

annual basis, or for shorter periods by quarters, where necessary. Payments for annual rentals are to be made in advance at the beginning of the fiscal year, and for periods of less than a year, either in advance for the whole period or at the beginning of each quarter in which the box is to be used.

**908.7119-908.7120 [Reserved]****908.7121 Special materials.**

This section covers the purchase of materials peculiar to the DOE program. While purchases of these materials are unclassified, the specific quantities, destination or use may be classified. See appropriate sections of the Classification Guide. Contracting activities shall require authorized contractors to obtain the special materials identified in the following subsections in accordance with the procedures stated therein.

(a) *Heavy water.* The Senior Program Official or designee controls the acquisition and production of heavy water for a given program. Request for orders shall be placed directly with the cognizant Senior Program Official or designee.

(b) *Precious metals.* The DOE Oak Ridge Operations Office is responsible for maintaining the DOE supply of precious metals. These metals are platinum, palladium, iridium, osmium, rhodium, ruthenium, gold and silver. The DOE Oak Ridge Operations Office has assigned management of these metals to Martin Marietta Energy Systems, Inc., MS8207, P.O. Box 2009, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. DOE offices and authorized contractors shall coordinate with the operating contractor regarding the availability of the above metals prior to the purchase of these metals on the open market.

(c) *Lithium.* Lithium is available at no cost other than normal packing, handling, and shipping charges from Oak Ridge. The excess quantities at Oak Ridge are to be considered as the first source of supply prior to procurement of lithium compounds from any other source.

[54 FR 27646, June 30, 1989, as amended at 59 FR 9105, Feb. 25, 1994; 62 FR 2312, Jan. 16, 1997]

**PART 909—CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS****Subpart 909.1—Responsible Prospective Contractors**

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909.507-2 Contract Clause.

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*; 41 U.S.C. 418(b); and 50 U.S.C. 2401 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 49 FR 11949, Mar. 28, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

**Subpart 909.1—Responsible Prospective Contractors****909.104-1 General Standards.**

(h) For solicitations for contract work subject to the provisions of 10 CFR part 707, Workplace Substance Abuse Programs at DOE sites, the prospective contractor must agree, in accordance with 48 CFR 970.5223-3., Agreement Regarding Workplace Substance Abuse Programs at DOE Sites, to provide the contracting officer with its written workplace substance abuse program in order to be determined responsible and, thus, eligible to receive the contract award.

[57 FR 32675, July 22, 1992, as amended at 62 FR 42074, Aug. 5, 1997; 65 FR 81006, Dec. 22, 2000]

**909.104-3 Application of standards. (DOE coverage-paragraph (e))**

(e) DOE may select an entity which was newly created to perform the prospective contract, including, but not limited to, a joint venture or other similarly binding corporate partnership. In such instances when making the determination of responsibility pursuant to 48 CFR 9.103, the contracting officer may evaluate the financial resources of other entities only to the extent that those entities are legally bound, jointly and severally if more than one, by means of a performance guarantee or other equivalent enforceable commitment to supply the necessary resources to the prospective contractor and to assume all contractual obligations of the prospective contractor. The guaranteeing corporate entity(ies) must be found to have sufficient resources in order to satisfy its guarantee.

[64 FR 16651, Apr. 6, 1999]

**Subpart 909.4—Debarment, Suspension, and Ineligibility**

SOURCE: 61 FR 39857, July 31, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

**909.400 Scope of subpart.**

This subpart—

(a) Prescribes policies and procedures governing the debarment and suspension of organizations and individuals from participating in Department of Energy (DOE) contracts, procurement sales contracts, and real property purchase agreements, and from participating in DOE approved subcontracts and subagreements.

(b) Sets forth the causes, procedures, and requirements for determining the scope, duration, and effect of DOE debarment and suspension actions; and

(c) Implements and supplements FAR subpart 9.4 with respect to the exclusion of organizations and individuals from procurement contracting and Government approved subcontracting.

**909.401 Applicability.**

The provisions of this subpart apply to all procurement debarment and suspension actions initiated by DOE on or after the effective date of this subpart.

Nonprocurement debarment and suspension rules are codified in 10 CFR part 1036.

**909.403 Definitions.**

In addition to the definitions set forth at FAR 9.403, the following definitions apply to this subpart:

*Debarring Official.* The Debarring Official for both DOE and NNSA is the Director, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, DOE, or designee.

*Suspending Official.* The Suspending Official for both DOE and NNSA is the Director, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, DOE, or designee.

