

U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C.

ARIAL Bold
18pt
14pt

NOTICE

ARIAL NARROW
12 pt bold
ALL CAPS

TIMES NEW ROMAN
12 pt bold ALL CAPS
10 pt (no bold)
12 pt, ALL CAPS, NO BOLD

DRAFT
DOE N XXX.X

Approved: XX-XX-03
Expires: XX-XX-04

SUBJECT: TITLE (all caps, not bolded)

Format
bullets and
numbering
here.

See
Attachment
4 of this
template for
details

NOTE: To
use this
template,
delete these
text boxes.

1. OBJECTIVES. Notices, like Orders, establish objectives and requirements and assign responsibilities for Department of Energy (DOE) employees and contractors, if they apply to contractors and there is a Contractor Requirements Document (CRD) attached. Notices are also used to communicate general information throughout the Department. However unlike Orders, Notices are issued for immediate or short-term use and expire not later than 1 year from issuance, unless extended. Notices must have the following paragraphs unless an exception has been negotiated with the Office of Management Communications: Objectives, Cancellations, Applicability, Requirements, Responsibilities, and Contact.
 - a. Use the objectives paragraph to identify the products or other benefits expected to be achieved by implementation of your Notice.
 - (1) Objectives should be stated in simple, straightforward language and should be results oriented.
 - (2) You don't have to use complete sentences if you are careful and precise, as demonstrated by the following examples.
 - (a) To describe all the parts of a completed DOE Notice.
 - (b) To serve as a model for Notice writers.
 - (c) To communicate Notice formatting information
 - (d) To disseminate boilerplate text that must be included in all Notices.
 - (e) To simplify the Notice writing process for authors and other stakeholders.
 - (f) To facilitate the production of consistent, high quality Notices.
 - b. If your Notice has only two or three simple, uncomplicated objectives, they may be stated in paragraph form immediately following the underlined "Objectives" paragraph title. For example:

Set margins for page 1 at 3 picas (1/2 inch) top and bottom; 6 picas (1 inch) on the sides.

DISTRIBUTION:
All Departmental Elements

INITIATED BY:
Office of Important Endeavors

OBJECTIVES. This Notice provides directions for implementing DOE N XXX.X, *Titled Whatever*, dated XX-XX-03, which establishes DOE policy for [whatever the policy addressed].

2. CANCELLATIONS. DOE N XXX.X, *Notice of Whatever on Policies*, dated XX-XX-03. **Cancellation of a Notice does not, by itself, modify or otherwise affect any contractual obligation to comply with the Notice. Cancelled Notices that are incorporated by reference in a contract remain in effect until the contract is modified to delete the references to the requirements in the cancelled Notices.**
- a. If your Notice cancels only one or two other directives, they may be listed in a sentence preceding the boilerplate text (shown in purple) as in the above example.
 - b. If your Notice cancels three or more directives, list them here in an alphabetically labeled list for readability. (Refer to the cancelled directives with an introductory sentence in the above paragraph such as “This Notice cancels the directives listed below.”)
 - c. If your Notice cancels at least one other directive, the above boilerplate text must be used.
 - d. If your Notice does not cancel any other directives, to avoid confusion or misunderstanding, indicate “None” after the word “Cancellations.”
3. APPLICABILITY. Use this paragraph to identify the Departmental elements and contractors to which your Notice applies and note any exclusions.
- a. DOE Elements. **Except for the exclusions in paragraph 3c, this Notice applies to all DOE elements**, including National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) elements that must implement DOE directives for their daily operations (**see Attachment 1**).
- (1) Because we need to be as specific as possible, all impacted DOE elements must be identified. To avoid taking up extra space here, we do this with an attachment (Attachment 1) listing all impacted DOE elements by office title.

[Note: All attachments should be referenced at appropriate places in your text. They should be numbered and arranged in the same order in which they are referred to in the text, with the organization list and CRD, if there is one, Attachments 1 and 2, respectively.]
 - (2) Again because we want to be as specific as possible, if your Notice applies only to DOE elements that engage in certain activities, indicate this. For example, if yours is a cyber security Notice, you might say something like the following.

Except for the exclusions in paragraph 3c, this Notice applies to all DOE elements, including National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) elements, listed in Attachment 1 that own or operate DOE information systems.

