MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & ACQUISITION)

SUBJECT: Environmental Readiness in Systems Acquisition

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5000.2C, dtd 19 Nov 04

Encl: (1) Environmental Readiness Requirements and Goals

This memorandum is provided pursuant to reference (a), enclosure (1), paragraph 7.3, which in part directs the Chief of Naval Operations to support ASN (RD&A) in developing acquisition environmental requirements.

In an era of significantly increased attention to protection of the environment in Navy activities, coupled with emergent concerns over energy use and climate change, the environmental readiness of Navy systems is more important than ever. Environmental readiness can be viewed in two dimensions. First, it includes the incorporation of environmentally friendly design, materials and practices into new systems, through the systems engineering process, so as to facilitate efficient and effective environmental compliance throughout the life cycle and through disposal. Numerous statutes, executive orders, DoD and DON policy directives prescribe requirements and goals applicable to the systems engineering of sound environmental products. Enclosure (1) is a compilation of the latest requirements and goals, and is provided as a tool for program managers, and for your use in assessing their success in achieving these objectives.

The second aspect of environmental readiness is the warfighter’s ability to train and operate with the system, in full compliance with environmental planning and compliance requirements, at the time of system delivery. Recent experience has shown that extensive environmental planning under the National Environmental Policy Act, as well as permitting and/or consultation under the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act, may be necessary before certain systems can be made available for robust Fleet training. These processes must be initiated well before system delivery if environmental readiness upon delivery is to be achieved.
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We recognize that this second aspect of environmental readiness cannot be achieved solely within the acquisition system. End users must play a substantial role in this effort, given that protective measures developed in the environmental planning process may affect the Fleet’s ability to conduct realistic training. Clarification of existing DoD and DON acquisition policy and guidance may be necessary, to better define when, and by whom, this externally focused dimension of environmental readiness should be conducted. OPNAV N4 has adopted environmental readiness of new systems as a key element in our Thousand Day Plan to enhance logistical readiness across the board. In the months ahead the N4 staff will engage N8, the Navy Secretariat, the Fleets and others to build consensus in a strategy to address this extremely complex challenge.

My point of contact for these issues is Mr. Andrew Del Collo, N451, at 703-602-4497.

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Environmental Readiness Requirements and Goals

R) = Requirement. An action specifically required by law, regulation, Executive Order, DoD or DoN Issuances, or Policy Memoranda.

G) = Goal. Best practice to help achieve requirements or improve sustainability.

Reference:
(a) USD (AT&L) Memorandum “Defense Acquisition Safety”, 23 Sep 04
(b) DoDI 5000.2, “Operation of the Defense Acquisition System”, 12 May 03
(c) USD (AT&L) Memorandum “Defense Acquisition System Safety - ESOH Risk Acceptance”, 7 Mar 07
(d) DoD EO 13423: “Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management”, 24 Jan 07
(e) DoD EO 13423: “Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals Reduction Plan for Lifecycle Chemical Management”, 13 Feb 08
(f) Pollution Prevention Act of 1990
(h) Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Section 223.8 Ozone Depleting Substances, 19 Dec 06
(i) ASN(RD&A) Memorandum “Equipment/Systems Requiring The Unplanned Use Of Class I Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)”, 13 Nov 97
(j) ASN(RD&A) Memorandum “DoD Green Procurement Program (GPP)”, 22 Nov 04
(k) OPNAVINST 5090.1C, “Environmental Readiness Program Manual”, 30 Oct 07
(l) Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973
(m) Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972

R) Identify all potential environmental hazards associated with the system throughout its life cycle using the MIL-STD-882D methodology. Eliminate identified environmental hazards, or mitigate the associated risk to the lowest acceptable level during system design. [References (a) and (b)]

R) Identify the User Representative for each acquisition program and ensure all environmental risks are accepted by the appropriate ESOH risk acceptance authority in accordance with references (b) and (c).

Enclosure (1)
R) When making design, and chemical and material choices for systems and platforms, minimize the use and quantity of toxic and hazardous chemicals and materials required for manufacture and sustainment, in accordance with references (d) and (e). Consider the risks and associated costs throughout the life cycle of the system, including disposal, and maximize the use of sustainable environmental practices. [Reference (b)]

G) Use respective Program Executive Office or Systems Command’s targeted toxic and hazardous materials/chemicals lists, as available, to help minimize those toxic and hazardous materials/chemicals posing the greatest environmental risks and to help the Navy meet the goals of references (d) and (f).

G) Minimize to the greatest extent practical the use of chemicals of emerging concern identified by the DUSD(I&E) Emerging Contaminant Directorate when designing, manufacturing, upgrading, and sustaining new systems and platforms. [Reference (g)]

R) Minimize, to the greatest extent practical, the use of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and ensure that the approval for procurement of systems or equipment specifying the use of Class I ODS is in accordance with reference (h). Ensure that any unplanned use of the ODS Reserve is approved in accordance with the process contained in references (i).

R) Consistent with mission requirements, support use of sustainable environmental practices, including acquisition of biobased, environmentally preferable, energy-efficient, water-efficient, and recycled-content products, and use of paper of at least 30 percent post-consumer fiber content. [References (d) and (j)]

R) Improve energy efficiency, consistent with mission requirements and cost effectiveness, by implementing energy management strategies pursuant to reference (d) such as:
- Alternative or synthetic fueled vehicles
- Alternative/renewable systems such as solar electric, solar lighting, geothermal, and small wind turbines
- Highly efficient building alternatives
- Reduction of energy use
- Increase in renewable energy consumption
- Reduction of petroleum products

G) Design propulsion and power generation systems that
- Minimize gaseous and particulate emissions to allow for unencumbered system operation, training and maintenance.
oMinimize near-field and far-field noise levels, avoiding increases compared to existing systems.
Utilize alternative or synthetic fuels where practical.

G) Ensure, through early and informed analysis, that environmental compliance for RDT&E events is accomplished as efficiently as possible. Selecting less sensitive test locations or times of year, adding mitigation measures, and/or reducing the intensity of proposed actions to the minimum necessary to achieve required results often allows proposed actions to remain below thresholds that would otherwise trigger compliance requirements, such as consultation and permitting.

R) Prepare quality and consistent National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and EO 12114 analyses and documentation to determine the impact and effects of major federal actions on the environment.
Schedule and conduct an appropriate level of environmental planning early in the acquisition process so that the results of the analysis can be used to reduce environmental impacts throughout the life cycle of the system.
Provide system-specific analysis and data sufficient to support other action proponent’s preparation of NEPA/EO 12114 documentation.
Ensure that all acquisition systems which put sound into the marine environment conduct the appropriate effects analyses, in accordance with reference (k), to fully identify system impacts on living marine resources (i.e., mammals, turtles, fish, invertebrates, etc.), assess hazards, and mitigate associated risks to ensure that the system can be deployed in full compliance with reference (l) and (m).

R) Estimate and plan for the system’s demilitarization and safe disposal during the design process. Document hazardous materials contained in the system. [Reference (b)]