



Reply to Attn of:

Q-1

November 26, 2001

Memorandum for the Record

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, October 6, 1972) and NASA Policy Directive 1150.21, entitled "Establishment, Operation and Duration of NASA Advisory Committees," the enclosed minutes of the Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel's open meeting conducted on November 9, 2001, at the Radisson Hotel in Cape Canaveral, Florida, are submitted for the record.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. M. Lengyel", written over a horizontal line.

David M. Lengyel  
Executive Director  
Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel

11/26/01  
Date

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard D. Blomberg", written over a horizontal line.

Richard D. Blomberg  
Chair  
Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel

12/5/01  
Date

**Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP)  
Open Meeting  
November 9, 2001  
8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Radisson Hotel,  
Cape Canaveral, Florida**

Introduction:

For security reasons, this meeting was held outside the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) at the Radisson Hotel in Cape Canaveral, Florida. Mr. David Lengyel, Executive Director of the ASAP, announced that this was an open federal advisory committee meeting. One member of the public was in attendance. A copy of the Federal Register Notice announcing the meeting is provided as Enclosure 1. An attendance roster of participants is provided as Enclosure 2.

The public meeting was held on Friday 9 Nov., which was the third day in a three-day series of fact finding meetings at KSC on topics ranging from International Space Station (ISS), Space Shuttle, Solid Rocket Booster (SRB) processing, Checkout & Launch Control System (CLCS) Project, to the KSC workforce. The purpose of the public meeting was to discuss both the ASAP calendar year (CY) 2001 annual report format and candidate findings/recommendations for the report. It was decided that all team leads were responsible for coordinating their inputs and submitting them to the Executive Director in electronic form no later than 30 November. This was to include a more detailed assessment of NASA responses to the ASAP CY 2000 report. The Editorial Committee was scheduled to be at NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. on 5-6 December to produce the first draft of the report. Mr. Zygielbaum was added to this committee.

Election of Vice-Chair:

Mr. Blomberg discussed the need to elect a Vice-Chair of the Panel per the requirements in the ASAP charter. He stated that in the early 2001 timeframe, two new consultants would likely be brought in and two existing consultants moved up to member status. Mr. Sieck nominated Ms. McCarty for the position. There were no second nominations. Ms. McCarty stated that she would be willing to serve as Vice-Chair until the Panel is reconstituted in early 2001.

Annual Report Format:

Mr. Blomberg recommended deviating from last year's report format and he provided a report outline for discussion. He suggested that the cover letter be kept simple. Panel members who turned over will be listed in the front of the report separately. In the introductory section, the Panel should recap NASA's CY 2001 achievements. It should also discuss Panel transition activities such as NASA's recommendation to change out membership, revise the ASAP charter

and impose term limits. Ms. McCarty suggested that the new charter be discussed as it relates to the rotation of one-third of the Panel every two to three years. Mr. Blomberg stated that there should be some mention of the time spent on integrating new members into the Panel. Finally, there should be a roadmap for the reader through the body of the report and appendices. Appendix A should list Panel members at time report is written.

Mr. Blomberg stated that significant findings and recommendations would be covered in the proposed section II which discusses "overarching issues". Mr. Zygielbaum recommended that this section should be titled, "strategic challenges" and that the Panel should consider security an issue this year given the events on 11 September. Ms. Austin stated that the Panel should address both exposure and risk issues due to possible terrorist attacks. Her first impression from the security briefing provided at KSC was that NASA was doing an adequate job of addressing the threat. Mr. Gutierrez suggested that the Panel also address terrorist issues related to the use of NASA assets for terror reasons next year. It was noted that some of the information needed in support of any findings and recommendations could be classified and therefore could not be included in the annual report. Mr. Blomberg stated that he would write the first draft of the cover letter and introduction section.

Mr. McCartney stated that when the NASA Administrator addressed the Panel in August at NASA HQ, he stated that his safety priorities were: protection of the public, protect astronauts and pilots, protect of the NASA workforce, and protection of high-value equipment and property. Mr. McCartney stated that the Panel's report tends to be biased towards only human space flight and that the Panel should pace itself next year to address the safety hierarchy issues of the agency.

