



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

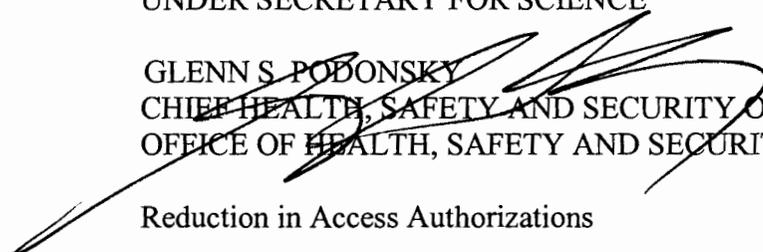
EXEC-2008-008209

July 31, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR THOMAS P. D'AGOSTINO
UNDER SECRETARY FOR NUCLEAR SECURITY

C.H. ALBRIGHT, JR.
UNDER SECRETARY OF ENERGY

RAYMOND L. ORBACH
UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE

FROM:  GLENN S. PODONSKY
CHIEF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY OFFICER
OFFICE OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY

SUBJECT: Reduction in Access Authorizations

The Office of Management and Budget is leading a government-wide effort to improve the timeliness, appropriateness, consistency, and efficiency of security clearance and access authorization processing and adjudication, as mandated under Title III of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. Towards that end, the Department of Energy (DOE) must ensure that only individuals with a valid, continuing need for access to classified information, in consonance with their official Departmental duties, are submitted for such access. In addition to supporting national initiatives, there are other significant benefits to keeping access authorizations at a minimum, such as:

- minimize unnecessary access to classified information, thereby diminishing the potential adverse impact of insider threats.
- reducing the investigative and adjudicative workload, resulting in improved timelines.
- reducing Departmental investigative costs in a time of fiscal restraint (for reference purposes, the FY 08 investigative costs to-date are attached).

In accordance with Chapter 1 of DOE M 470.4-5, "Personnel Security," access authorizations must not be processed (i.e., requested, granted, continued, reinstated, transferred, or extended) to:

- avoid the use of access controls or physical barriers to distinguish perimeters among security areas or between security and open areas;
- alleviate responsibilities for escorting uncleared individuals within a security area;



- alleviate individual or management responsibilities for properly protecting classified information or controlling dissemination of such classified information on a need-to-know basis;
- establish a pool of cleared employees;
- accommodate an individual's personal convenience, expedience, gain, or advantage;
- anticipate unspecified classified work; or
- determine suitability for Federal, contractor, or other employment.

In order to assure compliance with DOE M 470.4-5, minimize the cleared insider threat potential, and reduce the costs associated with unnecessary investigations and adjudications, you are asked to review the number of access authorizations currently in place within your respective areas of responsibility, with a view toward eliminating or reducing access authorizations wherever possible. For reference purposes, a listing of FY 08 personnel security investigation costs through June is appended as an attachment. It is requested that you complete any identified reductions within one year from the date of this memorandum.

Limiting the number of personnel within the workforce with access to classified information can be an operational and managerial challenge, but providing such access to employees who don't require it is of a greater concern. If you have any questions, please contact me at x33777 or your staff may contact James L. Packett, Office of Departmental Personnel Security, at x65141.

Attachment