

CSSG TASKING 2022-01

Date Issued: January 31, 2022

Task Title:

- CSSG Guidance to NNSA on Contract Transition Regarding Criticality Safety

Task Statement:

The CSSG has been requested to develop considerations to help NNSA oversight ensure successful contract transition for large Management & Operation, Management & Integration, and Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity contracts from the perspective of Criticality Safety. This should be based on CSSG experiences with previous large NNSA/EM contract transitions (e.g., Livermore, LANL, Y-12/Pantex, INL/ICP, and Savannah River) and significant changes impacting criticality safety (organizational, funding, mission). This guidance is provided with the purpose of avoiding issues found during past transitions.

The scope of the review should consider including the following topics:

- Criticality safety practices in support of mission success.
 - a. Proper use of conservatism/assumptions/process knowledge during Criticality Safety Evaluation Process
 - b. Continuing criticality safety integration with Safety Basis and Operations.
 - c. Development of relationships between the new contractor and the local field office.
 - d. Potential unintended consequences of the contract language/incentives/timing on Criticality Safety
- Criticality Safety post transition and due diligence.
 - a. Ability to understand and alleviate past criticality safety issues from the outgoing contractor (tribal knowledge).
 - b. Criticality Safety organizational structure and position in the organization
 - c. Criticality Safety staffing ability/retention of the new contractor coming into the contract.
 - d. Knowledge transfer and collective knowledge retention among Criticality Safety practitioners.
 - e. Criticality Safety Training and Qualification post transition.
 - f. Maintenance of the criticality safety program at a level beyond “minimum mission essential”.
- Informed decision making on the continuation/support for Criticality Safety Committees.

Based on the past experiences the CSSG is to provide recommendations on any issues identified and proposed/alternative approaches. The intent of the review is for the CSSG to use its’ collective wisdom to provide guidance/alternatives for criticality safety oversight to be implemented by NNSA during and immediately after contract transition to provide additional certainty of mission execution and minimize the potential for rework due to operational or regulatory concerns post transition. If identified during the review, the CSSG can also provide any suggestions for approaches to be used by NNSA procurement to best evaluate, during the contract selection process, a prospective team’s ability to execute criticality safety.

The review should consist of:

- a kickoff meeting with the CSSG writing team, NNSA Field Officials (e.g., NPO nuclear safety, DOE-SR nuclear safety) responsible for Criticality Safety during/post transition, NNSA HQ/CDNS staff with criticality safety oversight responsibilities, DOE-NCSP leadership)
- recollections and reviews of previous CSSG reviews/taskings involving past transitions, significant changes impacting Criticality Safety, and/or subsequent issues,
- interviews of selected individuals,
- request for comments by the DOE CSCT,
- review by the full CSSG, and

- a tasking report and outbrief to NA-50 (others if requested).

To the extent practical, meetings and interviews should be done remotely to minimize face-to-face contact.

Period of Performance:

- The Task should kick off the effort by February 11, 2022, with the final version for posting to the NCSP website by April 30, 2022

Resources:

CSSG Task 2022-01 Team Members:

- Fitz Trumble (Team Leader)
- Dave Heinrichs (Livermore)
- David Hayes (LANL)
- Kevin Reynolds (Y-12)

- CSSG members will use their FY22 NCSP CSSG support funding as applicable.

Task Deliverables:

1. The Task Team will kick off the effort by Feb 11, 2022
2. Task Team prepare a draft by March 15, 2022.
3. CSCT provide review comments by March 22, 2022.
4. Full CSSG provide review comments by April 1, 2022.
5. Task Team provide final version of document to NCSP Manager for review and posting by April 15, 2022.

Task Completion Date: April 30, 2022

Signed: _____

**Angela Chambers, Manager US DOE NCSP
Office of the Chief of Defense Nuclear Safety, NA-511**