Mr. Blomberg next addressed the Shuttle planning horizon topic. He stated that it was unrealistic, under funded and should be addressed again in this year's report. He stated that it was improbable that a Shuttle replacement vehicle would be available in the next ten years. Mr. Zygielbaum stated that the general topic of "planning horizon" should address Shuttle, International Space Station, infrastructure, and budget for long-term safety. Dr. Gleghorn stated that the Panel should take a position that current NASA funding levels are impacting decisions that reflect on long-term safety. He also commented that funding is inconsistent across NASA centers. Mr. Goetz seconded this with a statement that at the Marshall Space Flight Center, upgrade projects were limited to those that could be implemented by the 2006 timeframe.

Mr. Blomberg stated that issues related to privatization needed to be addressed. He had three concerns. The first was the workforce, the second was enabling legislation, and the third was the transition to a privatized state. He stated that there are safety implications if not done right. Dr. Gleghorn, Mr. Englar and Mr.

Zygielbaum stated that they did not believe the Panel had enough data to support a finding that privatization was a safety issue at this time.

Mr. Blomberg discussed issues associated with workforce and critical skills. Dr. Gleghorn stated that implementation of the current budget will equate to significant cuts in staff and when this is done, NASA will have a critical skills issue to deal with. As layoffs occur, companies lose their best people and there is sufficient evidence to support this. Several members discussed whether the Boeing move of sustaining engineering personnel from Huntington Beach to the Johnson Space Center (JSC) and KSC should be included in the report. Dr. Gleghorn stated that there was a potential loss of skills issue embedded in this move, that although NASA would muddle through the problem, there was not enough information available at the current time to address this in the report.

For section III of the annual report, Mr. Blomberg asked each Panel team lead to provide a summary of their findings for CY 2000. The findings are arranged below by subject and team lead.

Aerospace Technology Team/Mr. Schaufele:

Mr. Schaufele stated that the two aeronautics team findings in the CY 2000 report were closed. The team was still considering mentioning operations integration for the SOFIA project in their narrative section. The team will address the Code Q tasking to review flight operations at Code R centers but this effort had not been completed. No specific findings/recommendations had been developed yet. Mr. Blomberg stated that the team should consider documenting Mishap Investigation Boards (MIBs) as a general issue. At the Langley Research Center (LaRC) for example, there was no accident investigation or human factors personnel on the 16 ft. wind tunnel MIB. He suggested not including this in the annual report. The issue will be addressed with Mr. Gregory at the February 2002 annual meeting at NASA HQ.

Medical Operations & Occupational Health Team/Dr. Harris:

Dr. Harris proposed the start of a Medical Operations & Occupational Health Team this year. The Chair approved. Dr. Harris suggested that the Panel would be interested in a report prepared by a committee he had participated in. The report is titled, "Safe Passage: Astronaut Care for Exploration Missions", and was edited by John R. Ball and Charles H. Evans, Jr. It was produced by the Committee on Creating a Vision for Space Medicine During Travel Beyond Earth Orbit, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Institute of Medicine. This report may be downloaded at the following URL: <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/10218.html> Mr. Gutierrez stated that the Administrator was interested in having the National Academy of Sciences conduct a study of NASA medical operations and occupational health issues. He suggested that the Panel should also follow this activity.

Astronaut Training Team/Mr. Gutierrez:

Mr. Gutierrez stated that his team would keep a close eye on simulator facilities and long-duration crew health issues in the coming year but that the team had no specific findings/recommendations for the CY 2001 report.

Computer Hardware/Software Team/Ms. McCarty:

Ms. McCarty stated that NASA should step up the IT security penetration schedule and implementation of triple Digital Encryption System (DES). She stated that the team would need to revisit KSC to address CLCS architecture, software development, independent verification and validation and security. Mr. Blomberg stated that the team should comment on the ISS Command and Data Handling (C&DH) system anomaly resolution team activity under Mr. Jay Greene. Ms. McCarty stated that the team needed to gain a better understanding of hazards and failure modes. As well as address certain systems engineering inadequacies. Mr. Blomberg suggested that this be elevated at least to a general finding and recommendation. Ms. McCarty stated that the team needed to write a finding on knowledge-based systems as a useful tool for training. Dr. Gleghorn agreed in principal but stated that the Panel should not recommend specific systems to NASA. Ms. McCarty stated that she would consider locating her finding on the Shuttle cockpit avionics upgrade in the Shuttle section of the annual report.

