

Standards Actions

Technical Standards Program Newsletter

March 2014



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

ENERGY

OFFICE OF
NUCLEAR SAFETY



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DOE TECHNICAL STANDARDS ACTIVITIES

DOE TECHNICAL STANDARDS PROGRAM PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN REVISED AND RELEASED

In September 2013, the Technical Standards Program (TSP) posted a completely revised set of Technical Standards Program Procedures (TSPP). These revisions improved upon the existing set of procedures, which implement and fulfill the requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) Order 252.1A, *Technical Standards Program*. The TSPPs subject areas include: Program Overview and Responsibilities; Initiating DOE Technical Standards; Using Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) and Interacting with Standards Development Organizations; Developing DOE Technical Standards; Coordination of Technical Standards; Approving and Issuing DOE Technical Standards; Maintaining DOE Technical Standards; Converting DOE Technical Standards to Voluntary Consensus Standards; and DOE Technical Standards Program Topical Committees.

TSPP Background

The TSP supports the Department's missions by providing assistance in

using VCSs (as a first option) and when VCSs are not applicable or available, the development and use of DOE technical standards to meet a specific DOE need.

The TSPPs are the procedures by which all DOE related standards processes take place; anything from using VCSs, to developing and maintaining DOE technical standards, is included. DOE-TSPP-1-2013, *Program Overview and Responsibilities*, summarizes the TSPPs best, as it describes them as "a set of implementing procedures to consistently implement the requirements of the TSP as defined by DOE Order 252.1A." It further states,

"The TSPPs are oriented towards supporting the Department's TSMs [Technical Standards Manager] and the TSP in carrying out their responsibilities to promote the preferential use of VCSs by DOE, and supporting the development and maintenance of needed internal standards. They are also often used by Preparing Activities to originate, process, and gain approval of

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DOE TECHNICAL STANDARDS ACTIVITIES

a DOE technical standard. The TSPPs provide the TSP with efficient and effective means to provide services, data, and information; develop and maintain DOE technical standards; and establish topical committees. They are subjected to continuous improvement based on frequent use, experience and lessons learned."

Changes to the TSPP

As the TSP began the process of revising the TSPPs, it worked to ensure that the procedures reflected current TSP business processes. Because organizational Technical Standards Managers (TSM) are a key part of the TSP process, their feedback was obtained, and incorporated into the revised documents.

Many of the revisions implemented in the TSPPs reflect lessons learned from the TSP's 20 plus years of experience working with the DOE community. The following are some highlights of select changes that may be of interest to a TSM or standards writer.

The first notable change in this series of TSPPs is that they were condensed from 11 down to 9 procedural documents. As the revision process started, it became apparent that some refining was in order. There was even some discussion about creating one document, however, they were not consolidated into a single procedure; instead, each is its own comprehensive document. This was done for two reasons: first, to provide an efficient way to respond to and update specific procedural areas quickly without having to revise the entire set of procedures; and second, it made good sense to keep the various procedural activities in their own stand alone documents for ease of referral.

A second highlighted change is the revision to the Project Initiation procedure. Previously, when there was a determined need for a DOE technical standard, and after screening for applicable VCSs, the proposer would complete a DOE Project Registration and Approval Request (PRAR) form. This procedure had its drawbacks and among them, was the lack of consistent project justification.

To streamline the initiation phase, improve the communication of standards development efforts, and to provide solid project justification, the TSP implemented a procedural change that requires a proposer to submit a Project Justification Statement

(PJS) for a concurrence vote, by the TSMs, prior to project registration/initiation. The PJS identifies how the new or revised DOE technical standard will benefit the DOE by: (a) identifying related and potentially applicable VCSs, and providing justification why these are not adequate to meet DOE needs; (b) identifying any specific DOE directives that would invoke the proposed DOE technical standard; and, (c) identifying the type of DOE technical standard to be developed (DOE Standard, DOE Handbook, or DOE Specification). After a successful concurrence vote on the PJS, a Project Number is then automatically assigned by the TSP, and development work may begin.

A third revision in the TSPPs is the added emphasis on the TSP's preference for using VCSs. Throughout the TSPPs it is stated that, "Voluntary Consensus Standards should be adopted in whole, in part, or by reference." This inclusion was to reinforce the TSP's commitment to VCSs and that DOE technical standards only be developed when: (1) suitable VCSs do not exist; (2) existing VCSs are impractical or are not appropriate for the intended application; or (3) a new VCS cannot be readily developed through a standards development organization.

Additional Information

A video tutorial on the full set of procedures is anticipated to roll out in the near future. When that effort is completed it will be posted on the TSP website.

Listed below are titles of the newly issued TSPPs. They should continue to serve as a valuable resource for any potential technical standards author or TSM. The link to the entire set of new TSPPs is: <http://www.energy.gov/hss/information-center/department-energy-technical-standards-program/department-energy-technical>.

