CHARTER OF THE NUCLEAR DATA ADVISORY GROUP FOR THE DOE NUCLEAR CRITICALITY SAFETY PROGRAM (NCSP)
April 2009

Mission: The Nuclear Data Advisory Group (NDAG), through making recommendations to the NCSP Manager, enhances the coordination of the NCSP Nuclear Data Element work program with current and future DOE needs and promotes the integration of this work program with the other elements of the NCSP. Towards these objectives, the NDAG performs the following functions:

1. The NDAG identifies deficiencies in evaluated differential and integral nuclear data and recommends priorities and specific resources for meeting identified DOE criticality safety nuclear data needs. The NDAG supports the NCSP Manager in his approval of Integral Experiment Requests and Nuclear Data Requests as implemented on the NCSP website.
2. The NDAG identifies the required resources and unique capabilities for meeting these needs. These may include but are not limited to facilities and scientists to measure differential and integral nuclear data, scientists to evaluate nuclear data including development and use of nuclear model codes, staff and codes to process evaluated nuclear data into the form required by the nuclear analysis codes, and staff to benchmark evaluated differential nuclear data against integral experiments.
3. In performing functions 1 and 2, the NDAG communicates and works with the DOE programs involving fissionable material, with the Integral Experiments, Benchmarking, Nuclear Data and Analytical Methods Elements of the NCSP and the leadership of the National Nuclear Data Center, the Cross Section Evaluation Working Group (CSEWG), and the Working Party on International Evaluation Cooperation (WPEC) of the OECD/NEA Nuclear Science Committee to expedite issuance of new data and methods to the DOE criticality safety user community.
4. The NDAG evaluates and determines high-level concerns (i.e., any data deficiencies/concerns/issues with potential to significantly impact safety or efficiency of current fissile material operations) for immediate or short-term attention and/or correction and communicates these concerns to the NCSP Manager. Subsequently, these issues may be posted to the NCSP web site for dissemination to and use by the criticality safety community.
5. The NDAG assists in NCSP work program planning such that the Nuclear Data work program is successfully integrated into the federal budget cycle.
6. The NDAG shares observations and makes recommendations to the NCSP Manager on additional useful functions that the NDAG could perform for the NCSP.
7. The NDAG will perform an annual self-assessment of the Nuclear Data Element to identify opportunities for improvement in the Nuclear Data arena and make recommendations to the NCSP Manager regarding responsibility for implementing those improvements, and tracking them to closure. These

improvements will be focused on better responsiveness to the DOE line programs at the sites, on identifying improvements in coordination, and on streamlining the process leading to issuing new/improved data to the end-users.

Membership: The NDAG membership benefits from the representation of several important areas of expertise, experience and responsibility:

1. Nuclear data specialists (Experimentalists, Evaluators, Processors).
2. Criticality safety analysts from the major DOE sites.
3. Program management and technical leadership from the NCSP work elements (Nuclear Data, Integral Experiments, Benchmarking, and Analytical Methods).
4. To the extent feasible, individuals with more than one of these areas serve on the NDAG. Alternates back up key areas of expertise and/or activity.

The NDAG Membership Policy is contained in Appendix A and Work Instructions are contained in Appendix B.

Leadership: The NDAG chair is approved by the NCSP Manager and has responsibility for the technical leadership of NDAG. The head of the National Nuclear Data Center of Brookhaven National Laboratory serves in a special consultancy to the NCSP on nuclear data matters and assists the NDAG Chair in overall program evaluation and interfacing with the nuclear data community (CSEWG, WPEC, etc).

Meetings: The NDAG will conduct two meetings a year. Scheduling of these meetings will try to take advantage of opportunities when most of the membership is co-located for some other purpose, e.g., the Fall meeting of the CSEWG at BNL or Spring/Summer meeting of the NCSP.

APPROVED:

Jerry N McKamy 4/29/09

Dr. Jerry N. McKamy
Nuclear Criticality Safety Program Manager