Crew Return Vehicle (CRV) Team/Mr. Schaufele:

Mr. Schaufele stated that the two CRV findings from the CY 2000 report were closed. The team was exposed to the CRV Program's "Option G" at a briefing in March 2001. Option G called for refurbishment of the V201 spacecraft after testing to the first CRV. The team believes that this plan is safe as long as the test program is as rigorous as currently scheduled. Dr. Gleghorn mentioned that the possible non-funding of the CRV program would lead to the issue of the possibility of a three person crew on ISS for the life of the program. Mr. Zygielbaum noted that a crew of three might eventually jeopardize safety.

Extravehicular Activity (EVA) Team/Mr. Gutierrez:

Mr. Gutierrez stated that currently, innovative methods are being used to meet the manifest. EVA suits good and safe to fly and the current plan looks good. The team will draft a positive finding on this situation. There is however, no future research on EVA suits.

International Space Station (ISS)/Dr. Gleghorn:

Dr. Gleghorn that the ISS team would discuss ISS damage control in that there are a couple of shortcomings in the area of penetration repairs. First, it is a very cumbersome process to find penetrations, especially those located behind panels. He stated that a penetration by a micrometeoroid would cause a depressurization as well as a fire condition. Therefore, the ISS program should address this by looking at combining fire/depress event procedures. The third issue of concern is that of tracking inhibits and reliance on a procedural solution

for safety. An example is that of inhibiting smoke detectors from going off with nothing to remind the crew to disinhibit. He tasked Mr. Bruckman with writing a narrative on this issue. Finally, there is the issue of a possible limitation of three crewmembers aboard the ISS. If it takes nearly 2.5 crewmembers today to perform maintenance functions this is likely to increase as assembly continues. Dr. Gleghorn stated that the proposal to use Shuttle crews to perform ISS maintenance was "muddied defensive thinking" on NASA's part and that they should develop a more systematic approach to the issue. Dr. Gleghorn indicating that he would contact Dr. Leveson regarding her comment on the recording of safety design rationale. Mr. Zygielbaum commented on his understanding of the independence of Russian safety experts as compared to their US counterparts. He stated that he is concerned about cross-cultural issues such as this and that the team should be attuned to this during ISS fact finding in CY 2002.

Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Team/Mr. Blomberg:

Mr. Blomberg stated that the Panel should discuss the workforce due to potentially destabilizing issues such as privatization. The Panel should draft a positive finding regarding efforts by the NASA contractor on their work documentation initiative. The EO/drawing status is not good but this should be taken up by the Shuttle Team. A specific finding regarding infrastructure at KSC will state that the situation is improving somewhat (e.g. cable plant improvements) but that the overall effort is still falling behind. The safety reorganization at KSC appeared to be working well in general as indicated by the NASA HQ procedure validation findings. He stated that the Panel should follow up on the independent assessment function as it may not provide sufficient depth of penetration.

Logistics/Mr. Sieck:

Mr. Sieck reported that he had no safety issues to document in the annual report. The situation is good at what he termed the "snapshot" level but perhaps not as good at the "long-term" level. He stated that there are some vulnerabilities in the logistics area, especially in the vendor stability arena. Environmental and obsolescence issues are not currently a problem but obtaining environmental waivers from the EPA in the long-term may be a problem. He reported that NASA was finally naming a focal point for Space Shuttle logistics at the management level. Mr. Sieck mentioned two logistics-related projects that have risk reduction potential: IAPU as a possible replacement to the Electrical Auxilliary Power Ubnit (EAPU) and the Integrated Equipment Assembly (IEA).

Propulsion & Power (P&P) Team/Mr. Goetz:

Mr. Goetz stated that the P&P team had no specific findings/recommendations for the CY 2001 report. The team is concerned though about several issues which will be followed in CY 2002. They are: critical skill retention at Rocketdyne, Helium Auxiliary Power Unit Thrust Vector Control, Advanced Health Monitoring, test Space Shuttle Main Engine (SSME) test stands at the Stennis Space Center,

and the channel wall nozzle study. Mr. Goetz will prepare a narrative for the P&P section of the report.

