



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 22, 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR DOE PROCUREMENT DIRECTORS

FROM:


EDWARD R. SIMPSON
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND
ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT:

Reporting of Data to the Procurement and Financial Assistance
Government-wide Systems.

During the past several years, there have been a number of changes in the way Federal agencies are required to report to Government-wide systems, such as the Federal Procurement Data System-Next Generation (FPDS-NG). Most of these changes are related to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Pleased be advised that the guidance issued from the offices within the Office of Procurement and Assistance Management is the official guidance on all issues related to contracting and financial assistance. It is my understanding that some of our contracting activities are questioning the instructions issued by my offices of Policy and Information Management Systems concerning the procedures for reporting to Government-wide systems. I want you to know that I am expecting the acquisition workforce to comply with the statutory and regulatory reporting requirements, as stated in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and any other guidance issued by my office. With this memo, I hope we can put these issues to rest.

In the last three years, there has been an increased focus on data quality and the reporting of accurate data to government-wide systems. FFATA was the first to raise the stakes on these issues and added additional reporting requirements for all agencies. Now we have the ARRA that further enhances and adds to existing requirements. The present administration has made it clear the importance of data transparency. Transparency of the data stresses the importance of accurate data.

The Office of Procurement and Assistance Policy and the Office of Information Management Systems are responsible for providing guidance, direction and clarification on reporting requirements, including the proper reporting procedures and methods. When these offices issue policy and guidance based on regulations, statute or DOE policy, it is binding on all DOE organizations.



Please note, the people working in my organization represent me, and I should not be required to personally send out a memo to direct the contracting activities to follow the rules. Further, the Office of Policy should not have to reiterate what is already spelled out in the regulations and statute and the Information Management Systems Division should not have to defend directions on how the information will be entered into these systems.

I know many of the Government-wide systems have not been updated in a reasonable and efficient manner to meet the new reporting requirements and it is causing additional work. I find this situation to be distressing. I want you to know that we are working with the appropriate organizations, including the agency that runs the Integrative Acquisition Environment systems for better solutions, and we strongly advocate better reporting solutions.

If you have questions related to policies on reporting, please contact Jacqueline Kniskern at (202) 287-1342. Should you have questions related to reporting systems, contact Douglas Baptist at (202) 287-1658.