

Department of Energy

931.205-47

they are reasonable, allocable, and not otherwise unallowable.

[60 FR 30004, June 7, 1995]

931.205-19 Insurance and Indemnification. (Department coverage-paragraph (h)).

(h) The contracting officer shall insert the clause at 48 CFR 952.231-71 in non-management and operating cost reimbursement contracts involving work performed at facilities owned or leased by the Department exceeding \$100,000,000.

[66 FR 4627, Jan. 18, 2001, as amended at 67 FR 14871, Mar. 28, 2002]

931.205-32 Precontract costs.

(a) To the extent practical, known expenditures of precontract costs under DOE contracts should be governed by establishing advance understandings as contemplated by FAR 31.109. Contracts that include authorized precontract costs shall include the "Date of Incurrence of Cost" clause specified at 952.231-70.

(b) The following limitations apply to establishment of advance understandings relative to precontract costs:

(1) Precontract cost authorizations shall not be used to cover a period in excess of 15 days, unless a longer period is approved by the HCA based upon a written finding that such an allowance is reasonable, and shall not be extended or renewed. A copy of the findings shall be forwarded to the Procurement Executive at the time of approval. If prolonged coverage is necessary, a letter contract shall be issued.

(2) All precontract cost authorizations shall be reviewed and approved at a management level above the contracting officer.

(3) Retroactive precontract cost authorization and the predating of contractual agreements shall not be used.

(4) Precontract cost authorizations shall not authorize the delivery or furnishing of any goods or services from a contractor until after the contract is executed.

[49 FR 12011, Mar. 28, 1984; 49 FR 38951, Oct. 2, 1984]

931.205-33 Professional and consultant service costs. (Department coverage-paragraph (g)).

(g)(1) Reasonable litigation and other legal expenses are allowable when incurred in accordance with 10 CFR part 719, Contractor Legal Management Requirements, if not otherwise made unallowable by law or provisions of the contract.

(2)(A) Cost reimbursement contracts involving work performed at facilities owned or leased by the Department for an amount exceeding \$100,000,000 are covered by this cost principle and 10 CFR part 719.

(B) This cost principle and 10 CFR part 719 are applicable to legal counsel retained by the Department itself for litigation and other legal services where the legal costs over the life of the matter for which counsel has been retained are expected to exceed \$100,000.

(3) Contractors described in paragraph (g)(2)(A) of this section are required to submit a Legal Management Plan within 60 days of execution of a contract.

[66 FR 4627, Jan. 18, 2001]

931.205-47 Costs related to legal and other proceedings. (DOE coverage-paragraph (h)).

(h) Costs Associated with Whistleblower Actions.

(1) Definitions for purposes of this paragraph (h):

Covered contractors and subcontractors means those contractors and subcontractors with contracts exceeding \$5,000,000.

Employee whistleblower action means any action filed by an employee in Federal or state court for redress of a retaliatory act by a contractor and any administrative procedure initiated by an employee under 29 CFR Part 24, 48 CFR subpart 3.9, 10 CFR Part 708 or 42 U.S.C. 7239.

Retaliatory act means a discharge, demotion, reduction in pay, coercion, restraint, threat, intimidation or other similar negative action taken against an employee by a contractor as a result of an employee's activity protected as a whistleblower activity by a Federal or state statute or regulation.

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Settlement and award costs means defense costs and costs arising from judicial orders, negotiated agreements, arbitration, or an order from a Federal agency or board and includes compensatory damages, underpayment for work performed, and reimbursement for a complainant employee's legal counsel.

(2) For costs associated with employee whistleblower actions where a retaliatory act is alleged against a covered contractor or subcontractor, the contracting officer:

(i) May authorize reimbursement of costs on a provisional basis, in appropriate cases;

(ii) Must consult with the Office of General Counsel whistleblower costs point of contact, who will consult with other Headquarters points of contact as appropriate, before making a final allowability determination; and

(iii) Must determine allowability of defense, settlement and award costs on a case-by-case basis after considering the terms of the contract, relevant cost regulations, and the relevant facts and circumstances, including federal law and policy prohibiting reprisal against whistleblowers, available at the conclusion of the employee whistleblower action.

(3) Covered contractors and subcontractors must segregate legal costs, including costs of in-house counsel, incurred in the defense of an employee whistleblower action so that the costs are separately identifiable.

(4) If a contracting officer provisionally disallows costs associated with an employee whistleblower action for a covered contractor or subcontractor, funds advanced by the Department may not be used to finance costs connected with the defense, settlement and award of an employee whistleblower action.

(5) Contractor defense, settlement and award costs incurred in connection with the defense of suits brought by employees under section 2 of the Major Fraud Act of 1988 are excluded from coverage of this section.

[65 FR 62301, Oct. 18, 2000]

PART 932—CONTRACT FINANCING

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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 7254; 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

SOURCE: 49 FR 12011, Mar. 28, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

932.006-4 Procedures.

(a) The remedy coordination official shall follow the procedures identified in FAR 32.006-4.

(b) [Reserved]

[63 FR 5273, Feb. 2, 1998]