
TERMS OF REFERENCE
for the
SECRETARY OF ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD (SEAB)
TASK FORCE ON EVALUATION OF
DOE'S NONPROLIFERATION PROGRAMS
WITH RUSSIA

Scope and Objectives:

The objective of this Task Force is to provide appraisals and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy regarding the policy priorities established by DOE to pursue cooperative nonproliferation and nuclear safety programs with Russia, with an eye to identifying crucial program areas that may not have been addressed in the past. The Task Force should provide an assessment of the performance of DOE's programs in achieving national security and nonproliferation missions. The scope of this appraisal will be all nonproliferation projects, including but not limited to the Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention program, the Nuclear Cities Initiative, the Material Protection Control and Accounting program, the Second Line of Defense program, the HEU Purchase Agreement, the International Nuclear Safety program, and the Plutonium Disposition program.

The Task Force will tackle key questions such as: Are we achieving U.S. nonproliferation and national security goals with Russia? Given Russia's current political and economic environment, how can DOE best achieve these goals? What other practicable opportunities might exist to promote these goals? How can DOE maximize programmatic self-sustainability? The Task Force will not examine issues such as security at DOE's national laboratories, nor the overlap between DOE and DOD programs.

Background:

The President and the Secretary of Energy have stated that DOE's Russian nonproliferation programs are among the most important of the U.S. Government's national security initiatives. Now is an opportune time to step back and evaluate what DOE has achieved. Perhaps more importantly, however, the DOE should work to determine in which direction its programs should proceed and what, if any, new priorities should be established.

The DOE has six major program objectives in the national security and nonproliferation arena: (1) secure nuclear materials and expertise; (2) limit the stockpiles of weapons-useable fissile materials; (3) promote transparent and irreversible nuclear reductions; (4) strengthen the nuclear nonproliferation regime; (5) enhance the safety of nuclear facilities; and (6) promote proliferation resistant civil nuclear technologies. In considering these six objectives, the Task Force should limit itself to examining DOE's bilateral Russian nonproliferation and nuclear safety programs.

Description of the Task Force's Duties:

1. The Task Force should assess the Department's ongoing activities in the nonproliferation field with Russia.
2. The Task Force should provide the Secretary and the SEAB with policy recommendations as to how the Department can be most effective in supporting U.S. national security interests.
3. The Task Force should investigate ways to increase the reach and accessibility of these programs, in an effort to gain the broad private sector support that is crucial to the success of programs such as the Nuclear Cities Initiative.
4. The Task Force should seek to identify ways to draw on the unique capabilities of our National Laboratories while maintaining programmatic focus and coordination within the DOE complex.
5. The Task Force should seek to develop a metric to measure progress and successes of DOE's programs.

Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

This Task Force shall meet as required. In order to enhance members' knowledge and understanding of DOE programs in Russia, the Department will organize a trip to several Russian sites involved in cooperative programs.

Membership:

The Task Force shall have at least eight members, including at least two individuals who are also members of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board. The remaining members shall be appropriate experts in the field of Russia, nonproliferation and/or national security and shall reflect a balance of expertise and viewpoints. The Chairman of the SEAB, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall appoint the Chair (or Co-Chairs), as well as all other members.

Duration and Termination Date: This Task Force shall serve for not more than six months, subject to the extension or dissolution by the Chairman of the SEAB.