

## SUPPLEMENTAL DIRECTIVE

NNSA SD 452.3-1B

Approved: 04-10-2025  
Certification Due: 04-10-2030

# DEFENSE PROGRAMS BUSINESS PROCESS SYSTEM (DPBPS)

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**NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**  
**Office of Defense Programs**

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Office of Systems Engineering and Integration

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## **DEFENSE PROGRAMS BUSINESS PROCESS SYSTEM (DPBPS)**

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1. **PURPOSE.** This Supplemental Directive (SD) establishes the Defense Programs Business Process System (DPBPS) as the mechanism for implementing requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) Order 452.3, *Management of the Department of Energy Nuclear Weapons Complex*. The DPBPS delivers business requirements and processes for directing, managing, operating, and executing Defense Programs (DP) activities in a consistent and repeatable manner. The DPBPS is a detailed operations manual for managing DP activities across federal organizations and Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE) management & operating (M&O) contractors. This SD ensures that DPBPS requirements and processes are integrated into M&O contracts.
2. **AUTHORITY.** DOE O 452.3, *Management of the Department of Energy Nuclear Weapons Complex*, dated 6-8-05.
3. **CANCELLATION.** National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) SD 452.3-1A, *Defense Programs Business Process System (DPBPS)*, dated 2-25-16.  
Cancellation of a directive does not, by itself, modify or otherwise affect any contractual obligation to comply with the directive. Contractor Requirements Documents (CRDs) that have been incorporated into a contract remain in effect throughout the term of the contract unless and until the contract is modified to either eliminate requirements that are no longer applicable or substitute a new set of requirements.
4. **APPLICABILITY.**
  - a. **Federal.** This SD applies to all NNSA federal organizations responsible for maintaining and enhancing the safety, reliability, and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, including the ability to design, produce, and test, to meet national security requirements.
  - b. **Contractors.** The CRDs, comprising Attachment 1 and including Attachments 2 and 3, set forth requirements of this directive that apply to contracts.  
The CRDs must be included in contracts of M&O contractors that support the NNSA mission to maintain and enhance the safety, reliability, and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, including the ability to design, produce, and test nuclear weapons to meet national security requirements.
  - c. **Equivalencies/Exemptions.**
    - (1) **Equivalency.** In accordance with the responsibilities and authorities assigned by Executive Order 12344, codified at 50 United States Code sections 2406 and 2511, and to ensure consistency throughout the joint Navy/DOE Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, the Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors (Director) will implement and oversee requirements

and practices pertaining to this Directive for activities under the Director's cognizance, as deemed appropriate.

- (2) Exemption. The Assistant Deputy Administrator of the Office of Systems Engineering and Integration (NA-18) has the approval authority for equivalencies and exemptions to this SD. NNSA SD 251.1C, *Directives Management*, current version, must be followed to request an equivalency or an exemption.

## 5. SUMMARY OF CHANGES.

- a. Aligns to language in Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 48, *Federal Acquisition Regulations System* and DOE Acquisition Regulations (DEAR) 970.5204-2 (b), *Laws, Regulations, and DOE Directives*, regarding notification of revisions.
- b. Adds Standards to DPBPS.
- c. Eliminates Level 3, *Federal Agreements* from contents of DPBPS.
- d. Requires the DPBPS to include a process for equivalencies/exemptions for Level 2 and 3 requirements.
- e. Formally assigns responsibilities to the Assistant Deputy Administrator for the Office of Systems Engineering and Integration which had been delegated by the Principal Assistant Deputy Administrator for Military Application.
- f. Assigns responsibility to the DPBPS Federal Program Manager (FPM) for charter approval.
- g. Requires the M&O Contractor Working Group (CWG) to draft a charter for approval.

## 6. BACKGROUND.

NNSA management of weapon activities was issued through NNSA SD 56XB, Rev 2, *Nuclear Weapon Development and Production*, dated March 31, 2004. DPBPS was initiated to integrate requirements from the Development and Production Manual, Technical Business Practices, Infrastructure Business Practices, Engineering Procedures, and Product Realization Standards. This enabled consistent implementation and a defined process to manage product realization requirements.

## 7. REQUIREMENTS.

- a. Content posted in the DPBPS must be implemented by NNSA organizations on the effective date. NNSA publishes content after authorization and at least 30 days before the effective date to allow organizations to bring processes into compliance.

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- b. The DPBPS must be the official repository for the business process requirements, standards, and tools to perform DP activities within the NSE.
- c. A notification in writing must provide contractors at least 30 days to identify impact to cost and funding, schedule, and technical performance per CFR 48 and DEAR 970.5204-2 (b).

