

**ENABLING STATUTE OF THE
DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
42 U.S.C. § 2286 et seq.**

**NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT, FISCAL YEAR 1989
(Pub. L. No. 100-456, September 29, 1988),**

**AS AMENDED BY NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 1991
(Pub. L. No. 101-510, November 5, 1990),
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEARS 1992 AND 1993
(Pub. L. No. 102-190, December 5, 1991),
ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 1992
(Pub. L. No. 102-486, October 24, 1992),
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 1994
(Pub. L. No. 103-160, November 30, 1993),
FEDERAL REPORTS ELIMINATION ACT OF 1998
(Pub. L. No. 105-362, November 10, 1998),
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2001
(Pub. L. No. 106-398, October 30, 2000), AND
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2003
(Pub. L. No. 107-314, December 2, 2002)
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2004
(Pub. L. No. 108-136, November 7, 2003)
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2009
(Pub. L. No. 110-417, October 14, 2008)
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2013
(Pub. L. No. 112-239, January 2, 2013)
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2015
(Pub. L. No. 113-291, December 19, 2014)
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2016
(Pub. L. No. 114-92, November 25, 2015)**

TITLE 42. THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
CHAPTER 23. DEVELOPMENT AND CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY
SUBCHAPTER XVII.A.
DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
42 U.S.C. § 2286

§ 2286. Establishment of Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 311]

(a) Establishment.

There is hereby established an independent establishment in the executive branch, to be known as the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board" (hereafter in this subchapter referred to as the "Board").

(b) Membership.

(1) The Board shall be composed of five members appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from among United States citizens who are respected experts in the field of nuclear safety with a demonstrated competence and knowledge relevant to the independent investigative and oversight functions of the Board. Not more than three members of the Board shall be of the same political party.

(2) Any vacancy in the membership of the Board shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(3) No member of the Board may be an employee of, or have any significant financial relationship with, the Department of Energy or any contractor of the Department of Energy.

(c) Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Members.¹

(1) The President shall designate a Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board from among members of the Board.

(2) In accordance with paragraphs (5), (6), and (7),² the Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Board and, subject to such policies as the Board may establish, shall exercise the functions of the Board with respect to—

(A) the appointment and supervision of employees of the Board;

(B) the organization of any administrative units established by the Board; and

(C) the use and expenditure of funds.

¹ Amended by Section 3202(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013. Pub. L. No. 112-239. Amendment revises the responsibility and authority of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Board Members.

² Amended by Section 3202(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2016. Pub. L. No. 114-92.

(3) The Chairman may delegate any of the functions under this paragraph to any other member or to any appropriate officer of the Board.

(4) The Vice Chairman shall act as Chairman in the event of the absence or incapacity of the Chairman or in case of a vacancy in the office of Chairman.

(5) Each member of the Board, including the Chairman and Vice Chairman, shall—

(A) have equal responsibility and authority in establishing decisions and determining actions of the Board;

(B) have full access to all information relating to the performance of the Board's functions, powers, and mission; and

(C) have one vote.

(6) In carrying out paragraph (5)(B), the Chairman may not withhold from any member of the Board any information that is made available to the Chairman regarding the Board's functions, powers, and mission (including with respect to the management and evaluation of employees of the Board).³

(7)(A) The Chairman, subject to the approval of the Board, shall appoint the senior employees described in subparagraph (C).

(B) The Chairman, subject to the approval of the Board, may remove a senior employee described in subparagraph (C).

(C) The senior employees described in this subparagraph are the following senior employees of the Board:

(i) The senior employee responsible for budgetary and general administration matters.

(ii) The general counsel.

(iii) The senior employee responsible for technical matters.⁴

(d) Terms.

(1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), the members of the Board shall serve for terms of five years. Members of the Board may be reappointed.

(2) Of the members first appointed—

³ Added by Section 3202(a)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2016. Pub. L. No. 114-92.

⁴ Added by Section 3202(b)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2016. Pub. L. No. 114-92.

- (A) one shall be appointed for a term of one year;
- (B) one shall be appointed for a term of two years;
- (C) one shall be appointed for a term of three years;
- (D) one shall be appointed for a term of four years; and

(E) one shall be appointed for a term of five years, as designated by the President at the time of appointment.

