

**U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey**

National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Advisory Committee

Renewal Charter

1. **Advisory Committee's Official Designation.** National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Advisory Committee (NVEWSAC).
2. **Authority.** The NVEWSAC is established under Title V of the John Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, March 12, 2019 (Public Law 116-9) and is operated pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. Ch. 10) and the Federal Advisory Committee Management regulations found at 41 C.F.R. part 102-3.
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) shall establish within the United States Geological Survey (USGS) a system to be known as the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System (NVEWS) to monitor, warn, and protect citizens of the United States from undue and avoidable harm for volcanic activity.
4. **Description of Duties.** The NVEWSAC will assist the Secretary in implementing the NVEWS and provide an annual report to the Secretary that describes its activities. Committee members will employ their familiarity with resources and subject matter experts within their respective agencies and institutions to enhance efficiencies in data gathering pertinent to NVEWSAC decisions and recommendations. Members are encouraged to outline opportunities for coordination and leveraging of resources between USGS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and other organizations to increase the efficiency of NVEWS implementation when and where applicable.
5. **Agency or Federal Officer Receiving the Committee's Advice/ Recommendations.** The NVEWSAC reports to the Secretary through the USGS Director or the Designated Federal Officer (DFO).
6. **Support.** The USGS Volcano Hazards Program will provide administrative, technical, and funding support for the NVEWSAC.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the NVEWSAC's functions are estimated to be \$86,650, including all direct and indirect expenses and 0.30 in Federal staff years. Estimated payments to Federal Members: \$15,000; Federal Staff: \$54,000; travel reimbursement for Federal members: \$2,000; travel reimbursement for non-Federal members: \$10,000; travel reimbursement for Federal Staff: \$5,000; and publication of Federal Register notices: \$650.

8. **Designated Federal Officer (DFO).** The DFO is the Program Coordinator for the USGS Volcano Hazards Program, who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO must:
- a. Ensure the NVEWSAC activities comply with the FACA, FACA Final Rule, Agency administrative procedures, and any other applicable laws and regulations;
 - b. Approve or call all meetings of the NVEWSAC or subcommittee;
 - c. Approve the agenda;
 - d. Attend all NVEWSAC and subcommittee meetings for their duration;
 - e. Fulfill the requirements under section 1009 of the FACA, Advisory Committee Procedures;
 - f. Adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines it to be in the public interest;
 - g. Chair any meeting when so directed by the Secretary;
 - h. Maintain information on NVEWSAC activities and provide such information to the public, as applicable; and
 - i. Ensure NVEWSAC members and subcommittee members, as applicable, receive the appropriate training (e.g., FACA overview, ethics training) for efficient operation and compliance with the FACA and FACA Final Rule.

In addition, the DFO should ensure a public facing website is created and maintained for the NVEWSAC.

9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The NVEWSAC will meet approximately one to two times annually and at other times designated by the DFO.
10. **Duration.** The duration of the NVEWSAC is continuing, subject to the Termination section below.
11. **Termination.** The NVEWSAC will become inactive two years from the date the charter is filed unless, prior to that date, it is renewed in accordance with the provisions of section 1013 of the FACA. The NVEWSAC will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
12. **Membership and Appointment.** The NVEWSAC will not exceed 30 members and be comprised of representatives of relevant agencies and members of the scientific community.

The Federal members may include:

Department of Transportation

Federal Aviation Administration
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Department of Energy
Department of War
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
National Science Foundation
National Institute of Standards and Technology
National Park Service
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Forest Service
Bureau of Land Management

Members may also be selected from state and local governments, academia, and the volcano science community.

The Secretary will appoint members to the NVEWSAC. Members will be appointed for terms that do not exceed 2 years for Federal members and 3 years for non-Federal members.

Any vacancies will be filled in the same manner as initial appointments were made.

Non-Federal members of the NVEWSAC will serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, non-Federal NVEWSAC and subcommittee members engaged in NVEWSAC or subcommittee business approved by the DFO, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in government service under 5 U.S.C. 5703.

13. Ethics Responsibilities of Members.

- a. **Federal Employees.** Members who are appointed to the NVEWSAC in their official capacity as Federal employees are subject to applicable Federal ethics statutes and regulations, including applicable exceptions and exemptions.
- b. **Special Government Employee Members.** Members of the NVEWSAC appointed as special government employees (SGEs) are subject to applicable Federal ethics statutes and regulations, to include applicable exceptions and exemptions. Additionally, SGE members are required, prior to appointment and annual thereafter, to file a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report. SGE members are also required to receive initial ethics training prior to performing any NVEWSAC duties and to receive annual ethics training thereafter. The Department of the Interior (Department) will provide materials to those members serving as SGEs, explaining their ethical obligations.
- c. **Non-Federal Members Who Are Not Special Government Employees.** Non-Federal members of the NVEWSAC and subcommittees are appointed as representatives and therefore are not subject to Federal ethics statutes and

regulations. However, non-Federal NVEWSAC and subcommittee members may not participate in any NVEWSAC and subcommittee deliberations or votes relating to a specific party matter before the Department or its bureaus and offices including a lease, license, permit, contract, grant, claim, agreement, or litigation, in which the member or the entity the member represents has a direct financial interest.

14. **Subcommittees.** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed to compile information or conduct research. However, such subcommittees must act under the direction of the DFO and report their recommendations to the full NVEWSAC for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Department. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.
15. **Recordkeeping.** Detailed records must be kept of each NVEWSAC, and formally and informally established NVEWSAC subcommittees. All records must be made available to the public, subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), and must be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 and other approved Agency records disposition schedules.

16. **Filing Date.** JUL 24 2026


Secretary of the Interior

JUL 17 2026
Date