## 5-RESPONSIBILITIES.

- a. Assistant Deputy Administrator for the Office of Systems Engineering and Integration.
  - (1) Appoints an FPM to manage, operate, and maintain the DPBPS.
  - (2) Provides direction to the DPBPS FPM for management and operations of the DPBPS and its content.
  - (3) Authorizes for release Level 2 and Level 3 content with an effective date.
  - (4) Cancels Level 2 and Level 3 content that no longer meets requirements (Attachment 2) or mission need.
- b. NNSA Defense Program Offices.
  - (1) Coordinates with DPBPS FPM to draft, revise, and affirm content for which they have responsibility to ensure DPBPS is meeting NNSA mission needs.
  - (2) Notifies the DPBPS FPM when Level 3 content is outdated, ineffective, or not implementable.
  - (3) Approves exemptions or equivalencies to their Level 2 requirements and provides notification to the DPBPS FPM.
- c. Field Office Contracting Officers.
  - (1) Incorporates this SD into the "List of Applicable Directives" identified in DEAR 970.5204-2, *Laws, Regulations, and DOE Directives* clause of the M&O contracts for NSE M&O contractors that perform work in support of the NNSA mission to maintain and enhance the safety, reliability, and performance of the nuclear weapons stockpile, including the ability to design, produce, and test nuclear weapons in order to meet national security requirements.
  - (2) Provides the contractor with written notification of changes to provide the contractor with the opportunity to assess the effect of the contractor's compliance with the revisions per CFR 48 and DEAR 970.5204-2 (b).

d. DPBPS FPM.

- (1) Manages, operates, and maintains the DPBPS.
- (2) Coordinates with DP Offices on content.
- (3) Ensures the DPBPS meets requirements in Attachment 2.
- (4) Approves the M&O CWG Charter.
- (5) Informs the M&O CWG when content needs revision to support mission need.
- (6) Tracks exemptions and equivalencies to DPBPS content.
- (7) Reports annually on the performance of the M&O CWG to the Assistant Deputy Administrator of Systems Engineering and Integration and the NNSA Field Offices.

9. DEFINITIONS. See Attachment 2.10. ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS. See Attachment 3.11. REFERENCES:

- a. DOE O 452.3, Management of the Department of Energy Nuclear Weapons Complex, current version.
- b. NNSA SD 56XB, Nuclear Weapon Development and Production, March 2004.
- c. Exec Order No 12344 (1982), Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.
- d. 48 C.F.R. 970.5204-2(b), Laws, Regulations, and DOE Directives.

12. CONTACT. Office of Systems Engineering and Integration, NA-18, 505-845-6088, [na-18fed@nnsa.doe.gov](mailto:na-18fed@nnsa.doe.gov).

BY ORDER OF THE ACTING ADMINISTRATOR:

Teresa M. Robbins  
Acting Administrator

Attachments:

1. Contractor Requirements Document
2. Defense Programs Business Process System Requirements
3. Acronyms/Abbreviations

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**ATTACHMENT 1: CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT**  
**NNSA SD 452.3-1B, *DEFENSE PROGRAMS BUSINESS PROCESS SYSTEM (DPBPS)***

Regardless of the performer of the work, the contractor is responsible for complying with the requirements of this Contractor Requirements Document (CRD). The contractor is responsible for flowing down the requirements of this CRD to subcontractors at any tier to the extent necessary to ensure the contractor's compliance with the requirements.

1. REQUIREMENTS.

- a. The contractor must implement DPBPS processes, requirements, and standards that apply to their site on the effective date.
  - (1) Management and operating (M&O) contractors may create Level 4 site-specific content to specify further details needed for site compliance with DPBPS.
  - (2) Changes or additions to Level 2 or Level 3 requirements do not necessitate a revision to the "List of Applicable Directives" pursuant to Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation 970.5204-2(b) *Laws, Regulations, and DOE Directives*, clause of each M&O contract.
  - (3) Requirements issued through cancelled Supplemental Directive 56XB, Rev 2, *Nuclear Weapon Development and Production*, dated March 31, 2004; its Development and Production Manual and associated Technical Business Practices, Infrastructure Business Practices, Engineering Procedures, and Production Realization Standards remain in effect until formally cancelled or replaced by appropriate DPBPS content.
- b. The contractor must notify the Contracting Officer in writing when DPBPS revisions impact cost and funding, schedule, and technical performance within 30 days of receiving written notification.
- c. The contractor must appoint a representative to support an M&O Contractor Working Group (CWG).
- d. The M&O CWG must:
  - (1) Draft a charter for approval and implementation.
  - (2) Manage creation, revision, and cancellation activities for Level 3 content using a graded approach per Attachment 2.
  - (3) Revise Level 3 content to support mission need when notified by the DPBPS Federal Project Manager.

- e. If appointed by the National Nuclear Security Administration, the selected M&O contractor must appoint an administrative and technical office to:
  - (1) Support the DPBPS FPM in the management and operation of the DPBPS.
  - (2) Chair the M&O CWG.

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## **ATTACHMENT 2: DEFENSE PROGRAMS BUSINESS PROCESS SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

**Note:** This attachment applies to National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) contractor and federal organizations.

### **1. INTRODUCTION.**

This Attachment describes the architecture, operations, and requirements of the Defense Programs Business Process System (DPBPS). Figure 1 (below) illustrates the overall structure of DPBPS and the flow-down of requirements from federal laws to high-level policy and then into DPBPS. Section 2 contains requirements for DPBPS.

