

Utilities



Guiding Principle

Proper acquisition of utilities requires careful analysis of the service needed and sufficient planning to ensure the service is acquired efficiently and at a reasonable cost.

[References: [FAR 41](#), [DEAR 941](#) and [970.4102](#)]

1.0 Summary of Latest Changes

This update includes administrative changes.

2.0 Discussion

This chapter supplements other more primary acquisition regulations and policies contained in the references above and should be considered in the context of those references.

2.1 **Overview.** This section discusses the acquisition and sales of utility services by DOE and its contractors.

2.2 **Background.** DOE's mission involves projects that use large amounts of electricity and other utilities. The acquisition of utilities requires analysis of the quantity of service necessary and proper planning to assure that the service is acquired efficiently and at the lowest reasonable cost. That planning should consider the availability of GSA area wide contracts and the appropriateness of a separate contract in accordance with FAR 41.2.

2.3 **Headquarters Review.** The Contracting Officer (CO) must submit solicitations, contracts, and modifications to contracts for the acquisition of utility services at facilities owned or leased by DOE to DOE Headquarters for review and approval. The term "contracts" includes interagency and intra-agency agreements and subcontracts.

The Headquarters review is coordinated by the Office of the Federal Energy Management Program, the Office of the General Counsel, the Office of Acquisition Management, and the cognizant Program Office which results in a consolidated response. Questions about utilities services acquisitions may be directed to the Office of the Federal Energy Management Program Headquarters at (202) 586-5772.