

## CERTIFICATION LEVEL

The CEG is intended to provide program secretarial officers and field element managers (including operations offices, site offices, area offices, project offices, and service centers) with the requirements and guidelines for evaluating PMCDP candidate competencies and requests for equivalencies at all four certification levels and continuing education. Persons planning to be certified under the PMCDP may attain certification levels with the following total project cost (TPC) limits:

- Certification Level 4: TPC exceeding \$400 million (M)
- Certification Level 3: TPC greater than \$100M and equal to or less than \$400M
- Certification Level 2: TPC greater than \$20M and equal to or less than \$100M
- Certification Level 1: TPC greater than \$5M and equal to or less than \$20M

If a Federal Project Director is managing a portfolio of projects, the required Federal Project Director certification level is determined by the project with the highest TPC dollar value.

Certification Level requirements based on project TPC should be evaluated based on the following four considerations and in concert with the requirements of DOE Order 361.1B:

- (1) General plant projects (GPPs) or similar small, routine infrastructure improvement projects should not be included in the TPC consideration.
- (2) Projects to be included must have been managed for 12 months or more.
- (3) The certification candidate<sup>[1]</sup> typically will have a broad spectrum of experience that spans all project critical decisions (CD), CD-0 through CD-4. The TPC utilized to show experience at a particular certification Level may not be exclusively comprised of projects that have not reached CD-1.
- (4) For non-line item projects longer than five years (e.g., Office of Environmental Management [EM] Cleanup Projects), a “Five-Year Project Cost” can be used in lieu of the “TPC” for purposes of crediting experience, or for determining required certification levels relative to the above thresholds.

Considerations other than TPC may increase project director certification requirements. Among these considerations are technical complexity, management complexity, and stakeholder interests. EM may assign lower or higher required project management certification levels than may be indicated by the TPC alone to clean up projects of various complexity, risk, and visibility per coordination with the Certification Review Board (CRB). Likewise, when new hires or reassigned incumbents assume Federal Project Director positions, their certification level may be higher or lower than that indicated by the TPC dependent on a project’s degrees of complexity, risk, or visibility. See Appendix A for examples to guide EM Field Element Managers (FEMs) and Program Secretarial Offices (PSOs) in determining project certification level requirements for EM cleanup projects.

Satisfactory and documented completion of the requirements contained in this CEG ensures that project management personnel possess the minimum requisite competence to fulfill related duties and responsibilities.

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<sup>[1]</sup> A certification candidate is a person who has applied to the CRB for PMCDP certification.

