

Nuclear Fuel Cycle Focus Group

Charter

Purpose

The purpose of this NPAC TWG focus group on Nuclear Fuel Cycle (NFCFG) is to ensure effective coordination of R&D in the development of tools that enable the detection and characterization of unit processes associated with nuclear fuel cycle operations.

Functions

The NFCFG will:

- Exchange information on currently funded and proposed R&D directed towards the development of tools that enable detection and characterization of processes, operations, and transfers relating to the nuclear fuel cycle.
- Develop interagency consensus on R&D priorities in this area while considering the challenges associated with the need to detect undeclared facilities in addition to ascertaining the level of on-going activities in both declared and undeclared facilities. Tools are required for cooperative as well as uncooperative environments. Critical issues for the required tools that will be addressed include: ease of deployment, distance from target, size, and weight.
- Identify quantitative requirements as a function of distance from target to guide the development of appropriate tools.
- Make recommendations to the NPAC TWG on coordination of developments and fieldability of various tools to guide future investment to meet urgent policy challenges.
- Provide a summary report highlighting current programs, future funding requirements to meet national challenges, and provide a long term view for future planning and policy coordination.

Structure

Government agencies and a number of U.S. Departments will actively participate in the NFCFG