- (3) Attachment 1 notwithstanding, if NNSA is impacted, list it directly in paragraph 3a as indicated in the above example.
- b. Site/Facility Management Contractors. Use this and the following paragraphs to describe the site/facility management contractors to which your Notice applies. If the CRD is to apply only to certain types of work within contracts, that work should be described fully here [see paragraph 3b(2)]. If your Notice does not apply to contractors, indicate this with a sentence like “This Notice does not apply to contractors” in this space. (Note: Purple boilerplate text in the following paragraphs must appear in all Notices that apply to contractors.)

- (1) Except for the exclusions in paragraph 3c, the Contractor Requirements Document (CRD), Attachment 2, sets forth requirements of this Notice that will apply to site/facility management contractors whose contracts include the CRD.
- (2) This CRD must be included in all site/facility management contracts that require or involve access to DOE information systems.
- (Note: In the above paragraph we again used an example from a cyber security directive for the nonboilerplate text.)
- (3) This Notice does not automatically apply to other than site/facility management contractors. Any application of any requirements of this Notice to other than site/facility management contractors will be communicated separately from this Notice.
- (4) The _____ is/are responsible for telling contracting officers which site/facility management contractors are affected by this Notice. Once notified, contracting officers are responsible for incorporating the CRD into the contracts of affected site/facility management contractors via the laws, regulations and DOE directives clause of the contracts.

[Note: You should indicate the office responsible for notifying contracting officers of affected contractors in the blank space indicated in paragraph 3b(4) above. Note also that this sets up responsibilities that must also be reflected in the responsibilities paragraphs.]

- (5) As the laws, regulations, and DOE directives clause of site/facility management contracts states, regardless of the performer of the work, site/facility management contractors with a CRD incorporated into their

contracts are responsible for compliance with the requirements of the CRD.

- (a) Affected site/facility management contractors are responsible for flowing down the requirements of this CRD to subcontractors at any tier to the extent necessary to ensure the site/facility management contractors' compliance with the requirements.
- (b) Contractors must not unnecessarily or imprudently flow down requirements to subcontractors. That is, contractors will—
 - 1 ensure that they and their subcontractors comply with the requirements of the CRD and
 - 2 incur only costs that would be incurred by a prudent person in the conduct of competitive business.
- c. Exclusions. In accordance with the responsibilities and authorities assigned by Executive Order 12344 and to ensure consistency throughout the joint Navy and DOE organization of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program will implement and oversee all requirements and practices pertaining to this DOE Notice for activities under the Director's cognizance.

[Note: Paragraph 3c above, while not boilerplate, is an example of one type of exclusion that directive writers frequently apply to their directives. If there are no exclusions, this should be indicated to avoid possible confusion, and paragraphs 3a and 3b(1) should be modified accordingly.]

- 4. REQUIREMENTS. This is one of the required Notice paragraphs. Requirements include activities that must take place, boards that must be created, and products that must be produced to achieve the Order's objectives. You can also include background information in requirements paragraphs, either in the introductory paragraph (like here) or as one of the second level lettered paragraphs (preferably paragraph 4a).
 - a. Requirements may also include changes that must be made to other directives as a result of the Notice. If you do this, be sure to list all of the affected directives, giving complete information as in the following examples.
 - (1) DOE O XXX.1A, *Long-Time Directive on the Topic of the Notice*, dated 9-29-99.
 - (2) DOE O XXX2B, *The Manual on the Topic of the Notice*, dated 10-31-02.
 - (3) DOE O XXX.1A, *An Order on a Related Subject*, dated 11-1-00.

- (4) DOE M XXX.1, *Another Order Also of Significance for Implementation of the Notice*, dated 9-28-95.
- b. Always consider your readers/the users of your Notice first.
 - (1) What will they need to know to fully comply with the requirements of the Notice? (Don't assume that they know what you know.)
 - (2) How can you present this information as conveniently as possible?
- c. Write requirements with measurable or verifiable outcomes, if possible.
- d. Focus on outcomes rather than operations or procedures.
- e. Do not repeat voluminous information from other sources (especially laws, regulations, and other directives) in your requirements. (You can use a reference to the pertinent laws/regulations/other directives to direct your readers to this information and/or include a reference paragraph citing the pertinent laws, etc.)
- f. State requirements clearly, in the active voice (see Attachment 3 for examples and related information).
- g. Avoid the use of jargon, if possible.
- h. Use short sentences arranged in a logical order.
- i. Arrange your sentences in short paragraphs.
 - (1) Include only one issue, idea, step, or requirement in each paragraph.
 - (2) Use lists/lower level, labeled paragraphs to convey additional, related information. (The format of this template is an example.)
 - (3) For the convenience of your readers, try not to break your paragraphs into any more than four levels (see Attachment 4 for an example of the full DOE six-level directive format).
- j. Avoid use of the verb "shall."
 - (1) Use "must" to convey requirements.
 - (a) "Must" is the clearest way to tell your readers that they are required to do something.
 - 1 "Shall," in addition to all the connotations that it carries, is somewhat obsolete.

