

# Fusion Energy Sciences Committee of Visitors (COV) Charge

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

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Science



# Outline

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- What is a COV?
- Past COVs
- Charge for a new COV



# COV?

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- What?: A Panel to assess the efficacy and quality of the processes used to solicit, review, recommend, monitor, and document funding actions and to assess the quality of the resulting portfolio.
- Who?: Each COV panel is composed of a group of recognized scientists and research program managers with broad expertise in the designated program areas.
- When?: Every program element must be reviewed once every three years.
- Why?: To insure quality, fairness, and help foster improvements.
- Where?: A two- to three-day visit to DOE Germantown to review documents and meet with DOE program managers.



# Past COVs

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- Conducted three previous COVs in 2004, 2005, and 2006
- Covered entire Office of Fusion Energy Science (OFES) program in three separate reviews
- Were very positive
- Had a number of recommendations that OFES followed as much as feasible
- Did not get to national or international ranking
- Report of all three COVs can be found at [http://www.science.doe.gov/ofes/FESAC/COV/FESAC-DOE\\_SC-0098.pdf](http://www.science.doe.gov/ofes/FESAC/COV/FESAC-DOE_SC-0098.pdf)



# New Charge for COV

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- Assess the efficacy and quality of the processes used by the OFES to solicit, review, recommend, monitor, and document awards and declinations for universities, national laboratories, and industry.
- Assess the breadth, depth, and quality of the resulting program portfolio, and provide an evaluation of the program's national and international standing.
- Report by April 2009.
- Al Opdenaker is the point of contact for the COV ([albert.opdenaker@science.doe.gov](mailto:albert.opdenaker@science.doe.gov), 301-903-4927)