



Mission

The mission of the Nuclear Reactor, Materials, and Waste Sector is to advance the security and resilience of the nation's commercial nuclear and radiological infrastructure in the context of overall critical infrastructure protection. This mission will be accomplished through the voluntary interaction of the infrastructure owners and operators with the Nuclear Sector Government Coordinating Council (GCC) as outlined in Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7.

Scope

The Nuclear Reactor, Materials, and Waste Sector, herein called the Nuclear Sector Coordinating Council (NSCC) consist of representatives of the nuclear and radiological industry and covers the broad interests of the nuclear and radiological sector. The scope of the NSCC includes companies licensed to design, operate, and support commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, fuel supply and fabrication facilities, research and test reactors, radioisotope and source manufacturers/suppliers, commercial nuclear waste management and transportation firms, healthcare and academic facilities, and other organizations and individuals involved in the nuclear and radiological industry. Department of Energy (DOE) reactor facilities or other defense uses of nuclear technology are not within the scope of the NSCC.

Primary Objectives

- Serve as the liaison between the nuclear and radiological industry and state and federal agencies including the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Department of Energy (DOE) concerning security issues which include:
 - risk management and mitigation of potential threats to the sector,
 - physical and cyber threats, vulnerabilities, and incidents, and
 - potential protective measures impacting the sector.
- Participate with DHS and the Government Coordinating Council (GCC) to update and revise the Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector Specific Plan and associated strategic initiatives on an as needed or DHS identified basis.
- Coordinate with other critical infrastructure sectors as necessary to identify and evaluate areas of security and risk management and mitigation.
- Work with the joint cross-sector council to address common security actions or enhancements and identify the federal, state, or local resources necessary to achieve those actions or enhancements.
- Engage other industry and professional organizations that focus on nuclear security.

Membership and Governance Structure

The Nuclear Sector Coordinating Council exists as an organizational structure. Membership in the Nuclear Sector Coordinating Council is open to any company that is licensed to design, operate, and support commercial nuclear power plants or fuel cycle facilities in the United States, research and test reactors, radioisotope and source manufacturing/distribution facility, healthcare facilities, academic institutions, transportation providers, and private companies described in this charter.

Specifically, NSCC membership will consist of key representatives and senior decision makers involved in nuclear security issues at their respective companies. Composition of the NSCC will generally include the organizations listed below:

- the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)
- commercial nuclear power reactors
- fuel manufacturing or fuel fabrication facilities
- manufacturers of nuclear reactors or components
- research and test reactors
- radioisotope source production/distribution facilities
- radiopharmaceutical manufacturers
- nuclear waste management or transportation companies
- healthcare facilities
- academic institutions
- other trade associations or industry partners.

The number of members and representation will be determined by the Chairman in consultation with the NSCC.

The Chairman is elected by, and serves for a term determined by, a quorum of the NSCC members, defined as an eighty/twenty (80/20) majority.

There are no restrictions or limits on the term that a member of the NSCC may serve. Each NSCC member should appoint an alternate to attend meetings and make decisions when the member is not available.

The Chairman shall preside over all meetings of the members. A current NSCC member or Secretariat may act as Chair in the absence of the Chairman.

The NSCC will function as a consensus-driven body representing the collective interests of the owners and operators of the commercial nuclear and radiological infrastructure.

The Chairman and Secretariat of the NSCC will provide support on policy, issue development, new initiatives, best practices, and logistical matters. The Chairman will appoint a Secretariat to support the Chairman on an ongoing basis for streamlined functioning of the NSCC. The Secretariat will maintain close contact with the Government Coordinating Council and will facilitate communication between the members and other councils.

Key Functions

The NSCC will meet regularly to consider policy or programmatic issues, government initiatives, reports from task forces, or emerging national/international issues that pose risk to sector critical functions.

The NSCC will be provided with a classified security briefing from DHS upon request. This will allow for a facilitated discussion between the classified briefers and NSCC members.

Sub-Councils may be established to cover specific segments of the NSCC's membership and/or specific strategic issues requiring specialized industry focus, research, development, project planning, or other needs of the NSCC. Joint working groups with the GCC shall be utilized whenever necessary. Status reports and final work products will be presented to the NSCC for approval and/or further action. Currently, there are three Sub-Councils: Cyber Security, Radioisotope, and Research and Test Reactor.

The NSCC will maintain records that contain the Charter and other related policy and procedural documents. The Secretariat is responsible for ensuring policies and associated documents are reviewed and updated as applicable.

The NSCC will initiate outreach and communication efforts designed to highlight the robust nature of security posture of the Nuclear Sector defined in the scope of the NSCC charter, and to educate as well as communicate with industry, government, and the public on particular security issues.

The Council will maintain relationships with NEI's Security Working Group and Cyber Security Task Force and other interdependent critical infrastructure sectors (e.g., Chemical, Energy, Healthcare, etc.) on activities and current events to facilitate information sharing.

The Chairman will ensure that all participants have the appropriate security clearance level for the information presented and/or discussed.

Voting Process

The NSCC members will make decisions through a consultative process, encouraging the exchange of information and points of view. Decisions will be made on a consensus basis. Where consensus is not possible, decisions may be made by a majority vote of eighty percent (80%) of the designated members. With adequate notice, the NSCC members may make decisions by email, in which case decisions will require a majority of those responding within the allotted time period specified.

Voting will primarily occur at meetings via in-person or, when available, virtual attendance. If one or more of the voting NSCC members is not in agreement with the proposed decision, clarification of the underlying reasons can be provided, in addition to an alternative solution.



Approval

The Nuclear Sector Coordinating Council, as established by the commercial nuclear sector and recognized by the Department of Homeland Security, approves this charter.

Approved on June 16, 2022



Susan Perkins
Chairman, Nuclear Sector Coordinating Council