[67 FR 14871, Mar. 28, 2002]

**909.406 Debarment.****909.406-2 Causes for debarment. (DOE coverage—paragraphs (c) and (d))**

(c) The Debarring Official may debar a contractor for any other cause of so serious or compelling a nature that it affects the present responsibility of a DOE contractor. Such cause may include but is not limited to:

(1) Commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a private contract or subcontract; and

(2) Inexcusable, prolonged, or repeated failure to pay a debt (including disallowed costs and overpayments) owed to DOE, provided the contractor has been notified of the determination of indebtedness, and further provided that the time for initiating any administrative or legal action to oppose or appeal the determination of indebtedness has expired or that such action, if initiated, has been concluded.

(d) The Debarring Official may debar a contractor:

(1) On the basis that an individual or organization is an affiliate of a debarred contractor, subject to the requirements of FAR 9.406-1(b) and 9.406-3(c);

(2) For failure to observe the material provisions of a voluntary exclusion (see 10 CFR 1036.315 for discussion of voluntary exclusion).

**909.406-3 Procedures. (DOE coverage—paragraphs (a), (b) and (d))**

(a) *Investigation and referral.* (1) Offices responsible for the award and administration of contracts are responsible for reporting to both the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Procurement and Assistance Management and the DOE Inspector General information about possible fraud, waste, abuse, or other wrongdoing which may constitute or contribute to a cause(s) for debarment under this subpart. Circumstances that involve possible criminal or fraudulent activities must be reported to the Office of the Inspector General in accordance with 10 CFR part 1010, Conduct of Employees, §1010.217(b), Cooperation with the Inspector General.

(2) At a minimum, referrals for consideration of debarment action should be in writing and should include the following information:

- (i) The recommendation and rationale for the referral;
- (ii) A statement of facts;
- (iii) Copies of documentary evidence and a list of all witnesses, including addresses and telephone numbers, together with a statement concerning their availability to appear at a fact-finding proceeding and the subject matter of their testimony;
- (iv) A list of parties including the contractor, principals, and affiliates (including last known home and business addresses, zip codes and DUNS Number);
- (v) DOE's acquisition history with the contractor, including recent experience under contracts and copies of pertinent contracts;
- (vi) A list of any known active or potential criminal investigations, criminal or civil proceedings, or administrative claims before the Board of Contract Appeals; and
- (vii) A statement regarding the impact of the debarment action on DOE programs. This statement is not required for referrals by the Inspector General.

(3) Referrals may be returned to the originator for further information or development.

(b) *Decisionmaking process.* Contractors proposed for debarment shall be afforded an opportunity to submit in-

formation and argument in opposition to the proposed debarment.

(1) In actions based upon a conviction or civil judgment, or in which there is no genuine dispute over material facts, the Debarring Official shall make a decision on the basis of all the information in the administrative record, including any submissions made by the contractor. If the respondent fails to submit a timely written response to a notice of proposed debarment, the Debarring Official shall notify the respondent in accordance with FAR 9.406-3(e) that the contractor is debarred.

(2) In actions not based upon a conviction or civil judgment, the contractor may request a fact-finding hearing to resolve a genuine dispute of material fact. In its request, the contractor must identify the material facts in dispute and the basis for disputing the facts. If the Debarring Official determines that there is a genuine dispute of material fact, the Debarring Official shall refer the matter to the Energy Board of Contract Appeals for a fact-finding conference.

(3) *Meeting.* Upon receipt of a timely request therefor from a contractor proposed for debarment, the Debarring Official shall schedule a meeting between the Debarring Official and the respondent, to be held no later than 30 days from the date the request is received. The Debarring Official may postpone the date of the meeting if the respondent requests a postponement in writing. At the meeting, the respondent, appearing personally or through an attorney or other authorized representative, may present and explain evidence that causes for debarment do not exist, evidence of any mitigating factors, and arguments concerning the imposition, scope, or duration of a proposed debarment or debarment.

(4) *Fact-finding conference.* The purpose of a fact-finding conference under this section is to provide the respondent an opportunity to dispute material facts through the submission of oral and written evidence; resolve facts in dispute; and provide the Debarring Official with findings of fact based, as applicable, on adequate evidence or on a preponderance of the evidence. The

fact-finding conference shall be conducted in accordance with rules consistent with FAR 9.406-3(b) promulgated by the Energy Board of Contract Appeals. The Energy Board of Contract Appeals will notify the affected parties of the schedule for the hearing. The Energy Board of Contract Appeals shall deliver written findings of fact to the Debarring Official (together with a transcription of the proceeding, if made) within a certain time period after the hearing record closes, as specified in the Energy Board of Contract Appeals Rules. The findings shall resolve any disputes over material facts based upon a preponderance of the evidence, if the case involves a proposal to debar, or on adequate evidence, if the case involves a suspension. Since convictions or civil judgments generally establish the cause for debarment by a preponderance of the evidence, there usually is no genuine dispute over a material fact that would warrant a fact-finding conference for those proposed debarments based on convictions or civil judgments.