(3) Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term of office for which such member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term. A member may serve after the expiration of that member's term until a successor has taken office.

(e) Quorum.

Three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold hearings.

§ 2286a. Mission and Functions of the Board. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 312]⁵

(a) Mission.—The mission of the Board shall be to provide independent analysis, advice, and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy to inform the Secretary, in the role of the Secretary as operator and regulator of the defense nuclear facilities of the Department of Energy, in providing adequate protection of public health and safety at such defense nuclear facilities.

(b) Functions.

The Board shall perform the following functions:

(1) Review and evaluation of standards.

The Board shall review and evaluate the content and implementation of the standards relating to the design, construction, operation, and decommissioning of defense nuclear facilities of the Department of Energy (including all applicable Department of Energy orders, regulations, and requirements) at each Department of Energy defense nuclear facility. The Board shall recommend to the Secretary of Energy those specific measures that should be adopted to ensure that public health and safety are adequately protected. The Board shall include in its recommendations necessary changes in the content and implementation of such standards, as well as matters on which additional data or additional research is needed.

⁵ Amended by Section 3202(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013. Pub. L. No. 112-239. Amendment revises the Board's mission.

(2) Investigations.

(A) The Board shall investigate any event or practice at a Department of Energy defense nuclear facility which the Board determines has adversely affected, or may adversely affect, public health and safety.

(B) The purpose of any Board investigation under subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) to determine whether the Secretary of Energy is adequately implementing the standards described in paragraph (1) of the Department of Energy (including all applicable Department of Energy orders, regulations, and requirements) at the facility;

(ii) to ascertain information concerning the circumstances of such event or practice and its implications for such standards;

(iii) to determine whether such event or practice is related to other events or practices at other Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities; and

(iv) to provide to the Secretary of Energy such recommendations for changes in such standards or the implementation of such standards (including Department of Energy orders, regulations, and requirements) and such recommendations relating to data or research needs as may be prudent or necessary.

(3) Analysis of design and operational data.

The Board shall have access to and may systematically analyze design and operational data, including safety analysis reports, from any Department of Energy defense nuclear facility.

(4) Review of facility design and construction.

The Board shall review the design of a new Department of Energy defense nuclear facility before construction of such facility begins and shall recommend to the Secretary, within a reasonable time, such modifications of the design as the Board considers necessary to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety. During the construction of any such facility, the Board shall periodically review and monitor the construction and shall submit to the Secretary, within a reasonable time, such recommendations relating to the construction of that facility as the Board considers necessary to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety. An action of the Board, or a failure to act, under this paragraph may not delay or prevent the Secretary of Energy from carrying out the construction of such a facility.

(5) Recommendations.⁶

⁶ Amended by Section 3202(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013. Pub. L. No. 112-239. Amendment requires that Board recommendations specifically assess risk whenever sufficient data exists.

The Board shall make such recommendations to the Secretary of Energy with respect to Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities, including operations of such facilities, standards, and research needs, as the Board determines are necessary to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety. In making its recommendations the Board shall consider, and specifically assess risk (whenever sufficient data exists), the technical and economic feasibility of implementing the recommended measures.

(c) Excluded functions.⁷

The functions of the Board under this subchapter do not include functions relating to the safety of atomic weapons. However, the Board shall have access to any information on atomic weapons that is within the Department of Energy and is necessary to carry out the functions of the Board.

§ 2286b. Powers of Board. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 313]

(a) Hearings.

(1) The Board or a member authorized by the Board may, for the purpose of carrying out this subchapter, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places, and require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such evidence as the Board or an authorized member may find advisable.

(2)(A) Subpoenas may be issued only under the signature of the Chairman or any member of the Board designated by him and shall be served by any person designated by the Chairman, any member, or any person as otherwise provided by law. The attendance of witnesses and the production of evidence may be required from any place in the United States at any designated place of hearing in the United States.

(B) Any member of the Board may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the Board.

(C) If a person issued a subpoena under paragraph (1) refuses to obey such subpoena or is guilty of contumacy, any court of the United States within the judicial district within which the hearing is conducted or within the judicial district within which such person is found or resides or transacts business may (upon application by the Board) order such person to appear before the Board to produce evidence or to give testimony relating to the matter under investigation. Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt of the court.

(D) The subpoenas of the Board shall be served in the manner provided for subpoenas issued by a United States district court under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for the United States district courts.

