

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 21, 2011

The Honorable John P. Holdren
Director
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Dr. Holdren:

I am pleased to submit a report describing the actions the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has taken to develop and implement policies addressing the scientific integrity principles President Obama outlined in a March 9, 2009, memorandum and for which you provided further implementation guidance in a December 17, 2010, memorandum. NASA submits this report pursuant to your memorandum's request that agencies report within 120 days the status of their development and implementation of scientific integrity policies.

The enclosed report describes the Agency's current policies to ensure scientific and engineering integrity, the actions we have taken to extend its assurance, and our plans for additional actions to further implement the Administration's scientific integrity policies. The report is organized to respond to the four major areas and 17 sub-areas of scientific integrity that your memorandum addresses. NASA works zealously to maintain a culture of scientific and engineering integrity, which is supported by NASA policies, practices, and procedures that embed scientific integrity principles into the conduct of NASA's research and technology development programs. NASA has identified two areas where its policies, practices, and procedures can be improved to respond more fully to your guidance. We will implement these improvements with the following action plan:

1. NASA will announce Federal advisory committee (FAC) vacancies widely, including notice in the Federal Register. NASA will make publicly available the names of all committee members receiving future Conflict of Interest waivers. NASA will evaluate options for and incorporate new policies and practices, and extend its existing policies and practices, to meet all FAC-related points of your memorandum through revisions to NASA Policy Directive 1150.11, *Federal Advisory Committee Act Committees*, as appropriate, no later than October 31, 2011.
2. NASA will issue an Agency-wide memorandum confirming the Agency's support for NASA scientists, engineers, and all other NASA employees for whom such

participation is an integral part of professional development to serve as society officers or board members, where appropriate, and summarizing the Agency's processes for them to obtain approval for such service. The memorandum will be issued by NASA's Chief Scientist, Chief Engineer, and Chief Technologist, and other NASA officials as appropriate, with concurrence from the NASA Office of General Counsel, no later than June 30, 2011.

I look forward to notifying you when we have completed this action plan in support of the Administration's commitment to scientific integrity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CFB', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

Enclosure