

Pathways to Project Success

JANUARY 2011

Project Management Order Update Snippets: Successfully Seeking an Exemption

By Brian D. Huizenga
OECM

Tired of the Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) reviewing your project(s)? You might be thinking “Is there any way out of this *never ending oversight*? Sure would be nice if I could focus all my efforts on completing assigned projects.”

There is a way...under the new DOE Order 413.3B, *Program and Project Management for the Acquisition of Capital Assets*, an “Exemption” to the Order is available. Program Secretarial Offices (PSOs) who meet certain criteria may be excluded from specific Order requirements. The intent of the exemption is to shift Critical Decision (CD) authority to the PSO

and place those activities normally carried out by OECM in the hands of the Program’s Project Management Support Office (PMSO).

Sound too good to be true? Well...almost, there is a “catch,” if you will. In order to be eligible for an Order “Exemption,” your program has to: 1) manage a minimum project portfolio of 10 post CD-2 projects anytime during the current fiscal year; 2) establish a PMSO with adequate project management requirements, processes and procedures defined to enable continued project success...validated by OECM; and 3) complete 90% of its projects within 10% of the original cost baseline.

Once your Program has a “track record” of success,

the PSO can submit an action memorandum through OECM to the Deputy Secretary for approval!

OECM still needs to determine Departmental-wide metrics and have a forum to independently validate the PSO eligibility to maintain an Order “Exemption.” To do this, OECM requires projects to: 1) continue reporting Project Accounting and Reporting System-II data; 2) submit all CD and performance baseline change proposal approval documents; and 3) OECM will lead your Independent Cost Reviews and Estimates.

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A Fond Farewell



OECM would like to recognize the outstanding service of Ms. Marylee Baker, who retired in December after more than 20 years of federal service, includ-

ing three years serving as the PMCDP team lead.

During her tenure with PMCDP, Marylee worked to transform the PMCDP into a best-in-class project management training and certification program. Her leadership was instrumental in the PMCDP becoming compliant with the Federal Acquisition Institute's standards for program and project managers. Among Ms. Baker's many contributions and accomplishments to the program, she championed the

development of the PMCDP website and monthly newsletter; she added rigor to the program by creating a formal mentoring component, an interview process and continuing education requirements; and, she strengthened the curriculum by instituting an auditor program and technical content reviews.

We will miss Marylee's vision, leadership, dedication and presence, and we wish her the best.

Federal Project Director (FPD) Corner

**By Victoria C. Barth, MA ISD
OECM**

Changing to Better Serve You!

The PMCDP team is excited to announce the launch of our Powerpedia page¹. Powerpedia is a government-owned collaboration space consisting of a wiki site that allows the facilitation of information sharing and coordination throughout the DOE. The PMCDP Powerpedia page consists of a brief overview of the program and provides a direct link to the

PMCDP website, which provides more detailed information and tools for FPDs and candidates. We encourage you to visit the PMCDP website, the PMCDP Powerpedia page and explore the many other resources available via Powerpedia.

Certification Requirements Update

As noted in last month's newsletter, the PMCDP certification requirements changed as of January 1. To view a summary of the new changes/requirements,

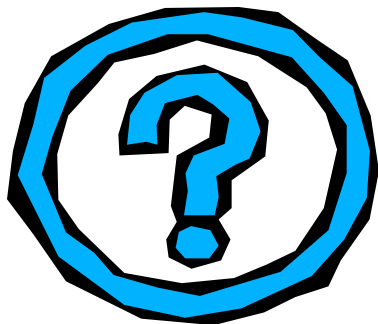
please reference last month's newsletter on our website².

The 2011 Certification and Equivalency Guidelines (CEG) document has also been updated to reflect the new requirements. The 2011 CEG is available on the main page in the PMCDP module in the Corporate Human Resources Information Service/Employee Self Service (CHRIS/ESS) system and is also available on the PMCDP website³.

Website References:

1. <https://powerpedia.energy.gov/wiki/OECM/PMCDP>
2. http://management.energy.gov/documents/PMCDP_Newsletter_December_2010_SHR.pdf
3. <http://management.energy.gov/documents/CEG.pdf>

Question of the Month



By Victoria C. Barth, MA ISD
OECM

Question: I only need to take one more class to satisfy the requirements for Level 1 certification, but according to the current PMCDP training schedule, it is not

being offered again this fiscal year. What can I do?

Answer: There are several things you can do. First, each Program has a point of contact (POC) who is responsible for assisting you with all PMCDP matters. These POCs work directly with the PMCDP and can help you meet your certification and training needs. For a list of the current POCs, please click the "PMCDP Program Points of Contact" link that appears on the home page of the PMCDP website¹. Be sure to keep your POC informed of

your goals so he/she can provide assistance as you work towards certification. Second, the PMCDP training delivery schedule is updated frequently with additional course deliveries. Check the PMCDP website regularly for schedule updates². Finally, the PMCDP team is always happy to provide assistance and answer questions. Please contact either Linda Ott (202-287-5310, linda.ott@hq.doe.gov) or Victoria Barth (202-287-5307, victoria.barth@hq.doe.gov).