⁷ Added by Section 3202 (b)(2)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1992 and FY 1993. Pub. L. No. 102-190.

(E) All process of any court to which application may be made under this section may be served in the judicial district in which the person required to be served resides or may be found.

(b) Staff.

(1) The Board may, for the purpose of performing its responsibilities under this subchapter—

(A) in accordance with section 2286(c)(7), hire⁸ such staff as it considers necessary to perform the functions of the Board, including such scientific and technical personnel as the Board may determine necessary, but not more than the equivalent of 130⁹ full-time employees; and

(B) procure the temporary and intermittent services of experts and consultants to the extent authorized by section 3109(b) of title 5 [United States Code] at rates the Board determines to be reasonable.

(2) The authority and requirements provided in section 2201(d) of this title [§ 161 d. of the Atomic Energy Act] with respect to officers and employees of the Commission shall apply with respect to scientific and technical personnel hired under paragraph (1)(A).¹⁰

(c) Regulations.

The Board may prescribe regulations to carry out the responsibilities of the Board under this subchapter.

(d) Reporting requirements.

The Board may establish reporting requirements for the Secretary of Energy which shall be binding upon the Secretary. The information which the Board may require the Secretary of Energy to report under this subsection may include any information designated as classified information, or any information designated as safeguards information and protected from disclosure under section 2167 or 2168 of this title [§ 147 or 148 of the Atomic Energy Act].

⁸ Amended by Section 3202(b)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2016. Pub. L. No. 114-92.

⁹ Amended by Section 3203(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2015. Pub. L. No. 113-291. This amendment took effect on October 1, 2015. *Id.* at 3203(b).

¹⁰ Added by the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1991. Pub. L. No. 101-510.

(e) Use of Government facilities, etc.

The Board may, for the purpose of carrying out its responsibilities under this subchapter, use any facility, contractor, or employee of any other department or agency of the Federal Government with the consent of and under appropriate support arrangements with the head of such department or agency and, in the case of a contractor, with the consent of the contractor.

(f) Assistance from certain agencies of the Federal Government.

With the consent of and under appropriate support arrangements with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Board may obtain the advice and recommendations of the staff of the Commission on matters relating to the Board's responsibilities and may obtain the advice and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards on such matters.

(g) Assistance from organizations outside the Federal Government.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law relating to the use of competitive procedures, the Board may enter into an agreement with the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences or any other appropriate group or organization of experts outside the Federal Government chosen by the Board to assist the Board in carrying out its responsibilities under this subchapter.

(h) Resident inspectors.

The Board may assign staff to be stationed at any Department of Energy defense nuclear facility to carry out the functions of the Board.

(i) Special studies.

The Board may conduct special studies pertaining to adequate protection of public health and safety at any Department of Energy defense nuclear facility.

(j) Evaluation of information.

The Board may evaluate information received from the scientific and industrial communities, and from the interested public, with respect to—

(1) events or practices at any Department of Energy defense nuclear facility; or

(2) suggestions for specific measures to improve the content of standards described in section 312(b)(1), the implementation of such standards, or research relating to such standards at Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities.

§ 2286c. Responsibilities of the Secretary of Energy. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 314]

(a) Cooperation.

The Secretary of Energy shall fully cooperate with the Board and provide the Board with ready access to such facilities, personnel, and information as the Board considers necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this subchapter. Each contractor operating a Department of Energy defense nuclear facility under a contract awarded by the Secretary shall, to the extent provided in such contract or otherwise with the contractor's consent, fully cooperate with the Board and provide the Board with ready access to such facilities, personnel, and information of the contractor as the Board considers necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this subchapter.

(b) Access to information.

The Secretary of Energy may deny access to information provided to the Board to any person who—

- (1) has not been granted an appropriate security clearance or access authorization by the Secretary of Energy; or
- (2) does not need such access in connection with the duties of such person.

§ 2286d. Board Recommendations. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 315]¹¹

(a) Submission of Recommendations.—(1) Subject to subsections (h) and (i), not later than 30 days before the date on which the Board transmits a recommendation to the Secretary of Energy under section 312, the Board shall transmit to the Secretary in writing a draft of such recommendation and any related findings, supporting data, and analysis to ensure the Secretary is adequately informed of a formal recommendation and to provide the Secretary an opportunity to provide input to the Board before such recommendation is finalized.