(d) *Debarring Official's decision.* (4) The Debarring Official's final decision shall be based on the administrative record. In those actions where additional proceedings are necessary as to disputed material facts, written findings of fact shall be prepared and included in the final decision. In those cases where the contractor has requested and received a fact-finding conference, the written findings of fact shall be those findings prepared by the Energy Board of Contract Appeals. Findings of fact shall be final and conclusive unless within 15 days of receipt of the findings, the Department or the respondent requests reconsideration, as provided in the Board's Rules, or unless set aside by a court of competent jurisdiction. The Energy Board of Contract Appeals shall be provided a copy of the Debarring Official's final decision.

**909.406-6 Requests for reconsideration of debarment.**

(a) At any time during a period of debarment, a respondent may submit to the Debarring or Suspending Official a written request for reconsideration of the scope, duration, or effects of the suspension/debarment action because

of new information or changed circumstances, as discussed at FAR 9.406-4(c).

(b) In reviewing a request for reconsideration, the Debarring or Suspending Official may, in his or her discretion, utilize any of the procedures (meeting and fact-finding) set forth in 48 CFR (DEAR) 909.406-3 and 909.407-3. The Debarring or Suspending Official's final disposition of the reconsideration request shall be in writing and shall set forth the reasons why the request has been granted or denied. A notice transmitting a copy of the disposition of the request for reconsideration shall be sent to the respondent and, if a fact-finding conference under 48 CFR (DEAR) 909.406-3(b)(4) is pending (as in the case of a request for reconsideration of a suspension, where the proposed debarment is the subject of a fact-finding conference), a copy of the disposition shall be transmitted to the Energy Board of Contract Appeals.

**909.407-2 Causes for suspension. (DOE coverage—paragraph (d))**

(d) The Suspending Official may suspend an organization or individual:

(1) Indicted for or suspected, upon adequate evidence, of the causes described in 48 CFR (DEAR) 909.406-2(c)(1).

(2) On the basis of the causes set forth in 48 CFR (DEAR) 909.406-2(d)(2).

(3) On the basis that an organization or individual is an affiliate of a suspended or debarred contractor.

**909.407-3 Procedures. (DOE coverage—paragraphs (b) and (e))**

(b) Decisionmaking process.

(1) In actions based on an indictment, the Suspending Official shall make a decision based upon the administrative record, which shall include submissions made by the contractor in accordance with 48 CFR (DEAR) 909.406-3(b)(1) and 909.406-3(b)(3).

(2) For actions not based on an indictment, the procedures in 48 CFR (DEAR) 909.406-3(b)(2) and FAR 9.407-3(b)(2) apply.

(3) Coordination with Department of Justice. Whenever a meeting or fact-finding conference is requested, the

Suspending Official's legal representative shall obtain the advice of appropriate Department of Justice officials concerning the impact disclosure of evidence at the meeting or fact-finding conference could have on any pending civil or criminal investigation or legal proceeding. If such Department of Justice official requests in writing that evidence needed to establish the existence of a cause for suspension not be disclosed to the respondent, the Suspending Official shall:

(i) Decline to rely on such evidence and withdraw (without prejudice) the suspension or proposed debarment until such time as disclosure of the evidence is authorized; or

(ii) Deny the request for a meeting or fact-finding and base the suspension decision solely upon the information in the administrative record, including any submission made by the respondent.

(e) Notice of suspending official's decision. In actions in which additional proceedings have been held, following such proceedings, the Suspending Official shall notify respondent, as applicable, in accordance with paragraphs (e)(1) or (e)(2) of this section.

(1) Upon deciding to sustain a suspension, the Suspending Official shall promptly send each affected respondent a notice containing the following information:

(i) A reference to the notice of suspension, the meeting and the fact-finding conference;

(ii) The Suspending Official's findings of fact and conclusions of law;

(iii) The reasons for sustaining a suspension;

(iv) A reference to the Suspending Official's waiver authority under 48 CFR (DEAR) 909.405;

(v) A statement that the suspension is effective throughout the Executive Branch as provided in FAR 9.407-1(d);

(vi) Modifications, if any, of the initial terms of the suspension;

(vii) A statement that a copy of the suspension notice was sent to GSA and that the respondent's name and address will be added to the GSA List; and

(viii) If less than an entire organization is suspended, specification of the organizational element(s) or indi-

vidual(s) included within the scope of the suspension.

