

resources of wind, closed-loop biomass, and geothermal energy, and 1.2 cents per kilowatt hour on the sale of electricity produced in open-loop biomass facilities, landfill gas facilities, trash facilities, qualified hydropower facilities, and marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy facilities. Under the calculation required by section 45(b)(2), the credit for refined coal production for calendar year 2019 under section 45(e)(8)(A) is \$7.173 per ton on the sale of qualified refined coal.

**Christopher T. Kelley,**

*Special Counsel (Passthroughs and Special Industries).*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment to the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Center for Minority Veterans (CMV), is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment as a member of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans (“the Committee”).

**DATES:** Nominations for membership on the Committee must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on July 15, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** All nominations should be mailed to the Center for Minority Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW (00M), Washington, DC 20420 or faxed to (202) 273-7092.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Ronald Sagudan and/or Mr. Dwayne Campbell, Center for Minority Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW (00M), Washington, DC 20420, Telephone (202) 461-6191. A copy of the Committee charter and list of the current membership can be obtained by contacting Mr. Sagudan or Mr. Campbell or by accessing the website managed by CMV at [www.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/Advisory\\_Committee.asp](http://www.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/Advisory_Committee.asp).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In carrying out the duties set forth, the Committee responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

(1) Advising the Secretary and Congress on VA’s administration of benefits and provisions of healthcare, benefits, and services to minority Veterans.

(2) Providing an Annual report to congress outlining recommendations, concerns and observations on VA’s delivery of services to minority Veterans.

(3) Meeting with VA officials, Veteran Service Organizations, and other stakeholders to assess the Department’s efforts in providing benefits and outreach to minority Veterans.

(4) Making periodic site visits and holding town hall meetings with Veterans to address their concerns.

Management and support services for the Committee are provided by the Center for Minority Veterans (CMV).

**Authority:** The Committee was established in accordance with 38 U.S.C. 544 (Pub. L. 103-446, Sec 510). In accordance with 38 U.S.C. 544, the Committee advises the Secretary on the administration of VA benefits and services to minority Veterans; assesses the needs of minority Veterans with respect to such benefits; and evaluates whether VA compensation, medical and rehabilitation services, outreach, and other programs are meeting those needs. The Committee makes recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities. Nominations of qualified candidates are being sought to fill upcoming vacancies on the Committee.

**Membership Criteria:** CMV is requesting nominations for upcoming vacancies on the Committee. The Committee is currently composed of 12 members, in addition to ex-officio members. As required by statute, the members of the Committee are appointed by the Secretary from the general public, including:

(1) Representatives of Veterans who are minority group members;

(2) Individuals who are recognized authorities in fields pertinent to the needs of Veterans who are minority group members;

(3) Veterans who are minority group members and who have experience in a military theater of operations;

(4) Veterans who are minority group members and who do not have such experience and;

(5) Women Veterans who are minority group members recently separated from active military service.

Section 544 defines “minority group member” as an individual who is Asian American, Black, Hispanic, Native American (including American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian); or Pacific-Islander American.

In accordance with § 544, the Secretary determines the number, terms of service, and pay and allowances of members of the Committee appointed by the Secretary, except that a term of

service of any such member may not exceed three years. The Secretary may reappoint any member for additional terms of service.

**Professional Qualifications:** In addition to the criteria above, VA seeks—

(1) Diversity in professional and personal qualifications;

(2) Experience in military service and military deployments (please identify Branch of Service and Rank);

(3) Current work with Veterans;

(4) Committee subject matter expertise;

(5) Experience working in large and complex organizations;

**Requirements for Nomination**

**Submission:** Nominations should be type written (one nomination per nominator). Nomination package should include: (1) A letter of nomination that clearly states the name and affiliation of the nominee, the basis for the nomination (*i.e.* specific attributes which qualify the nominee for service in this capacity), and a statement from the nominee indicating a willingness to serve as a member of the Committee; (2) the nominee’s contact information, including name, mailing address, telephone numbers, and email address; (3) the nominee’s curriculum vitae, and (4) a summary of the nominee’s experience and qualification relative to the *professional qualifications* criteria listed above.