(2) The Secretary may provide to the Board comments on a draft recommendation transmitted by the Board under paragraph (1) by not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the draft recommendation. The Board may grant, upon request by the Secretary, additional time for the Secretary to transmit comments to the Board.

(3) After the period of time in which the Secretary may provide comments under paragraph (2) elapses, the Board may transmit a final recommendation to the Secretary.

¹¹ Amended by Section 3202(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013. Pub. L. No. 112-239. Amendment revises the requirements of the Board's recommendations.

(b) Public availability and comment.

Subject to subsections (h) and (i), after the Secretary of Energy receives a recommendation from the Board under subsection (a)(3), the Board shall promptly make available to the public such recommendation and any related correspondence from the Secretary by—

- (1) providing such recommendation and correspondence to the public in the regional public reading rooms of the Department of Energy; and
- (2) publishing in the Federal Register—
 - (A) such recommendation and correspondence; and
 - (B) a request for the submission to the Board of public comments on such recommendation that provides interested persons with 30 days after the date of the publication in which to submit comments, data, views, or arguments to the Board concerning the recommendation.

(c) Response by Secretary.

(1) The Secretary of Energy shall transmit to the Board, in writing, a statement on whether the Secretary accepts or rejects, in whole or in part, the recommendations submitted to him by the Board under section 2286a of this title [§ 312 of the Atomic Energy Act], a description of the actions to be taken in response to the recommendations, and his views on such recommendations. The Secretary of Energy shall transmit his response to the Board within 45 days after the date of the publication, under subsection (b), of the notice with respect to such recommendations or within such additional period, not to exceed 45 days, as the Board may grant.

(2) At the same time as the Secretary of Energy transmits his response to the Board under paragraph (1), the Secretary, subject to subsection (i), shall publish such response, together with a request for public comment on his response, in the Federal Register.

(3) Interested persons shall have 30 days after the date of the publication of the Secretary of Energy's response in which to submit comments, data, views, or arguments to the Board concerning the Secretary's response.

(4) The Board may hold hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments on its recommendations and the Secretary of Energy's response.

(d) Provision of information to Secretary.

The Board shall furnish the Secretary of Energy with copies of all comments, data, views, and arguments submitted to it under subsection (b) or (c) of this section.

(e) Final decision.

If the Secretary of Energy, in a response under subsection (c)(1), rejects (in whole or part) any recommendation made by the Board under section 2286a of this title [§ 312 of the Atomic Energy Act], the Board shall either reaffirm its original recommendation or make a revised recommendation and shall notify the Secretary of its action. Within 30 days after receiving the notice of the Board's action under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider the Board's action and make a final decision on whether to implement all or part of the Board's recommendations. Subject to subsection (i), the Secretary shall publish the final decision and the reasoning for such decision in the Federal Register and shall transmit to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a written report containing that decision and reasoning.

(f) Implementation plan.

The Secretary of Energy shall prepare a plan for the implementation of each Board recommendation, or part of a recommendation, that is accepted by the Secretary in his final decision. The Secretary shall transmit the implementation plan to the Board within 90 days after the date of the publication of the Secretary's final decision on such recommendation in the Federal Register. The Secretary may have an additional 45 days to transmit the plan if the Secretary submits to the Board and to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a notification setting forth the reasons for the delay and describing the actions the Secretary is taking to prepare an implementation plan under this subsection. The Secretary may implement any such recommendation (or part of any such recommendation) before, on, or after the date on which the Secretary transmits the implementation plan to the Board under this subsection.

(g) Implementation.

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), not later than one year after the date on which the Secretary of Energy transmits an implementation plan with respect to a recommendation (or part thereof) under subsection (f), the Secretary shall carry out and complete the implementation plan. If complete implementation of the plan takes more than 1 year, the Secretary of Energy shall submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate setting forth the reasons for the delay and when implementation will be completed.

(2) If the Secretary of Energy determines that the implementation of a Board recommendation (or part thereof) is impracticable because of budgetary considerations, or that the implementation would affect the Secretary's ability to meet the annual nuclear weapons stockpile requirements established pursuant to section 2121 of this title [§ 91 of the Atomic Energy Act], the Secretary shall submit to the President, and to such committees a report containing the recommendation and the Secretary's determination.

