

The Vermont Statutes Online

Title 18: Health

Chapter 34: NUCLEAR ADVISORY PANEL

§ 1700. Creation; membership; officers; quorum

(a) There is created a nuclear advisory panel which shall consist of the following:

(1) the secretary of the agency of human services or designee;

(2) the secretary of the agency of natural resources or designee;

(3) the commissioner of the department of public service, or his or her designee;

(4) one member of an energy committee of the Vermont house of representatives, chosen by the speaker of the house;

(5) one member of an energy committee of the Vermont senate, chosen by the committee on committees; and

(6) two members of the public, selected by the governor for terms of four years.

(b) Ex officio members shall serve for the duration of their time in office or until a successor has been appointed. Members of the general assembly shall be appointed for two years or until their successors are appointed, beginning on or before January 15 in the first year of the biennium. Representatives designated by ex officio members shall serve at the direction of the designating authority.

(c) The commissioner of the department of public service shall serve as chairperson.

(d) A majority of the members of the panel shall constitute a quorum. The panel shall act only by vote of a majority of its entire membership and only at meetings called by the chairperson or by any three of the members. The person or persons calling the meeting shall provide adequate notice to all its members.

(e) Members of the panel, except for ex officio members and except for legislative members while the general assembly is in session, shall be entitled to \$30.00 per diem and their necessary and actual expenses. Funds for this purpose shall come from the monies collected under section 22 of Title 30 for the purpose of maintaining the public service board.

(f) The department of public service shall:

(1) keep the panel informed of the status of matters within the jurisdiction of the panel;

(2) notify members of the panel in a timely manner upon receipt of information relating to matters within the jurisdiction of the panel; and

(3) upon request, provide to all members of the panel all relevant information within the department's control relating to subjects within the scope of the duties of the panel. (Added 1997, No. 147 (Adj. Sess.), § 271, eff. April 29, 1998; amended 2009, No. 135 (Adj. Sess.), § 7.)

§ 1701. Duties

The duties of the panel shall be:

(1) To hold a minimum of three public meetings each year for the purpose of discussing issues relating to the present and future use of nuclear power and to advise the governor, the general assembly and the agencies of the state thereon with a written report being provided annually to the governor and to the energy committees of the general assembly;

(2) To define the responsibilities of state agencies for assuring the safety and health of the public as the result of the operation of a fixed nuclear facility and to assess the ability of state and local governments to meet this responsibility in terms of both technical expertise and financial support;

(3) To discuss proposed changes in operations or specific problems that arise in the operation of a fixed nuclear facility, and to prepare and present technical data to serve as a basis for establishing the state's position on such changes or problems;

(4) To maintain communications with the operators of any fixed nuclear facility, including the receipt of written reports and presentations to the panel at its regular meetings;

(5) To develop awareness in the state and in the state government of the potential liabilities, benefits or repercussions of nuclear power generation in the state in comparison to other electrical energy sources; and

(6) To review the current status of state relations with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and to seek some agreement on federal and state regulatory efforts. (Added 1997, No. 147 (Adj. Sess.), § 271, eff. April 29, 1998; amended 2009, No. 135 (Adj. Sess.), § 8.)

§ 1702. Assistance

Staff services for the committee shall be furnished by the department of public service, the agency of human services, the agency of environmental conservation and the office of the attorney general. (Added 1997, No. 147 (Adj. Sess.), § 271, eff. April 29, 1998.)