2 “Shall” is also less precise than “must.” (It can indicate either a requirement or predict future action.)

- (b) There are many resources with additional information on the must/will controversy. Two of the best can be found online at—
http://www.blm.gov/nhp/NPR/pe_dgst4.html and
http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/drafting_legal_documents/clear_writing.html

(2) Use “will” to convey future actions.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES. The responsibilities paragraphs describe in detail the actions necessary to ensure that your Notice’s requirements are successfully met and identify the persons (by job title or by office) responsible for these actions.

- a. State responsibilities clearly and succinctly, using strong action verbs (ensures, identifies, requires, makes, advises, establishes, provides, sets, implements, conducts, performs, coordinates, leads, etc.).
- b. Ensure subject-verb agreement in responsibilities statements.
- c. Present responsible officials or offices and their responsibilities in a logical sequence.
- d. For deliverables that apply to DOE and NNSA, wherever the DOE official responsible for particular deliverables is identified, also identify the equivalent NNSA official.
- e. For Notices that apply to contractors (i.e., have CRDs), you must do the following.
 - (1) Identify an office/official to be responsible for ensuring the CRD is incorporated into affected site/facility management contracts.
 - (a) Task that official with telling the contracting officer which site/facility management contractors are affected by the Notice.
 - (b) If the CRD only applies to certain types of work within a contract, the identified official must tell the contracting officer which work is affected.
 - (2) List responsibilities for contracting officers, including the following, if applicable.
 - (a) After being notified, incorporate the DOE N XXX.X CRD into affected site/facility management contracts via the laws, regulations, and DOE directives clause of the contracts.

- (b) Assist originators of procurement requests who want to incorporate the requirements of the DOE N XXX.X CRD in new non-site-/non-facility-management contracts, as appropriate.
 - f. Office of the Secretary. This paragraph and paragraph 5g below are examples of officials/offices that might be named in the responsibilities paragraphs. If an official/office only has one or two brief responsibilities, you may want to enter them in a sentence or two here as opposed to listing them in lower level paragraphs as in the example below (however, either style is acceptable). You may also enter explanatory material here before detailing the responsibilities for a particular official/office.
 - g. Heads of Field Elements.
 - (1) Ensure those assigned to review draft Notices have training appropriate to the task and understand their responsibilities.
 - (2) Ensure all deadlines are met.
6. DEFINITIONS. Definitions paragraphs are optional.
- a. There is a DOE glossary of terms (<http://www.directives.doe.gov/pdfs/doegeninfo/draft/glossary.pdf>), which should be consulted before creating a separate glossary or definitions list in your Notice.
 - (1) Before creating a separate glossary or definitions list, consider carefully whether your definitions are truly unique or could be found in general or special interest dictionaries broadly available.
 - (2) Consider referencing other dictionaries/glossaries (especially if they are available online).
 - b. Entries in definitions lists in the main body of directives must conform to the standard directive style/format.
7. REFERENCES. Reference paragraphs are optional.
- a. As always, consider the needs of your readers.
 - (1) You should provide enough information to enable readers to easily locate references (if a reference is available online, provide the URL too).
 - (2) While we have no set format for references, you should try to be consistent.

- (a) Provide the same information for each reference and arrange it in the same order in each entry.
 - (b) Present your references in some logical order [alphabetically, numerically, by document type (and then alphabetically or numerically), or some combination].
- b. Do not cite draft documents in your Notice because—
- (1) often draft documents are not readily available and
 - (2) if and when they are published/become available, they may no longer contain the information you were referencing.
- c. You should include, as a minimum, every reference listed in the main body of your Notice.
8. CONTACT. Questions concerning this Notice should be addressed to the Office of (*fill in the name of the sponsoring office*) at xxx-xxx-xxxx.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY:

The DOE seal
is placed here
AFTER the
directive is
signed.

