MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Nuclear Power Project Guidance and Approval Policy

1. References.
   a. 42 USC § 8287, Authority to enter into contracts for achieving energy savings.
   b. 32 CFR Part 655, Radiation sources on Army land.
   c. Army Regulation 50-7, Nuclear and Chemical Weapons and Materiel - Army Reactor Program.

2. Applicability. This memorandum is effective immediately and supplements Army policies that relate to siting, financing, contracting, construction or operation of nuclear power reactors for the purpose of providing energy for Army installations.

3. Background. Nuclear energy is a domestic resource that offers a number of attractive attributes, such as secure supply and zero greenhouse gas emissions. However, nuclear power projects involve uniquely complex safety, security and financial liabilities, and legal constraints which warrant consideration at the Department level.

4. Policy. Army installations and activities, within lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Army, regardless of location, must obtain written approval from the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment (ASA(IE&E)) prior to initiating any planning efforts, studies, or entering into negotiations or establishing any agreement to site, finance, construct or operate a nuclear power reactor for Army activities. This requirement includes any small modular reactor pilots or demonstrations and pilot-scale nuclear fission reactors regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that are intended to explore utility or demonstrate suitability to provide energy for Army installations. This approval requirement is in addition to and not in substitution for the approvals required by AR 50-7 (Reference c) or any other
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Notification, coordination or approval required to be obtained from the Army, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or any other agency as a condition of the establishment of a nuclear energy reactor.

5. This policy also applies to any Army proposal to obtain power from a nuclear power source located off an Army installation or lands, in which the Army is expected to be the sole customer, is also required to obtain the approval of the ASA(IE&E), in addition to all other applicable notification, coordination, and approval requirements.

6. This policy does not apply to Army installations and activities who develop a plan to purchase power from offsite sources of nuclear power, if the Army is not the sole customer.

7. This policy is effective immediately. Any requests for exception to this policy will be forwarded in writing through the chain-of-command to the DASA (E&S) for ASAIEE’s approval.

8. Questions regarding this policy should be directed to Mr. Randy Shed, ODASA(E&S), (703) 692-9860 or via email randy.j.shed.civ@mail.mil.

Katherine Hammack

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