Website References:

1. http://management.energy.gov/documents/PMCDP_PROGRAM_POINTS_OF_CONTACT.pdf
2. http://management.energy.gov/documents/pmcdp_courses.pdf

Announcement: 2011 DOE Project Management Workshop

When: Tuesday, March 15, 2011 and
Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mark your calendar!

Where: Holiday Inn, 625 First Street,
Alexandria, VA 22314

More information will be published as
details are finalized!

PMCDP Course Schedule

Start	End	Course	PDU's	Location	PMCDP Info	CHRIS Code/ Session
January 2011						
1/11/11	1/13/11	Contract Administration for Technical Representatives	21	Germantown, MD (Headquarters)	Level 1 Core Course	000058/0165
1/11/11	2/17/11	Advanced Concepts in Project Management	50	Aiken, SC (Savannah River)	Level 2 Core Course	001023/0027
Onsite: 2/8-2/10						
1/31/11	2/2/11	Contract Administration for Technical Representatives	21	Livermore, CA (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory)	Level 1 Core Course	000058
1/31/11	3/18/11	Project Management Systems & Practices in DOE	60	Aiken, SC (Savannah River)	Level 1 Core Course	001024/0037
Onsite: 3/1-3/3						
February 2011						
2/1/11	2/3/11	Project Leadership & Supervision	22.5	Oak Ridge, TN (OR Federal Building)	Level 2 Core Course	001045/0024
2/14/11	2/18/11	Program Management & Portfolio Analysis	35	Oak Ridge, TN (OR Federal Building)	Level 3 Core Course	001025/0021
2/15/11	2/17/11	Contract Administration for Technical Representatives	21	Golden, CO (Golden Field Office)	Level 1 Core Course	000058/0166
2/23/11	2/24/11	Effective Program and Project Communication	N/A	Los Alamos, NM (Canyon School)	Level 2 Core Course	001940/0004

PMCDP Course Schedule

Start	End	Course	PDU's	Location	PMCDP Info	CHRIS Code/ Session
March 2011						
3/1/11	3/2/11	Capital Planning for DOE O 413.3B Capital Asset Projects (Prototype Delivery)	N/A	Oak Ridge, TN (OR Federal Building)	Level 1 Elective	002152/0001
3/1/11	3/3/11	Negotiation Strategies & Techniques	N/A	Aiken, SC (Savannah River)	Level 3 Elective	001047/0008
3/1/11	3/3/11	Scope Management & Baseline Development	21	Albuquerque, NM (ETS)	Level 2 Core Course	001036/0012
3/7/11	3/10/11	Advanced Risk Management	25	Richland, WA (HAMMER)	Level 3 Core Course	001042/0011
3/8/11	3/10/11	LEED for New Construction & Existing Buildings	18	Amarillo, TX (Pantex)	Level 1 Elective	001936/0012
3/15/11	3/17/11	Contract Administration for Technical Representatives	21	Pittsburgh, PA (NETL)	Level 1 Core Course	001028/0009
3/17/11	3/18/11	Capital Planning for DOE O 413.3B Capital Asset Projects	N/A	Washington, DC (Headquarters)	Level 1 Elective	002152
3/21/11	3/25/11	Cost & Schedule Estimation	35	Washington, DC (Headquarters)	Level 2 Core Course	001044/0009
3/28/11	4/1/11	Acquisition Management for Technical Personnel	32	Cincinnati, OH (EMCBC)	Level 1 Core Course	000145/0025
3/29/11	3/31/11	Strategic Planning	N/A	Los Alamos, NM (Canyon School)	Level 4 Elective	001043/0007

Full PMCDP Course Schedule

For the full listing of FY2011 classes, visit the PMCDP website at http://www.management.energy.gov/project_management/1581.htm and click on the "course schedule" link that appears on the "Training" page.



Questions or Comments?

Please email general questions and comments about PMCDP to PMCDP.Administration@hq.doe.gov, or visit our website at <http://www.management.energy.gov/1835.htm>

For specific information, please contact one of the following individuals:

- Victoria C. Barth, MA ISD - Course Schedule, Certification Review Board (CRB) information, Certification and Equivalency Guide (CEG): Victoria.Barth@hq.doe.gov
- Linda Ott, PMP - PMCDP Curriculum, Auditors and Technical Content Advisors: Linda.Ott@hq.doe.gov
- Steven H. Rossi, P.E., PMP, LEED AP, CCE - PMCDP Newsletter, Continuing Education Units: Steven.Rossi@hq.doe.gov
- Peter J. O’Konski, P.E., CEM, PMP, LEED AP, CCE, Director, Office of Facilities Management and Professional Development: Peter.OKonski@hq.doe.gov