Individuals selected for appointment to the Committee shall be invited to serve a two-year term. Committee members will receive a stipend for attending Committee meetings, including per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses incurred.

The Department makes every effort to ensure that the membership of its Federal advisory committees is fairly balanced in terms of points of view represented and the committee’s function. Every effort is made to ensure that a broad representation of geographic areas, males & females, racial and ethnic minority groups, and the disabled are given consideration for membership. Appointment to this Committee shall be made without discrimination because of a person’s race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, transgender status, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), national origin, age, disability, or genetic information. Nominations must state that the nominee is willing to serve as a member of the Committee and appears to have no conflict of interest that would preclude membership. An ethics review is conducted for each selected nominee.

Dated: May 31, 2019.  
**Jelessa M. Burney,**  
*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Advisory Committee Charter Renewals**

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice of Advisory Committee charter renewals.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee ACT (FACA) and after

consultation with the General Services Administration, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has determined that the following Federal advisory committee is vital to the mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and renewing its charter would be in the public interest. Consequently, the charter for the following Federal advisory committee is renewed for a two-year period, beginning on the dates listed below:

Committee name	Committee description	Charter renewed on
Cooperative Studies Scientific Evaluation Committee.	Provides advice on VA cooperative studies, multi-site clinical research activities, and policies related to conducting and managing these efforts and ensures that new and ongoing projects maintain high quality, are based upon scientific merit, and are efficiently and economically conducted.	May 14, 2018.
Health Services Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board.	Provides advice on the fair and equitable selection of the most meritorious research projects for support by VA research funds; ensures the high quality and mission relevance of VA's legislatively mandated research and development program; advises on the scientific and technical merit, originality, feasibility, and mission relevance of individual research proposals; and advises on the adequacy of protection of human and animal subjects.	May 14, 2018.
Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board.	Provides advice on the scientific quality, budget, safety, and mission relevance of investigator-initiated research proposals submitted for VA merit review consideration.	May 14, 2018.
Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board.	Provides advice on the fair and equitable selection of the most meritorious research projects for support by VA research funds; provides advice for research program officials on program priorities and policies; and ensures that the VA Rehabilitation and Development program promotes functional independence and improves the quality of life for impaired and disabled Veterans.	May 14, 2018.

The Secretary also determined that the following Federal advisory committee is vital to VA and reestablished its charter:

Committee name	Committee description	Charter renewed on
Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee.	Provides advice on how to coordinated and promote volunteer activities within VA health care facilities.	March 7, 2019.

The Secretary has also renewed the charter for the following statutorily authorized Federal advisory committee for a two-year period, beginning on the date listed below:

Committee name	Committee description	Charter renewed on
Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War ...	Provides advice on the administration of benefits for Veterans who are former prisoners of war, their survivors, and the needs of such Veterans and their families in the areas of service-connected compensation, dependency and indemnification compensation, health care, and rehabilitation.	June 21, 2018.
Geriatrics and Gerontology Advisory Committee .....	Provides advice on all matters pertaining to geriatrics and gerontology.	July 16, 2018.
Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses.	Provides advice on proposed research studies, research plans, or research strategies relating to the health effects of military service in Southwest Asia during Gulf War.	January 30, 2019.
Advisory Committee on Structural Safety of Department of Veterans Affairs Facilities.	Provides advice on structural safety in the construction and remodeling of VA facilities, and to recommend standards for use by VA in the construction and alteration of facilities.	March 12, 2019.
Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education .....	Provides advice on the administration of education and training programs for Veterans and Servicepersons, Reservists, and dependents of Veterans under Chapters 30, 32, 35, and 36 of Title 38, and Chapter 1606 of Title 10, United States Code.	March 12, 2019.