KYLE E. McSLARROW
Deputy Secretary

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ORGANIZATIONS TO WHICH
DOE N XXX.X IS APPLICABLE[†]**

[The following is the complete list of officially recognized DOE organizations for use in directives. Please look the list over and delete those organizations to which your directive does not apply. (The list is revised regularly, so please check online at <http://www.directives.doe.gov/pdfs/reftools/org-list.pdf> and use the most current list.)]

Office of the Secretary
Chief Information Officer
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
Office of Counterintelligence
Departmental Representative to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity
Office of Electric Transmission and Distribution
Office of Energy Assurance
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Energy Information Administration
Office of Environment, Safety and Health
Office of Environmental Management
Office of Fossil Energy
Office of General Counsel
Office of Hearings and Appeals
Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance
Office of the Inspector General
Office of Intelligence
Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation and Chief Financial Officer
National Nuclear Security Administration^{††}

- Office of the Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs
- Office of the Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation
- Office of the Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors
- Office of Emergency Operations

[†]Field entities should not be listed unless there are special circumstances necessitating their inclusion. Applicability to a field entity is assumed when its lead program Secretarial Officer organization is listed.

^{††} This is the current list of NNSA offices. If the directive applies to all the offices under NNSA, then list “National Nuclear Security Administration” only, without any of the bulleted offices; otherwise, list NNSA (spelled out in full) and the bulleted NNSA offices to which the directive applies.

- Office of the Associate Administrator for Facilities and Operations
- Office of the Associate Administrator for Management and Administration

Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology

Office of Policy and International Affairs

Office of Public Affairs

Office of Science

Secretary of Energy Advisory Board

Office of Security

Office of Worker and Community Transition

Bonneville Power Administration

Southeastern Power Administration

Southwestern Power Administration

Western Area Power Administration

CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT
DOE N XXX.X, TITLE

This Contractor Requirements Document (CRD) establishes the requirements for Department of Energy (DOE) contractors, including National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) contractors, whose contracts involve developing, establishing directives to implement DOE Policies.

Regardless of the performer of the work, the contractor is responsible for complying with the requirements of this 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. In doing so, the contractor must not unnecessarily or imprudently flow down requirements to subcontractors. That is, the contractor will ensure that it and its subcontractors comply with the requirements of this CRD and incur only those costs that would be incurred by a prudent person in the conduct of competitive business.

1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

- a. You must include the boilerplate text indicated in purple (above) in every CRD.
- b. If your CRD applies to contractors performing specific functions and/or in specific arenas, you should indicate this as in the example above.
- c. If your CRD also applies to NNSA contractors, you should indicate this too.

2. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.

- a. Like DOE elements, contractors compose directives-like documents specific to the sites/facilities they manage/operate for DOE. They must respond to a CRD attached to a DOE Notice by planning implementation of requirements.
- b. The CRD must be written as a separate document that could be removed from the directive and attached, without modification, to the site/facility management contract. [See DOE N 153.2, *Connectivity to National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center (NARAC)*, dated 8-11-03, for an example.]
 - (1) CRDs should be as specific as possible.
 - (2) The contractor should be able to read the CRD and know its obligations under the contract without consulting other documents extensively—even if this means completely repeating the text of the Order/Notice/Manual in the CRD.
- c. If you must reference other directives, regulations, etc., the reference must be specific and clear.

- (1) To be technically correct, references to other directives should be to the CRDs of those directives (which implies checking to be sure the directives in question have CRDs).
- (2) If possible, such references should be at the end of sentences and enclosed in square brackets.

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

“Voice” is a term used to describe one of the ways verbs are categorized. There are two voices: active and passive. Active voice expresses action; someone (the subject of the sentence) performs an action or acts on something else (the object). In passive voice, something or someone (the subject of the sentence) is acted upon. While not technically wrong, passive voice, like anything, can be monotonous if overdone. Worse, it can be a way of avoiding saying who is responsible for or must do something and, therefore, can be confusing in directives. Compare the following. (Note: Passive voice is one of the few grammar problems grammar checkers are fairly reliable at picking out.)

