

SUBJECT: SMALL BUSINESS FIRST POLICY

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

To establish a Small Business Policy that reinforces the goals of the Small Business Act (Public Law 85-536, as amended), Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, and other applicable laws, Executive Orders, regulations and best business practices. This Policy will provide DOE's principles for engagement with the Nation's small business community.

SUPERSEDES

DOE Policy 547.1, *Small Business First Policy*, dated 12-14-2012.

POLICY

The Department of Energy (DOE) will foster a dynamic business environment for the small business community, which includes small, veteran-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned, HUBZone, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns. This will widen the scope of opportunities that small businesses can participate in, while also strengthening the Agency, and in turn, the American economy.

DOE commits to promoting inclusiveness in all Departmental activities by advancing initiatives that attract the innovation and creativity of small businesses. Advancement of these initiatives will enhance relationships among internal and external small business stakeholders, and expand the Agency's engagement with all socio-economic sectors of the Nation's small businesses.

DOE strives to create jobs and strengthen the small business economy by committing to identify and remove barriers wherever possible. Removing barriers benefits small businesses seeking to contribute to the Nation's energy science advancements, and to participate in furthering America's global energy dominance. DOE will advocate for and create new small business opportunities that support the Department's mission. DOE will ensure small businesses can take advantage of opportunities in its research and technology partnership programs. Fostering this engagement of the small business community will advance research and development across DOE's National Laboratories and production facilities, through greater access to the full breadth of America's workforce.

DOE's encouragement of new perspectives will promote avenues for small businesses to engage in the full range of the Agency's research, development, and deployment opportunities. DOE will continue to champion partnerships, such as the DOE Mentor-Protégé Program. Through these partnerships, small businesses will help keep DOE on the cutting edge of energy science and national security.

Increasing small business access to Agency opportunities is essential. DOE will continue to employ a broad promotion strategy and timely notification of these opportunities. Through these

efforts, the DOE community will build stronger internal and external relationships, advancing small business connections with DOE's goals and missions. DOE is committed to ensuring its small business partners continue to expand relationships with external small business advocates, such as the U.S. Small Business Administration, non-governmental organizations, and small business associations. DOE will facilitate relationships between small businesses and DOE Prime Contractors, providing subcontracting and other procurement opportunities.

Small business partnerships are a critical component to American energy dominance. DOE will strive to increase opportunities for businesses from all socio-economic sectors. Increased opportunities for engagement will strengthen the role of American small business concerns in the global marketplace, growing the Nation's self-reliant economy through increased small business stakeholder collaborations, higher productivity, and growth of American jobs.

CONTACT

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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY:



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Deputy Secretary