

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Charter

1. Advisory Committee's Official Designation

The official designation of this federal advisory committee is the Technological Advisory Council (TAC).

2. Authority

The TAC is hereby amended at the direction of the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) as amended, 5 U.S.C.10.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities

Technology is continually evolving, offering new opportunities to circumvent the challenges of radio spectrum scarcity and interference and to foster the growth of ubiquitous, high-speed, low-latency connectivity. This kind of technological innovation is fundamental to the economic prosperity and national security of the United States. In the age of ever-faster technological development, maintaining our leadership in high priority emerging technologies will require careful planning and execution. The FCC must stay atop of new developments to ensure that the nation can continue to turn scientific research into usable communications technologies swiftly and efficiently.

The purpose of the TAC is to provide technical advice to the Federal Communications Commission and to make recommendations on the issues and questions presented to it by the FCC. The TAC will focus on key issues affecting the development and deployment of emerging communications technologies to spur opportunities for innovation, competition, adoption, greater efficiencies, job creation, and other national priorities. The TAC will address questions referred to it through the TAC Designated Federal Officer by the FCC Chairman, the Chief of the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology, or the FCC Chief Technology Officer. The questions referred to the TAC will be directed to technological and technical issues in the field of communications.

4. Description of Duties

The duty of the TAC is advisory only. In response to the questions referred to it, the TAC will gather data and information, perform analyses, and prepare reports and presentations that provide advice and recommendations to the FCC.

5. Agency or Federal Officer Receiving the Advisory Committee's Advice/Recommendations

Chairman, Federal Communications Commission

6. Support

The Federal Communications Commission will provide the facilities and staff support necessary to conduct meetings in Washington, D.C. Members of the committee serving as representatives will serve without any government compensation, and will not be entitled to travel expenses, per diem or subsistence allowances.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years

The estimated Commission staff dedicated to the Council is the equivalent of one full time employee. The estimated annual cost to the Commission of operating the Committee is \$185,000.

8. Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

Full-time or permanent part-time employees, appointed by the Chair of the Commission, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) and Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO). The DFO and DDFO must:

- A. Ensure their advisory committee activities comply with the FACA, FACA Final Rule, FCC's administrative procedures, and any other applicable laws and regulations;
- B. Approve or call all meetings of the advisory committee or subcommittee;
- C. Approve the agenda;
- D. Attend all advisory committee and subcommittee meetings for their duration;
- E. Fulfill the requirements under 5 U.S.C. 1009(b);
- F. Adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines it to be in the public interest;
- G. Chair any meeting when so directed by the agency head;
- H. Maintain information on advisory committee activities and provide such information to the public, as applicable; and
- I. Ensure advisory committee 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.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings

The TAC will meet approximately three to five times per year, with the possibility of more frequent meetings by informal subcommittees. Meetings of the TAC shall be open to the public. Timely notice of each meeting shall be published in the Federal Register and shall be further publicized through other appropriate vehicles.

10. Duration

The TAC shall convene for a two-year period from the date on which this charter is filed. The charter may be renewed for an additional two years prior to the charter termination date.

11. Termination

The TAC will terminate two years from the date on which this charter is filed, unless the charter is renewed before that date for an additional term.

12. Membership and Designation

Approximately 40-50 members of the TAC, including the TAC Chair, will be appointed by the FCC Chairman. Members will be appointed either as Representatives or as Special Government Employees (SGEs), as necessary. Members will be selected based on their superior qualifications and experience in the technology matters to be addressed by the TAC, such as applicants holding technical leadership positions such as Chief Technical Officer. Members will be selected to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to effectively address the new technology issues that will be referred to the TAC. Members should be prepared to attend three to five meetings per year and are responsible for all associated expenses. Members will have an initial and continuing obligation to disclose any interests in, or connections to, persons or entities that are, or will, be regulated by or who have interests before the FCC Membership details are included in the Committee's Membership Balance Plan.

13. Subcommittees

The TAC, with agency approval or at agency direction, may work through informal subcommittees or other subgroups of the TAC. Recommendations of subcommittees must be reported to the TAC as a whole, and only as modified or ratified by the TAC as a whole may such recommendations be reported to the FCC Chairman.

14. Recordkeeping

Records of the proceedings will be kept as required by applicable laws and regulations. All records of the committee or its subcommittees shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records as appropriate shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

15. Filing Date

September 5, 2023

Amendment Date: February 12, 2025