Passive Voice	Active Voice
Procedure manuals must be developed.	All departmental elements must develop procedure manuals.
No stone must be left unturned.	Leave no stone unturned. (The subject, you in this case, is understood.)
Contractors will be monitored. (An honest question that might arise from a sentence such as the above is how or by whom. Who is responsible?)	Field elements will develop procedures to monitor contractors.
This Notice is intended to serve as an example.	We created this Notice as an example. OR We intend to use this Notice as an example. OR You can use this Notice as an example.
He was upset by the argument.	The argument upset him.
etc.	

Today you can find a number of good style guides and other writing aids online.

The *American Heritage Book of English Usage*, <http://www.bartleby.com/64/>, and the *Columbia Guide to Standard American English*, <http://www.bartleby.com/68/>, both available through Bartleby.com, are particularly good starts.

Common Errors in English Usage, <http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~brians/errors/errors.html>, an online analog to a popular print publication, is an alphabetical list with short explanations of common errors (e.g., that famous bugaboo ensure/insure).

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SIX-LEVEL DIRECTIVE FORMAT

Following are instructions for setting paragraph numbering and indents for the format used for most Department of Energy (DOE) directives. The text is also formatted in this style, so you can cut and paste it into your document if that is easier for you.

To set paragraph numbering and indents, on the **Format** menu, select **Bullets and Numbering**. In the window that appears, select the **Outline Numbered** tab. Word may already have the directives format as one of the options you may select, otherwise, you will have to set it up by selecting the option that is closest to the directives format, selecting the customize “button,” and using the following to customize.

1. LEVEL ONE TITLE IN ALL CAPS, UNDERLINED. This is the style used for the titles of the objectives, cancellations, applicability, requirements, responsibilities, references, definitions, and contacts paragraphs of directives (they are level 1 of the outline). The title is followed by a period, but note that the periods are **not** underlined. The title starts at the left margin with the paragraph number, and you indent 1/2 inch or 3 picas to the underlined title. (This would be aligned at 0, tab space after 0.5, and indent at 0.5 on the customize menu.)
 - a. Level Two Underlined Using Title Case. Only the initial letters of significant words are capitalized in level 2 paragraph titles, as they would be in titles of reports or books. Level 2 paragraphs on the outline start at the first indent, with a 1/2 inch indent after the letter (this would be aligned at 0.5, tab space after 0.5, and indenta at 1.0 on the customize menu). Note that tabs and indents are in 1/2-inch or 3-pica increments.
 - b. Breakdown. For good outline form, there should be more than one item/entry at any level. That is, if you have a level 2 paragraph a, you should also have a paragraph b; if you have a level 3 paragraph (1), you should have at least one additional level 3 paragraph, and so on.
 - (1) Third Level. Third (and lower) level paragraphs don’t have to have an underlined title or lead in; however, it is acceptable if they do so long as you are consistent [see paragraph 1b(2) below]. Third level paragraphs are aligned at 1.0 with a 0.5 inch tab and a 1.5 inch indent (on the customize menu).
 - (a) This is an example of the format and tabs/indents for fourth level paragraphs in the standard DOE directives format.
 - (b) To set up your fourth level paragraphs on the bullets and numbering customization menu, select aligned at 1.5, 0.5 tab space after, and indent at 2.0.

- (2) Caution. Don't mix the formatting of paragraphs at any level. If one has an underlined introductory phrase, then they all should.
- (3) Cut and Paste. Watch it. You can kill your outline formatting if you're not careful. Use the following process.
 - (a) Select and copy the text from the source or insert from a file.
 - (b) See the little box that appears when you have pasted the new text.
 - (c) Select "Match Destination Formatting" to apply current formatting.
- (4) Levels, Levels, Levels.
 - (a) Make your major points one at a time in straightforward, simple sentences. The effect is two-fold.
 - 1 Your major points will be apparent to the reader.
 - 2 The added "white space" is easier on both the mind and the eye of the reader.
 - (b) But remember, too many levels can be confusing and ultimately defeat your efforts to communicate clearly in a user-friendly directive.
 - 1 For some topics the particulars are extensive.
 - 2 In these cases, breaking your points down and presenting them on five or even six outline levels to convey things clearly and avoid long, monotonous paragraphs makes good sense.
 - a Try not to go any further than a sixth level.
 - b At this point, because it is so seldom done and so undesirable, we don't have more than six levels in the standard, directives template.

2. LEVEL ONE TITLE.