or designee will approve all of the Advisory Committee's meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee meetings, and adjourn any meeting that he or she determines is in the best interest of the public to do so.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings: The R,E&D Advisory Committee expects to meet approximately twice a year. Meetings may occur approximately every 6 months or as needed and approved by the DFO.

10. Duration: This charter will be in effect from the date it is filed with Congress and will continue until further directed. This charter may be renewed as authorized in accordance with Section 14 of FACA.

11. Membership and Designation: The R,E&D Advisory Committee will be composed of approximately 30 members appointed by the Administrator. The membership of the committee shall serve in a representative capacity and shall be fairly balanced in points of view representative of the aviation community, including representatives from research centers of air transportation excellence, universities, corporations, user groups, associations, consumers, and other Government agencies. The R,E&D Advisory Committee membership does not allow for alternates or substitutes to participate in the place of the appointed members in its official meetings. FAA employees may not serve as members of the advisory committee, but may participate in the management of the advisory committee's affairs in ex officio capacities. The Chair of the committee shall be designated by the Administrator. At the discretion of the Administrator, members and the Chair may be asked to continue their service or retire. Members and the Chair will have a review of service to determine eligibility after two years.

Members of the committee who are full-time employees of the U.S. Government, academia, and consultants shall serve without compensation, but may be allowed transportation and per diem in lieu of subsistence and other expenses, in accordance with the Department of Transportation Civilian Travel Regulations.

12. Subcommittees: The FAA has the authority to create subcommittees and/or working groups. The subcommittee must report back to the parent committee, and must not provide advice or work products directly to the agency. The Chair of a subcommittee will be a member of the R,E&D Advisory Committee.

13. Recordkeeping: The records of the committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, shall be handled in accordance with the General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. The records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 522.

14. Filing Date: This charter is effective May 7, 2010, which is the date it was filed with Congress.

J. Randolph Babbit Administrator