

feasibility, risk, cost, and speed of implementation, when necessary to appreciate fairly the practical significance of the information. The Government may and should be fully informed of the significance of scientific and technological alternatives.

(c) *Intent to influence.* The furnishing of meritorious or convincing scientific or technological proposals does not constitute an intent to influence. (See § 2637.201(b)(7) of this part.)

(d) *Expert testimony.* This exemption does not include testimony as an “expert” in adversary proceedings in a matter in which the United States is involved or has an interest. Such testimony is governed by regulations set forth in § 2637.208. As to assistance as an expert or consultant, see § 2637.203(g), Example 7.

(e) *Agency responsibility for procedures.* The primary responsibility for developing procedures to guide activity under this exemption lies with each agency, so that such procedures comport with the particular characteristics of agency programs and needs. Such procedures will be reviewed periodically by the Director. In promulgating procedures, an agency may take into consideration: Limiting communications to certain formats which are least conducive to the use of personal influence; segregating, to the extent possible, meetings and presentations involving matters of technical substance from those involving other aspects of the relationship; requiring that the designated agency ethics official be informed of instances where the exemption is used; or employing more restrictive practices in circumstances involving either immediate competition for contracts or applications for grants than in those involving an ongoing project.

§ 2637.207 Exemption for persons with special qualification in a technical discipline.

(a) *Applicability.* A former Government employee may be exempted from the restrictions on post employment practices if the head of the agency concerned with the particular matter, in consultation with the Director, executes a certification published in the FEDERAL REGISTER that such former

Government employee has outstanding qualifications in a scientific, technological, or other technical discipline; is acting with respect to a particular matter which requires such qualifications; and that the national interest would be served by such former Government employee’s participation.

(b) *When appropriate.* This exemption should generally be utilized only where the former Government employee’s involvement is needed on so continuous and comprehensive a basis that compliance with the procedures adopted for the communication of technical information (see § 2637.206), or other actions to isolate the former Government employee from other aspects of the matter, would be burdensome and impractical.

(c) *Certification authority.* Certification should take place at no lower level than the head of the agency, the deputy thereof, or in the absence of both, the acting agency head. Consultation with the Director shall precede any certification. The exemption takes place upon the execution of the certification, provided that it is transmitted to the FEDERAL REGISTER for publication.

(d) *Agency registry.* An agency may establish a registry for current employees, wherein the nature of their qualifications in one or more technical fields is certified after review by a supervisor, as a basis for establishing such qualifications in connection with, and to expedite, a later request for certification, should the necessity for such request arise.

§ 2637.208 Testimony and statements under oath or subject to penalty of perjury.

(a) *Statutory basis.* Section 207(h) provides:

“Nothing in this section shall prevent a former officer or employee from giving testimony under oath, or from making statements required to be made under penalty of perjury.”

(b) *Applicability.* A former Government employee may testify before any court, board, commission, or legislative body with respect to matters of fact within the personal knowledge of the former Government employee. This provision does not, however, allow a