(h) Imminent or severe threat.

(1) In any case in which the Board determines that a recommendation submitted to the Secretary of Energy under section 2286a of this title [§ 312 of the Atomic Energy Act] relates to an imminent or severe threat to public health and safety, the Board and the Secretary of Energy shall proceed under this subsection in lieu of subsections (a) through (e) of this section.

(2) At the same time that the Board transmits a recommendation relating to an imminent or severe threat to the Secretary of Energy, the Board shall also transmit the recommendation to the President and for information purposes to the Secretary of Defense. The Secretary of Energy shall submit his recommendation to the President. The President shall review the Secretary of Energy's recommendation and shall make the decision concerning acceptance or rejection of the Board's recommendation.

(3) After receipt by the President of the recommendation from the Board under this subsection, the Board promptly shall make such recommendation available to the public and shall transmit such recommendation to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate. The President shall promptly notify such committees of his decision and the reasons for that decision.

(i) Limitation.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the requirements to make information available to the public under this section—

(1) shall not apply in the case of information that is classified; and

(2) shall be subject to the orders and regulations issued by the Secretary of Energy under sections 2167 and 2168 of this title [§§ 147 and 148 of the Atomic Energy Act] to prohibit dissemination of certain information.

§ 2286e. Reports. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 316]¹²

(a) Board report.

(1) The Board shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate each year, at the same time that the President submits the budget to Congress pursuant to section 1105(a) of Title 31 [United States Code], a written report concerning its activities under this subchapter, including all recommendations made by the Board, during the year preceding the year in which the report is

¹² Amended by Section 3202(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013 (Pub. L. No. 112-239). Amendment requires submission of the Board and DOE's respective annual reports to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

submitted. The Board may also issue periodic unclassified reports on matters within the Board's responsibilities.

(2) The annual report under paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of—

(A) the improvements in the safety of Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities during the period covered by the report;

(B) the improvements in the safety of Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities resulting from actions taken by the Board or taken on the basis of the activities of the Board; and

(C) the outstanding safety problems, if any, of Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities.

(b) DOE report.

The Secretary of Energy shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate each year, at the same time that the President submits the budget to Congress pursuant to section 1105(a) of Title 31 [United States Code], a written report concerning the activities of the Department of Energy under this subchapter during the year preceding the year in which the report is submitted.

(c) Requirements for first annual report.

(1) Before submission of the first annual report by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board under section 316(a) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as added by subsection (a)), the Board shall conduct a study on whether nuclear facilities of the Department of Energy that are excluded from the definition of "Department of Energy defense nuclear facility" in section 318(1)(C) of such Act (hereafter in this subsection referred to as "non-defense nuclear facilities") should be subject to independent external oversight. The Board shall include in such first annual report the results of such study and the recommendation of the Board on whether non-defense nuclear facilities should be subject to independent external oversight.

(2) If the Board recommends in the report that non-defense nuclear facilities should be subject to such oversight, the report shall include a discussion of alternative mechanisms for implementing such oversight, including mechanisms such as a separate executive agency and oversight as a part of the Board's responsibilities. The discussion of alternative mechanisms of oversight also shall include considerations of budgetary costs, protection of the security of sensitive nuclear weapons information, and the similarities and differences in the design, construction, operation, and decommissioning of defense and non-defense nuclear facilities of the Department of Energy.

(d) Requirements for fifth annual report.

The fifth annual report submitted by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board under section 316(a) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as added by subsection (a)) shall include—

(1) an assessment of the degree to which the overall administration of the Board's activities are believed to meet the objectives of Congress in establishing the Board;

(2) recommendations for continuation, termination, or modification of the Board's functions and programs, including recommendations for transition to some other independent oversight arrangement if it is advisable; and

(3) recommendations for appropriate transition requirements in the event that modifications are recommended.

§ 2286f. Judicial Review. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 317]

Chapter 7 of Title 5 [5 U.S.C. §§ 701 et seq.] shall apply to the activities of the Board under this subchapter.

