



Mission

The mission of the Nuclear Reactor, Materials, and Waste Sector is to advance the physical and cyber security posture of the nation's commercial nuclear and radiological infrastructure in the context of overall national 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 members' representative of the nuclear and radiological industry and cover the broad interests of nuclear and radiological sector security. The scope of the NSCC includes all companies licensed to operate commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, nuclear plant designers, major nuclear architect/engineering firms, fuel supply and fabrication facilities, research reactors, radioisotope manufacturers/suppliers, commercial nuclear waste management and transportation firms, healthcare and academic facilities and other organizations and individuals involved in the nuclear 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 federal agencies including the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Energy concerning security issues.
- Facilitate sharing of information about physical and cyber threats, vulnerabilities, incidents, and potential protective measures impacting the sector.
- Work with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Nuclear Sector Government Coordinating Council (GCC) to associate nuclear facility threats with other critical infrastructure threat characteristics.
- Participate with DHS and the GCC to update and revise the Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector Specific Plan on an as needed or DHS identified basis.
- Communicate with other critical infrastructure sectors as necessary in evaluating areas of mutual interest, promoting the exchange of lessons learned, and sharing of best practices.
- Work with the joint cross-sector council to address any further security enhancements and identify the federal, state, or local resources necessary to achieve those enhancements.

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 operate commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, nuclear plant designers, major nuclear architect/engineering firms, radiological source manufacturing/distribution facility, healthcare or academic institutions, and /or private company as identified in the scope of this charter.

Specific 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 conform to the following guidelines:

- Two members from companies owning or operating at least one commercial nuclear power reactor
- One member from owners of fuel manufacturing or fuel fabrication facilities
- One member from manufacturers of nuclear reactors or components
- One member from the research reactor community
- One member from the radioisotope production community
- One member from a nuclear waste management or transportation company
- Two members from the Nuclear Energy Institute
- One member from the healthcare community
- One member from an academic institution

The NSCC Chairman will appoint members to the NSCC.

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 Nuclear Energy institute (NEI) will function as Chairman and Secretariat of the NSCC and 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 issues, reports from task forces, or emerging security issues.

Each quarter, the NSCC will be provided with a classified security briefing from DHS. 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 security issues requiring 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, Radio-isotope, and Research 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 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.

Members of the Council will report out to the Nuclear Energy Institutes (NEI) Security Working Group and other independent sectors (i.e., Chemical, Energy, Healthcare, etc.) on activities and current events to facilitate information sharing among the sectors. The Security Working Group is comprised of members representing all nuclear fleets and single sites in the United States.

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



Background

The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) is the policy development organization for the commercial nuclear industry. All domestic operators of commercial nuclear power plants and fuel processing facilities are members of NEI. Through NEI, the industry can undertake initiatives that commit the entire industry to specific actions. The commercial nuclear and radiological industries are fully committed to providing the necessary security at its facilities.

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 September 14th, 2016.



Susan Perkins
Senior Director, Security and Emergency Preparedness
Nuclear Energy Institute