NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE SAFETY STUDY GROUP (NESSG)

Senior Technical Advisory Panel Charter

Preamble

The NESSG has extended its membership to include emeritus level experts from both inside and outside the nuclear weapon complex. The objective of this extended membership, referred to as the "Senior Technical Advisory Panel" (STAP), is to (1) strengthen the independence of NESSG, (2) introduce greater diversity of expertise to nuclear explosive safety studies, especially in the area of the management of technological risks, and (3) bring additional distinguished oversight experience to the NESSG process.

Charter

The Senior Technical Advisors will function as participants in the NESSG and report to the Manager, Albuquerque Operations Office consistent with the terms and conditions of their respective contracts and organizations. To the extent of their participation, STAP members will formally concur as advisors in the reports prepared by NESSG. A minimum of two Senior Technical Advisors will participate in each nuclear explosive safety study brought before the NESSG. The STAP shall be proactive in the Nuclear Explosive Safety Study process beyond direct participation in the NESSG. In particular, the STAP will meet with the Manager, Albuquerque Operations Office (AL), as appropriate to discuss proposals, ideas and comments for improving the overall safety review process associated with nuclear explosive operations. It may be desirable for the STAP to meet independently from time to time. The Manager, AL will be notified and provided an agenda in advance of such meetings.

The STAP shall perform a self-assessment annually and report the results to DOE management. In addition, an annual meeting shall be scheduled with the Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board to discuss the status of the STAP initiative.

To enhance implementation of this charter, one Senior Technical Advisor may be designated as the coordinator of the STAP to facilitate communications and administration. It is expected that the coordination duties will be rotated among the members. This designation should be made by the Manager, AL considering a recommendation from the Senior Technical Advisory Panel.

The Senior Technical Advisory Panel submits this Charter to the Manager, AL for approval.

Approved:

R. E. Glass
Manager, Albuquerque Operation Office