- DOE-TSPP-1-2013, *Program Overview and Responsibilities*
- DOE-TSPP-2-2013, *Initiating DOE Technical Standards*
- DOE-TSPP-3-2013, *Using Voluntary Consensus Standards and Interacting with Standards Development Organizations*
- DOE-TSPP-4-2013, *Developing DOE Technical Standards*

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- DOE-TSPP-5-2013, *Coordination of Technical Standards*
- DOE-TSPP-6-2013, *Approving and Issuing DOE Technical Standards*
- DOE-TSPP-7-2013, *Maintaining DOE Technical Standards*
- DOE-TSPP-8-2013, *Converting DOE Technical Standards to Voluntary Consensus Standards*
- DOE-TSPP-9-2013, *DOE Technical Standards Program Topical Committees*

DOE TECHNICAL STANDARDS UPDATES

To determine a more accurate, more inclusive status of on-going DOE technical standards actions, please refer to the “Monthly Status Reports” posted on the TSP website located at:

<http://energy.gov/hss/monthly-status-reports>.

Project Justification Statement Posted in RevCom for 15-day Review

- Project Justification Statement for Revision of Department of Energy (DOE) Standard (STD)-3020-2005, *Specifications for HEPA Filters Used by DOE Contractors*

Contact: Subir Sen **Phone:** 301-903-6571
Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Nuclear Safety
Office of Quality Assurance

DOE Technical Standards Posted in RevCom

- Proposed Reaffirmation for DOE-Handbook (HDBK)-1074-1995, *Alternative Systematic Approaches to Training*

Contact: Brendan Burns **Phone:** 202-586-2671
Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety Programs

Cancellations

- DOE-STD-1135-2009, *Guidance for Nuclear Criticality Safety Engineer Training and Qualification*

Contact: Gladys Udentia **Phone:** 202-586-8751
National Nuclear Safety Administration

DOE Technical Standards Project Registrations in Revision

- Revision of DOE-HDBK-1081-1994, *Primer on Spontaneous Heating and Pyrophoricity*

Contact: Jim Bisker **Phone:** 301-903-6542
Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety Programs

- Revision of DOE-STD-1186-2004, *Specific Administrative Controls*

Contact: Mike Hillman **Phone:** 301-903-3568
Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety Programs

Recently Approved Standards

- DOE-STD-1150-2013, *Quality Assurance Functional Area Qualification Standard*

Contact: Colette Broussard **Phone:** 301-903-5452
Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Nuclear Safety
Office of Quality Assurance

- 2014 Reaffirmation/DOE-HDBK-1118-1999, *Guide to Good Practices for Continuing Training*

Contact: Brendan Burns **Phone:** 202-586-2671
Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety Programs

- 2014 Reaffirmation/DOE-HDBK-1132-1999, *Design Considerations*

Contact: Pranab Guha **Phone:** 301-903-7089
Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Safety Basis and Facility Design

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

International Energy Agency-International Electrotechnical Commission-International Organization for Standardization: *Workshop on International Standards in Support of Policies for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy*

When: March 13, 2014

Where: Paris, France

Energy Facility Contractors Group: *Environmental Safety & Health Working Groups Spring Meetings*

When: March 17-21, 2014

Where: Washington, DC

American Concrete Institute Spring 2014 Convention

When: March 23-27, 2014

Where: Reno, NV

22nd Annual ISO-9000 World Conference

When: March 24-25, 2014

Where: San Antonio, TX

American Society of Mechanical Engineers: *Nuclear Quality Assurance Committee Spring Meeting*

When: April 8-10, 2014

Where: Mesa, AZ

National Fire Protection Association Conference & Expo

When: June 9-12, 2014

Where: Las Vegas, NV

American Society of Mechanical Engineers Annual Meeting

When: June 6-11, 2014

Where: Portland, OR

American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting: *Nuclear Challenges: Technologies and Analysis*

When: June 15-19, 2014

Where: Reno, NV

TECHNICAL STANDARDS PROGRAM

- **Promotes** the use of voluntary consensus standards at DOE.
- **Manages** and facilitates DOE efforts to develop and maintain necessary technical standards when voluntary consensus standards do not meet DOE needs.
- **Communicates** information on national consensus and departmental technical standards activities to developers and users of technical standards in DOE.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS PROGRAM MISSION

Mission

To enhance DOE's transition to a standards-based culture by providing information, coordinating activities, and promoting the use of consensus standards, and when needed, the development of DOE technical standards.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the DOE Technical Standards Program or to view the *Standards Actions* Newsletters, go to:

<http://energy.gov/hss/information-center/department-energy-technical-standards-program>

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