§ 2286g. “Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Facility” Defined. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 318]

As used in this subchapter, the term "Department of Energy defense nuclear facility" means any of the following:

(1) A production facility or utilization facility (as defined in section 2014 of this title [§ 11 of the Atomic Energy Act]) that is under the control or jurisdiction of the Secretary of Energy and that is operated for national security purposes, but the term does not include—

(A) any facility or activity covered by Executive Order No. 12344, dated February 1, 1982 [42 U.S.C. § 7158 note], pertaining to the Naval nuclear propulsion program;

(B) any facility or activity involved¹³ with the transportation of nuclear explosives or nuclear material;

(C) any facility that does not conduct atomic energy defense activities; or

(D) any facility owned by the United States Enrichment Corporation.¹⁴

¹³ Pantex and NTS were added to the Board's jurisdiction by the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1992 and FY 1993 (Pub. L. No. 102-190) which struck the following language: “with the assembly or testing of nuclear explosives or.”

¹⁴ Added by amendment through the Energy Policy Act of 1992. Pub. L. No. 102-486, § 902(a)(7).

(2) A nuclear waste storage facility under the control or jurisdiction of the Secretary of Energy, but the term does not include a facility developed pursuant to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) and licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

§ 2286h. Contract Authority Subject to Appropriations. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 319]

The authority of the Board to enter into contracts under this subchapter is effective only to the extent that appropriations (including transfers of appropriations) are provided in advance for such purpose.

§ 2286h-1. Transmittal of Certain Information to Congress. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 320]¹⁵

Whenever the Board submits or transmits to the President or the Director of the Office of Management and Budget any legislative recommendation, or any statement or information in preparation of a report to be submitted to the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate pursuant to section 2286e(a) of this title [§ 316(a) of the Atomic Energy Act], the Board shall submit at the same time a copy thereof to such committees.

§ 2286i. Annual Authorization of Appropriations. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 321]

Authorizations of appropriations for the Board for fiscal years beginning after fiscal year 1989 shall be provided annually in authorization Acts.

§ 2286j. Inspector general services for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board¹⁶

Within 90 days of enactment of this Act [enacted Dec. 23, 2011], the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board shall enter into an agreement for inspector general services with the Office of Inspector General for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for fiscal years 2012 and 2013: *Provided further*, That at the expiration of such agreement, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board shall procure inspector general services annually thereafter.

§ 2286k. Inspector General. [Atomic Energy Act, Sec. 322]¹⁷

(a) **In General.**— The Inspector General of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall serve as the Inspector General of the Board, in accordance with the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).¹⁸

(b) **Budget.**—In the budget materials submitted to the President by the Board in connection with the submission to Congress, pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, of the budget for each fiscal year, the Board shall ensure that a

¹⁵ Amended by Section 3202(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013. Pub. L. No. 112-239.

¹⁶ Added by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012. Pub. L. 112-74, Div. B, Title IV, 125 Stat. 880.

¹⁷ Added by Section 3202(f) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013. Pub. L. No. 112-239.

¹⁸ Amended by Section 3202 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2015. Pub. L. No. 113-291.

separate, dedicated procurement line item is designated for the services of an Inspector General under subsection (a).

RELATED LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

§ 3135 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 1992 and 1993 (Public Law 102-190), as amended by § 401 of the Federal Reports Elimination Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-362):

§ 3135. RESUMPTION OF PLUTONIUM OPERATIONS IN BUILDINGS AT ROCKY FLATS.

(a) RESUMPTION OF PLUTONIUM OPERATIONS.

The Secretary of Energy may not resume plutonium operations in a plutonium operations building at the Rocky Flats Plant, Golden, Colorado, until the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board determines, to the satisfaction of the Board, that the Secretary's response to the Board's recommendations numbered 90-2, 90-5, and 91-1 adequately protects public health and safety with respect to the operation of such building.

(b) RESUMPTION OF PRODUCTION OF PLUTONIUM WARHEAD COMPONENTS.

The production of plutonium warhead components for any particular type of warhead may not be resumed at the Rocky Flats Plant until the later of—

(1) April 1, 1992; or

(2) 30 days after the date on which the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy certify to Congress that the production of that type of warhead is necessary in the interest of the national security of the United States.

(c) DEFINITION.

For purposes of this section, the term "plutonium operations building" means the building numbered 371, 559, 707, 771, 776, 777, or 779 at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant, Golden, Colorado, or any other building at such Plant in which plutonium operations are conducted.