### **2. REQUIREMENTS.**

- a. The DPBPS must include the verifiable, achievable, necessary, and sufficient set of requirements and processes for defense programs activities.
- b. The DPBPS must contain integrated processes that are consistently implementable.
- c. The DPBPS must contain a standard set of definitions.
- d. The DPBPS must be revised in accordance with a defined process and requirements using a graded approach.
- e. The DPBPS must trace to requirements from Department of Energy (DOE) Orders, NNSA Policies and Supplemental Directives, Federal Regulations, or United States Code. DPBPS may derive requirements from Lessons Learned, Government Accountability Office reports, Requirements Management Advisory Board decisions, and other sources when enveloped by higher-level policy requirements.
- f. The DPBPS must identify an organization or entity responsible for material.
- g. The DPBPS must not contradict or supersede provisions contained in any applicable DOE Orders, NNSA Policies or Supplemental Directives, Federal Regulations, or United States Code.
- b. The DPBPS must contain a process for equivalencies or exemptions to DPBPS requirements that includes documentation of the justification and approval by the organization responsible for the requirement.

3. ARCHITECTURE.

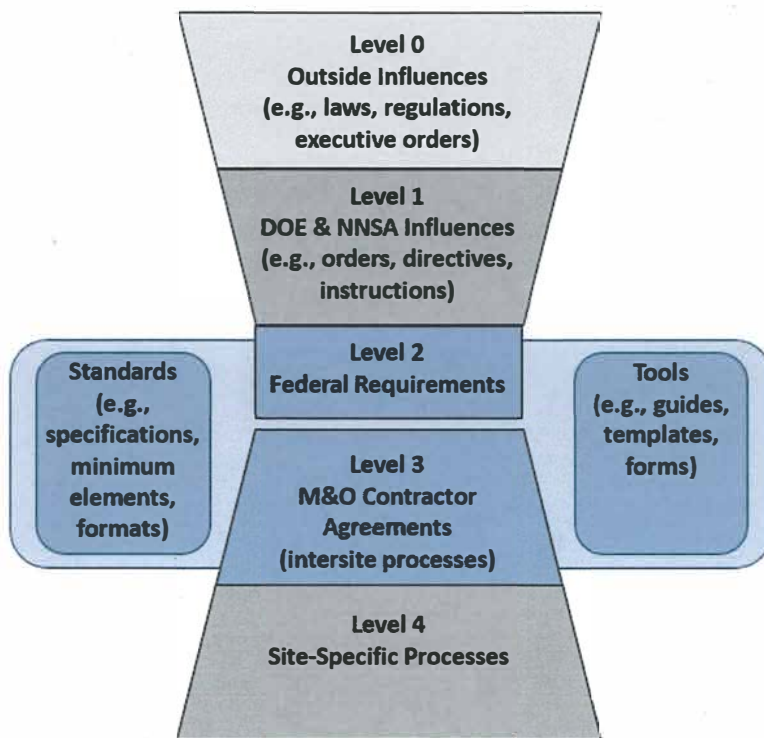


Figure 1: DPBPS Requirements Levels

- a. Level 0 Outside Influences. Federal influences, such as federal laws, regulations, and Executive Orders that provide nuclear security enterprise-wide requirements, direction, and policy.
- b. Level 1 DOE and NNSA Influences. DOE, NNSA, and Defense Programs (DP) influences, such as orders, standards, directives, and instructions that provide nuclear security enterprise-wide requirements, direction, and policy.
- c. Level 2 Federal Requirements. DP written and authorized requirements needed to meet an element of a DP mission or function. Federal Requirements apply to and are implemented by specified management and operating (M&O) contractors and NNSA federal staff.
- d. Level 3 M&O Contractor Agreements (MOCAs). M&O contractor-written and DP authorized implementation requirements that specify standardized inter-contractor agreements among the Nuclear Security Enterprise sites. MOCAs apply to and are implemented by specified M&O contractors.
- e. Level 4 Site-Specific Processes. M&O contractor-written, site-specific requirements that apply to individual M&O contractors or sites.

- fi. Tools. DPBPS guides, information, templates, instructions, and other aids used to convey recommended or suggested practices within Level 2 and Level 3 content. Note: Tools which currently contain required practices (called out in Level 2 or 3 requirements) will remain in effect until converted to a standard.
- g. Standards. DPBPS standards, specifications, minimum elements, and enterprise-wide formats used to convey required practices necessary for an effective, efficient, and collaborative enterprise. Level 2 and Level 3 requirements specify when to use a standard.

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### ATTACHMENT 3: ACRONYMS / ABBREVIATIONS

**Note:** This attachment applies to National Nuclear Security Administration contractor and federal organizations.

- a. CFR: Code of Federal Regulations
- b. CRD: Contractor Requirements Document
- c. CWG: Contractor Working Group
- d. DEAR: DOE Acquisition Regulations
- e. DP: Defense Programs
- f. DPBPS: Defense Programs Business Process System
- g. FPM: Federal Program Manager
- h. M&O: Management and Operating
- i. MOCA: Management and Operating Contractor Agreement
- j. NSE: Nuclear Security Enterprise
- k. SD: Supplemental Directive