



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington DC 20585

July 17, 2012

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: THOMAS P. D'AGOSTINO
ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas P. D'Agostino
FWP/

SUBJECT: Technical Qualification Program Accreditation

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Technical Qualification Program (TQP) was established as a process to ensure Federal technical employees possess the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform their assigned duties and responsibilities. The TQP enhances the ability of the NNSA and Department of Energy (DOE) to recruit, hire, and maintain highly qualified individuals. In conjunction with other training initiatives, accreditation of a site's TQP program provides the site manager with additional assurance that the program is functioning as intended. Three NNSA Site Offices have successfully achieved accreditation of their TQPs in support of the NNSA and DOE mission.

The process of accreditation is not an easy or fast one. It requires the TQP to be subjected to numerous self assessments against a strict set of objectives and supporting criteria. There is an on-site assessment by an accreditation review team, followed by the site representative presenting their program before an independent TQP accreditation board which makes a recommendation which is then forwarded to the Deputy Secretary for determination. The final recognition is the achievement and presentation of TQP accreditation. The outcome of achieving accreditation demonstrates a Site Office's enhancement of its technical capabilities and TQP process rigor to establish and continuously improve performance throughout the Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE). Although the TQP accreditation is active for 4 years, demonstrated program stability over time should make reaccreditation less intensive.

The Nevada Site Office, Y-12 Site Office, and Sandia Site Office should all be congratulated on their TQP accreditations. These Site Offices should use this letter, along with their TQP accreditation review report and Accreditation Board approval, as an indication that the site met the objectives and requirements of DOE O 426.1 Chg 1 with a rigorous and effective TQP and site training program. Please accept this memo as recognition for a job well done.



Given that TQP accreditation is a comprehensive review and certification of the Site Office's TQP and training program, the results of the TQP accreditation should be considered and given maximum credit in determining the frequency, scope and plans for both internal and external reviews and inspections in this area. The other NNSA Site Offices are expected to achieve accreditation of their TQPs to gain these same benefits Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE)-wide.

Distribution

Mark Holecek, KCSO
Kevin Smith, LASO
Kimberly Davis, LSO
Stephen Mellington, NSSO
Steve Erhart, PXSO
Douglas Dearolph, SRSO
Geoffrey Beausoleil, SSO
Daniel Hoag, YSO

cc: Don Cook, NA-10
Theodore Wyka, Jr., NA-71
Patricia Worthington, HS-10
Karen Boardman, HS-70
Don Nichols, NA-SH-1
Carl Sykes, NA-SH-80
Michael Garcia, NA-SH-70
Patrick Hoopes, KCSO
Steven Lasell, LSO
Frederick Bell, LASO
Raeford Phifer, NSSO
Kenneth Hoar, PXS0
James Todd, SSO
Kevin Hall, SRSO
Daniel Hoag, YSO