§ 3137 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-398), as amended by § 3115 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Public Law 108-136):

§ 3137. CONTINUATION OF PROCESSING, TREATMENT, AND DISPOSITION OF LEGACY NUCLEAR MATERIALS.

(a) CONTINUATION.

The Secretary of Energy shall continue operations and maintain a high state of readiness at the H-canyon facility at the Savannah River Site, Aiken, South Carolina, and shall provide technical staff necessary to operate and so maintain such facility.

(b) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR DECOMMISSIONING OF F-CANYON FACILITY.

No amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Energy by this or any other Act may be obligated or expended for purposes of commencing the decommissioning of the F-canyon facility at the Savannah River Site until the Secretary submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board jointly a report setting forth—

- (1) an assessment whether or not all materials present in the F-canyon facility as of the date of the report that required stabilization have been safely stabilized as of that date;
- (2) an assessment whether or not the requirements applicable to the F-canyon facility to meet the future needs of the United States for fissile materials disposition can be met through full use of the H-canyon facility at the Savannah River Site; and
- (3) if it appears that one or more of the requirements described in paragraph (2) cannot be met through full use of the H-canyon facility—
 - (A) an identification by the Secretary of each such requirement that cannot be met through full use of the H-canyon facility; and
 - (B) for each requirement so identified, the reasons why such requirement cannot be met through full use of the H-canyon facility and a description of the alternative capability for fissile materials disposition that is needed to meet such requirement.”

(C) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED PLAN REQUIREMENT.

Subsection (C) of such section is repealed.

§ 3183 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-314):

§ 3183. STUDY OF FACILITIES FOR STORAGE OF PLUTONIUM AND PLUTONIUM MATERIALS AT SAVANNAH RIVER SITE.

(a) STUDY.

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board shall conduct a study of the adequacy of the K-Area Materials Storage facility (KAMS), and related support facilities such as Building 235-F, at the Savannah River Site, Aiken, South Carolina, for the storage of defense plutonium and defense plutonium materials in connection with the disposition program provided in section

3182¹⁹ and in connection with the amended Record of Decision of the Department of Energy for fissile materials disposition.

(b) REPORT.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [enacted December 2, 2002], the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board shall submit to Congress and the Secretary of Energy a report on the study conducted under subsection (a).

(c) REPORT ELEMENTS.

The report under subsection (b) shall—

(1) address—

(A) the suitability of KAMS and related support facilities for monitoring and observing any defense plutonium or defense plutonium materials stored in KAMS;

(B) the adequacy of the provisions made by the Department for remote monitoring of such defense plutonium and defense plutonium materials by way of sensors and for handling of retrieval of such defense plutonium and defense plutonium materials; and

(C) the adequacy of KAMS should such defense plutonium and defense plutonium materials continue to be stored at KAMS after 2019; and

(2) include such proposals as the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board considers appropriate to enhance the safety, reliability, and functionality of KAMS.

(d) REPORTS ON ACTIONS ON PROPOSALS.

Not later than 6 months after the date on which the report under subsection (b) is submitted to Congress, and every year thereafter, the Secretary and the Board shall each submit to Congress a report on the actions taken by the Secretary in response to the proposals, if any, included in the report.

§ 3112 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417):

§ 3112. LIMITATION ON FUNDING FOR PROJECT 04-D-125 CHEMISTRY AND METALLURGY RESEARCH REPLACEMENT FACILITY PROJECT, LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY, LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO.

¹⁹ Subtitle E (including § 3182) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2003 provides for the disposition of 34 metric tons of weapons-usable plutonium pursuant to the 2000 United States and Russian Federation agreement. Section 3182 of the Act requires the Department of Energy to submit to Congress a plan for the construction of the MOX facility at the Savannah River Site to process the 34 metric tons of weapons-usable plutonium.

Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to an authorization of appropriations in this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2009 for Project 04-D-125 Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (in this section referred to as “CMRR”) facility project, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico, not more than \$50,200,000 may be made available until—

(1) the Administrator for Nuclear Security and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board have each submitted a certification to the congressional defense committees stating that the concerns raised by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board regarding the design of CMRR safety class systems (including ventilation systems) and seismic issues have been resolved; and

(2) a period of 15 days has elapsed after both certifications under paragraph (1) have been submitted.