Space Shuttle/Mr. Englar:

Mr. Englar stated that he would distribute writing assignments to his team as there was insufficient time left at that point in the meeting to discuss the Shuttle section. In his introductory remarks it will state that it has been a good year for the Shuttle Program. This is indicative by high workforce moral, low in-flight anomalies, and some upgrades being implemented.

Workforce/ADM Reason:

ADM Reason was not in attendance at this meeting. Ms. McCarty stated that she would contact him to assist in pulling this section together.

2 Enclosures:

1. Federal Register Notice
2. Attendance Roster

Morrissey by November 6 at the address indicated.

Organizations or individuals may also submit statements for the record without testifying. Twenty (20) copies of such statements should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Council at the above address. Papers will be accepted and included in the record of the meeting if received on or before November 6, 2001.

Signed at Washington, DC this 25th day of October, 2001.

**Ann L. Combs,**

*Assistant Secretary, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.*

[FR Doc. 01-27359 Filed 10-30-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-29-M

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[NOTICE (01-136)]

### NASA Advisory Council (NAC), Space Science Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a forthcoming meeting of the NASA Advisory Council, Space Science Advisory Committee.

**DATES:** Wednesday, December 5, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Thursday, December 6, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront, 1550 North Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931-3268.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Marian Norris, Code SB, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546, 202/358-4452.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting will be open to the public up to the capacity of the room. The agenda for the meeting includes the following:

- Associate Administrator's Program Status Report
- Division Managers' Reports
- Subcommittee Reports
- In-Space Propulsion
- Mars Exploration
- Strategic Planning Status
- Technology Programs Update
- GPR Science Objectives Assessment

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key

participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor's register.

**Beth M. McCormick,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

[FR Doc. 01-27392 Filed 10-30-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 01-137]

### Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP); Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a forthcoming meeting of the Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel.

**DATES:** Friday, November 9, 2001, 8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

**ADDRESSES:** Radisson Resort At the Port, Cape Canaveral, 8701 Astronaut Blvd., Cape Canaveral, FL 32920. Martinique Room. Hotel phone number is (321) 784-0000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. David M. Lengyel, Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel Executive Director, Code Q-1, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546, 202/358-0391, if you plan to attend.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room (40). The agenda for the meeting is to conduct deliberations on Calendar Year 2001 fact-finding activities and trip reports in preparation for the drafting of the Panel's Annual Report. It is imperative that the meeting be held on this date to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitors register.

**Beth M. McCormick,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

[FR Doc. 01-27393 Filed 10-30-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Biweekly Notice; Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations

**Note:** The publication date for this notice will change from every other Wednesday to every other Tuesday, effective January 8, 2002. The notice will contain the same information and will continue to be published biweekly.

#### I. Background

Pursuant to Public Law 97-415, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC staff) is publishing this regular biweekly notice. Public Law 97-415 revised section 189 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), to require the Commission to publish notice of any amendments issued, or proposed to be issued, under a new provision of section 189 of the Act. This provision grants the Commission the authority to issue and make immediately effective any amendment to an operating license upon a determination by the Commission that such amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, notwithstanding the pendency before the Commission of a request for a hearing from any person.

This biweekly notice includes all notices of amendments issued, or proposed to be issued from October 9, 2001 through October 19, 2001. The last biweekly notice was published on October 17, 2001 (66 FR 52794).

#### *Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing*

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the following amendment requests involve no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. The basis for this proposed determination for each amendment request is shown below.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received

Attendance List:

Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel:

1. Mr. Richard Blomberg – Chair
2. Ms. Shirley McCarty – Vice Chair
3. Dr. Bernard Harris
4. Mr. Rich Bruckman
5. Dr. Wanda Austin
6. Mr. Bob Sieck
7. Dr. George Gleghorn
8. Dr. Ulf Goranson
9. Mr. Sid Gutierrez
10. Mr. Ken Englar
11. Mr. Roger Schaufele
12. Mr. Otto Goetz
13. Mr. Julian May
14. Mr. Forrest McCartney
15. Mr. Art Zygielbaum
16. Mr. David Lengyel – Executive Director

Public:

1. Mr. Bill Beckman – Boeing Space and Communications Division