



CHARTER
of the
**TASK FORCE ON SMART DISCLOSURE: INFORMATION AND EFFICIENCY IN
CONSUMER MARKETS**
COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Task Force on Smart Disclosure: Information and Efficiency in Consumer Markets (TFSD) is hereby established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Committee on Technology (CoT).

B. Purpose and Scope

The TFSD will recommend approaches that Federal entities can take to facilitate the “smart disclosure” of data about consumer markets. “Smart disclosure” is the release of data sets in usable forms that enable consumers to compare and choose between complex services.

Smart disclosure requires service providers to make data about the full range of their service offerings available in machine-readable formats such that consumers can then use these data to make informed choices about the goods and services they use. While consumers may access the data directly in some cases, the data may also be useful in enabling government agencies or third parties to create online tools for consumer choice. The Task Force will study diverse issues that can affect the feasibility and effectiveness of smart disclosure, including: current best practices; technical considerations for data disclosure; legal issues; protection of proprietary information; privacy issues; cost-benefit considerations; and other issues that the Task Force may deem to be relevant in the course of its work.

C. Functions

The TFSD will develop guidelines based on best practices for making data from consumer markets available and useful for consumer decision-making. The specific deliverables of the TFSD are expected to include:

1. an assessment of the current approaches to smart disclosure in Federal departments and agencies;
2. a review of the most relevant research from social, behavioral, and information science;
3. engagement with smart-disclosure stakeholders, such as consumers, producers, and technologists who repackage smart disclosure data into tools for consumers;
4. the development of case studies on smart disclosure; and
5. recommendations on best practices for smart disclosure in consumer markets.

D. Membership

The following departments and agencies are represented on the TSFD:

Department of Health and Human Services;
Department of the Treasury;
Federal Communications Commission (Chair); and
Federal Trade Commission.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President are also represented on the TFSD:

Office of Management and Budget;
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs; and
Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive organizations, departments and agencies as the Chair may, from time to time, designate.

E. Private Sector Advice

The TFSD may seek advice from members of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology to secure appropriate private-sector¹ advice, and will recommend to the CoT and/or the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy the nature of any additional non-Federal advice needed to accomplish its mission. The TFSD may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

F. Termination Date

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the CoT prior to its expiration, the TFSD shall terminate no later than July 1, 2012

G. Determination

We hereby determine that the reestablishment of the Task Force on Smart Disclosure: Information and Efficiency in Consumer Markets is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

¹ The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private sector," but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or Tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, international bodies, etc.

Approved:



Aneesh Chopra,
Co-chair, Committee on Technology and
Chief Technology Officer of the United States and
Associate Director for Technology,
Office of Science and Technology Policy

07/25/11

Date



Vivek Kundra,
Co-chair, NSTC Committee on Technology and
Chief Information Officer of the United States,
Office of Management and Budget

07/25/11

Date