

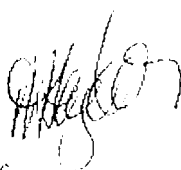


The Under Secretary of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

January 9, 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: INGRID KOLB  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT

THRU: KEVIN HAGERTY  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

FROM: RICHARD H. LAGDON, CHIEF OF NUCLEAR SAFETY 

SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Develop DOE P 427.X, *Policy on Code of Record for Nuclear Facilities*

PURPOSE: To establish Department of Energy (DOE) expectations for developing a Code of Record early in the design of new nuclear facilities and major modifications to existing nuclear facilities. The Code of Record refers to the requirements that were in effect at the time a facility or item of equipment was designed and accepted by DOE, and includes Federal and state laws, DOE requirements, and specific design criteria defined by national codes and standards.

JUSTIFICATION: This Policy was originally requested by the Federal Project Directors for the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) and the Waste Treatment Plant (WTP) Projects. This Policy enables projects to establish a change control process that helps control project costs and requires technical justification for substantial changes to the record. It is an essential element of the Corrective Actions for improving Project Performance.

The Department builds its nuclear facilities to support its weapon production, science, energy research, and environmental management mission needs. These facilities are designed, constructed, operated, and maintained by DOE contractors, and the responsibility for stewardship throughout a facility's lifecycle rests with the Department. Most major DOE facilities have a design and construction lifetime that may span more than a decade, with contractors changing during this timeframe.

The Department must conduct its major nuclear facility acquisition and lifecycle stewardship activities in a cost- and mission-effective manner that protects the public, its workers, and the environment. The Code of Record provides for the early establishment and lifecycle maintenance of applicable facility requirements that are essential to achieving such ends.

The proposed directive does not duplicate existing laws, regulations, or national standards, and it does not create undue burden on the Department.

IMPACT:

The Code of Record and its supporting documents form a single reference source for project design, construction, operating, and decommissioning requirements. The Code of Record organizes these documents in a manner that supports accessibility, traceability, and maintainability of facility requirements. Establishing the Code of Record early in the design phase, and maintaining it under configuration control for the entire facility lifecycle, will improve project costs, schedule, and safety, meeting needs as requested by numerous Headquarters and field offices, including the Office of Environmental Management, Office of Management, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Nevada Site Office, Y-12 Site Office, Savannah River Site, the NNSA Service Center, and Sandia Site Office. Also, the Code of Record will enable the effective turnover of facility requirements for design, construction, operation, and decommissioning when the contractor changes.


CONTACT:

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CTA CONCURRENCE:

\_\_\_\_\_ (DOE/Energy)

\_\_\_\_\_ (DOE/Science)

 1/21/09 (NNSA)

DECISION:

Concur: \_\_\_\_\_

Noneconcur: \_\_\_\_\_

Timeframe: XX 30 days 60 days 90 days 120 days

Date: \_\_\_\_\_