(2) If the Suspending Official decides to terminate a suspension, the Suspending Official shall promptly send, by certified mail, return receipt requested, each affected respondent a copy of the final decision required under this section.

[61 FR 39857, July 31, 1996; 61 FR 41684, Aug. 9, 1996]

### Subpart 909.5—Organizational and Consultant Conflicts of Interest

SOURCE: 62 FR 40751, July 30, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

#### 909.503 Waiver.

Heads of Contracting Activities are delegated the authorities in 48 CFR (FAR) 9.503 regarding the waiver of OCI requirements.

#### 909.504 Contracting Officer's Responsibility. (DOE coverage-paragraphs (d) and (e)).

(d) The contracting officer shall evaluate the statement by the apparent successful offeror or, where individual contracts are negotiated with all firms in the competitive range, all such firms for interests relating to a potential organizational conflict of interest in the performance of the proposed contract. Using that information and any other credible information, the contracting officer shall make written determination of whether those interests create an actual or significant potential organizational conflict of interest and identify any actions that may be taken to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate such conflict. In fulfilling their responsibilities for identifying and resolving potential conflicts, contracting officers should avoid creating unnecessary delays, burdensome information requirements, and excessive documentation.

(e) The contracting officer shall award the contract to the apparent successful offeror unless a conflict of interest is determined to exist that cannot be avoided, neutralized, or mitigated. Before determining to withhold award based on organizational conflict

of interest considerations, the contracting officer shall notify the offeror, provide the reasons therefor, and allow the offeror a reasonable opportunity to respond. If the conflict of interest cannot be avoided, neutralized, or mitigated to the contracting officer's satisfaction, the contracting officer may disqualify the offeror from award and undertake the disclosure, evaluation, and determination process with the firm next in line for award. If the contracting officer finds that it is in the best interest of the United States to award the contract notwithstanding a conflict of interest, a request for waiver shall be submitted in accordance with 48 CFR 909.503. The waiver request and decisions shall be included in the contract file.

**909.507 Solicitation provisions and contract clause.**

**909.507-1 Solicitation provisions. (DOE coverage-paragraph (e)).**

(e) The contracting officer shall insert the provision at 48 CFR 952.209-8, Organizational Conflicts of Interest Disclosure-Advisory and Assistance Services, in solicitations for advisory and assistance services expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold. In individual procurements, the Head of the Contracting Activity may increase the period subject to disclosure in 952.209-8 (c)(1) up to 36 months.

**909.507-2 Contract Clause.**

(a)(1) The contracting officer shall insert the clause at 48 CFR 952.209-72, Organizational Conflicts of Interest, in each solicitation and contract for advisory and assistance services expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(2) Contracting officers may make appropriate modifications where necessary to address the potential for organizational conflicts of interest in individual contracts. Contracting officers shall determine the appropriate term of the bar of paragraph (b)(1)(i) of the clause at 48 CFR 952.209-72 and enter that term in the blank provided. In the usual case of a contract for advisory and assistance services a period of three, four, or five years is appropriate; however, in individual cases the con-

tracting officer may insert a term of greater or lesser duration.

(3) The contracting officer shall include Alternate I with the clause in instances in which a meaningful amount of subcontracting for advisory and assistance services is expected.

(b) Contracts, which are not subject to part 970 but provide for the operation of a DOE site or facility or environmental remediation of a specific DOE site or sites, shall contain the organizational conflict of interest clause at 48 CFR 952.209-72. The organizational conflicts of interest clause in such contracts shall include Alternate I to that clause.

**PART 911—DESCRIBING AGENCY NEEDS**

**Subpart 911.6—Priorities and Allocations**

Sec.

911.600 Scope of subpart.

911.602 General.

911.604 Solicitation provision and contract clause.

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 7254; 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

**Subpart 911.6—Priorities and Allocations**

**911.600 Scope of subpart.**

This subpart implements and supplements FAR Subpart 11.6, Priorities and Allocations, and implements the regulations and procedures of the Defense Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS) in solicitations and contracts in support of authorized national defense programs and those energy programs which maximize domestic energy supplies. (See 15 CFR part 700).

[52 FR 38422, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended at 59 FR 9105, Feb. 25, 1994. Redesignated and amended at 61 FR 21976, May 13, 1996; 61 FR 30823, June 18, 1996]

**911.602 General.**

(d) Programs which maximize domestic energy supplies are eligible for priorities and allocations support depending on an executive decision made on a case-by-case basis. Eligibility is pursuant to section 104(a) of the Energy Conservation and Policy Act, Pub. L. 94-163, which added a new section 101(c) to the Defense Production Act. Guidance