

## **Review of the Mobile Source Emissions Factor Model**

In Fiscal 1997 appropriations for EPA, Congress provided \$250,000 "for a study of EPA's Mobile Source Emissions Factor Model to be conducted by the National Academy of Sciences."

EPA's Office of Mobile Sources has provided a grant to NAS to consider:

- the adequacy of the MOBILE model's input data, assumptions, structure, and results used to characterize mobile source emissions.
- ways to improve the reliability of the MOBILE model as a tool for assisting in the development of emission control strategies to meet air quality goals.

## STATEMENT OF WORK

This project will evaluate the current and imminent versions of the MOBILE model with respect to the following aspects:

1. The types of mobile sources addressed, particularly the amount and quality of data from under-represented and unrepresented categories of sources, e.g., heavy-duty vehicles, and emissions of increasing interest, e.g., small particles
2. The strategies and methods for future data gathering in partnerships with other researchers, such as state agencies, industry associations or others with relevant data, in order to increase the amount and range of data in the most cost-effective manner;
3. Alternative data sources and analytical techniques currently used by others for similar purposes, e.g., the California Air Resources Board (in their EMFAC and related models) or the German government;
4. The latest developments in related areas of modeling and how such advances might be incorporated in a new edition of the model;
5. The feasibility and requirements for the incorporation of modal modeling in MOBILE7 to reflect the effect on emissions of a variety of driving conditions and vehicle technologies;
6. To the extent practical, the overall accuracy of the current models in predicting emissions to the atmosphere.

The project will involve a committee with expertise in the following areas:

- characterization of mobile source emissions
- automotive engineering
- traffic patterns and control
- statistics
- uncertainty analysis
- atmospheric chemistry
- development, use, and evaluation of air quality models
- mobile source emission control strategies
- exposure assessment

The study will involve open sessions during which individuals outside of the committee will be asked to provide technical and policy background information.

A slate of committee candidates has been formed, we are now going into the NRC approval process.

Project is expected to be completed in September.

Project updates will be provided on the NAS website. The address is [www.nas.edu](http://www.nas.edu). Click on “current projects”, then go to “Environmental Issues”.

## Excerpt from

Statement from Bruce Alberts  
President, National Academy of Sciences  
and Chair, National Research Council  
Regarding the Signing of the Bill to Exempt  
the National Academy of Sciences  
from the Federal Advisory Committee Act

Dec. 17, 1997

... “I want to assure the President, Congress, and the public that we will take all steps necessary to comply with the law and to provide substantial public access. Methods to achieve this are now being designed and tested. We are confident that we can accommodate the new provisions without jeopardizing our crucial role as independent adviser to the government, and we believe that the increased transparency of our processes will benefit both the Academy and the nation.”

## **FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1997**

### **REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

An agency may not use any advice or recommendation provided by the National Academy of Sciences that was developed by use of a committee created by that academy under an agreement with an agency, unless--

the committee was not subject to any actual management or control by an agency or an officer of the Federal Government

in the case of a committee created after December 17, 1997, the membership of the committee was appointed in accordance with the requirements of the act

in developing the advice or recommendation, the academy complied with the requirements of the act

## REQUIREMENTS:

Provide public notice of the names and brief biographies of individuals that the Academy appoints or intends to appoint to serve on the committee. Provide a reasonable opportunity for the public to comment on such appointments before they are made, if practicable.

Provide public notice of committee meetings that will be open to the public.

Ensure that meetings of the committee to gather data from individuals who are not officials, agents, or employees of the Academy are open to the public, unless the Academy determines that a meeting would disclose classified, proprietary, or personal privacy information such as medical records.

Make available to the public as soon as practicable, at reasonable charge if appropriate, a brief summary of any committee meeting that is not a data gathering meeting, unless the Academy determines that the summary would disclose classified, proprietary, personal privacy matters.

Make available to the public its final report, at reasonable charge and if appropriate

After publication of the final report, make publicly available the names of the principal reviewers who reviewed the report in draft form and who are not officials, agents, or employees of the Academy.

**FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1997  
ENROLLED BILL (SENT TO PRESIDENT)**

**H.R. 2977**

*One Hundred Fifth Congress*

*of the*

*United States of America*

AT THE FIRST SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,  
the seventh day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven

An Act

To amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to clarify public disclosure requirements that are applicable to the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Public Administration.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the `Federal Advisory Committee Act Amendments of 1997'.

**SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**

(a) EXCLUSIONS FROM DEFINITION- Section 3(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended in the matter following subparagraph (C), by striking `such term excludes' and all that follows through the period and inserting the following: `such term excludes (i) any committee that is composed wholly of full-time, or permanent part-time, officers or employees of the Federal Government, and (ii) any committee that is created by the National Academy of Sciences or the National Academy of Public Administration.'.

(b) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION- Such Act is further amended by redesignating section 15 as section 16 and inserting after section 14 the following new section:

**`REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

`SEC. 15. (a) IN GENERAL- An agency may not use any advice or recommendation provided by the National Academy of Sciences or National Academy of Public Administration that was developed by use of a committee

created by that academy under an agreement with an agency, unless--

`(1) the committee was not subject to any actual management or control by an agency or an officer of the Federal Government;

`(2) in the case of a committee created after the date of the enactment of the Federal Advisory Committee Act Amendments of 1997, the membership of the committee was appointed in accordance with the requirements described in subsection (b)(1); and

`(3) in developing the advice or recommendation, the academy complied with--

    `(A) subsection (b)(2) through (6), in the case of any advice or recommendation provided by the National Academy of Sciences; or

    `(B) subsection (b)(2) and (5), in the case of any advice or recommendation provided by the National Academy of Public Administration.

`(b) REQUIREMENTS- The requirements referred to in subsection (a) are as follows:

    `(1) The Academy shall determine and provide public notice of the names and brief biographies of individuals that the Academy appoints or intends to appoint to serve on the committee. The Academy shall determine and provide a reasonable opportunity for the public to comment on such appointments before they are made or, if the Academy determines such prior comment is not practicable, in the period immediately following the appointments. The Academy shall make its best efforts to ensure that (A) no individual appointed to serve on the committee has a conflict of interest that is relevant to the functions to be performed, unless such conflict is promptly and publicly disclosed and the Academy determines that the conflict is unavoidable, (B) the committee membership is fairly balanced as determined by the Academy to be appropriate for the functions to be performed, and (C) the final report of the Academy will be the result of the Academy's independent judgment. The Academy shall require that individuals that the Academy appoints or intends to appoint to serve on the committee inform the Academy of the individual's conflicts of interest that are relevant to the

functions to be performed.

`(2) The Academy shall determine and provide public notice of committee meetings that will be open to the public.

`(3) The Academy shall ensure that meetings of the committee to gather data from individuals who are not officials, agents, or employees of the Academy are open to the public, unless the Academy determines that a meeting would disclose matters described in section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code. The Academy shall make available to the public, at reasonable charge if appropriate, written materials presented to the committee by individuals who are not officials, agents, or employees of the Academy, unless the Academy determines that making material available would disclose matters described in that section

`(4) The Academy shall make available to the public as soon as practicable, at reasonable charge if appropriate, a brief summary of any committee meeting that is not a data gathering meeting, unless the Academy determines that the summary would disclose matters described in section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code. The summary shall identify the committee members present, the topics discussed, materials made available to the committee, and such other matters that the Academy determines should be included.

`(5) The Academy shall make available to the public its final report, at reasonable charge if appropriate, unless the Academy determines that the report would disclose matters described in section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code. If the Academy determines that the report would disclose matters described in that section, the Academy shall make public an abbreviated version of the report that does not disclose those matters.

`(6) After publication of the final report, the Academy shall make publicly available the names of the principal reviewers who reviewed the report in draft form and who are not officials, agents, or employees of the Academy.

`(c) REGULATIONS- The Administrator of General Services may issue regulations implementing this section.'

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION-

(1) IN GENERAL- Except as provided in paragraph (2), this section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) RETROACTIVE EFFECT- Subsection (a) and the amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as of October 6, 1972, except that they shall not apply with respect to or otherwise affect any particular advice or recommendations that are subject to any judicial action filed before the date of the enactment of this Act.

### **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall submit a report to the Congress on the implementation of and compliance with the amendments made by this Act.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and

President of the Senate.