REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION BY A BOARD MEMBER

Requester: Joyce L. Connery June 7, 2021

Brief description of Requested Action:

Background: In 2016, a Request for Board Action was approved by the Board #2016-300-012 that requires all briefings to the Board by the Department of Energy (DOE) or any outside source to be posted to the public website, after any necessary classification or sensitivity review. The operating procedure that was enacted following that RFBA approval required posting unless the materials were affirmatively marked as unavailable for public release. This has caused a reluctance on the part of some briefers to provide the Board with adequate briefing materials.

Requested action: Request Board approval to rescind RBFA #2016-300-012 and to modify staff Operating Procedure 11.2-1. If this RFBA is approved, the Board and staff procedures will be revised to reflect that materials provided by outside entities briefing the Board may be posted on the Board’s public website, subject to the agreement of those entities. This includes briefing materials provided by other governmental agencies (e.g., DOE), contractors to the Department of Energy, and non-U.S. government entities such as citizen groups. In all cases, the list of attendees and the subject of the briefings will be made public on the Board’s website and may be accompanied by a brief agenda.

Rationale: The purpose of receiving briefings is to keep the Board fully and currently informed of matters material to its mission. Briefing materials that are protected from public disclosure due to their nature (e.g., classified, privileged, etc.) will always be withheld from public release. The Department of Energy may have other sensitivities for wanting to withhold information from public release, including contracting sensitivities, information that is preliminary in nature, etc., but that should not preclude timely information sharing with the Board. This change will allow for the Department to provide timely information, even if that information is not yet appropriate for public dissemination. The Board also should maintain discretion over whether or not it wants to publicly release materials provided to it from outside entities such that the posting of that material is not seen as an endorsement of its content.

Attachments (init) n/a

Summarize any time sensitive considerations: There are two external briefings this week.

Requestor signature On File June 7, 2021

Assistant Executive secretary On File June 7, 2021
AFFIRMATION OF BOARD VOTING RECORD

SUBJECT: RFBA by Chair Connery to Rescind RFBA 2016-300-012 and Modify Operating Procedure re Publicly Posting External Briefing Material

Doc Control#: 2021-300-0022

The Board acted on the above document on 06/07/2021. The document was Approved.

The votes were recorded as:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>APRVD</th>
<th>DISAPRVD</th>
<th>ABSTAIN</th>
<th>NOT PARTICIPATING</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<td>Joyce L. Connery</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td>06/07/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Summers</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td>06/07/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessie H. Roberson</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td>06/07/2021</td>
</tr>
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This Record contains a summary of voting on this matter together with the individual vote sheets, views and comments of the Board Members.

Shelby Qualls
Executive Secretary to the Board

Attachments:

1. Voting Summary
2. Board Member Vote Sheets
FROM: Joyce L. Connery

SUBJECT: RFBA by Chair Connery to Rescind RFBA 2016-300-012 and Modify Operating Procedure re Publicly Posting External Briefing Material

Doc Control#: 2021-300-0022

DATE: 06/07/2021

VOTE: Approved

COMMENTS:

None

Joyce L. Connery
FROM: Thomas Summers

SUBJECT: RFBA by Chair Connery to Rescind RFBA 2016-300-012 and Modify Operating Procedure re Publicly Posting External Briefing Material

Doc Control#: 2021-300-0022

DATE: 06/07/2021

VOTE: Approved

COMMENTS:

None
FROM: Jessie H. Roberson

SUBJECT: RFBA by Chair Connery to Rescind RFBA 2016-300-012 and Modify Operating Procedure re Publicly Posting External Briefing Material

Doc Control#: 2021-300-0022

DATE: 06/07/2021

VOTE: Approved

Member voted by email.

COMMENTS:

None

Jessie H. Roberson