

**CLASS DEVIATION
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ACQUISITION REGULATION (DEAR) PART 926 -
OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC PROGRAMS**

Findings

1. The objective of this class deviation is to update the Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation (DEAR) Part 926 - *Other Socioeconomic Programs* to implement the changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 26 - *Other Socioeconomic Programs* by the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council (FAR Council) through the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative and make other deregulatory revisions to DEAR Part 926 pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, *Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement*.
2. On April 15, 2025, President Donald J. Trump issued E.O. 14275, *Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement*. Section 2 of the E.O. established the policy that the FAR “should only contain provisions required by statute or essential to sound procurement, and any FAR provisions that do not advance these objectives should be removed.”
3. On May 2, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued memorandum M-25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*, initiating a major overhaul of the FAR (Revolutionary FAR Overhaul, or “RFO”). The memorandum tasked the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) with leading the RFO, in coordination with the other members of the FAR Council. The goal is to refocus the FAR on its statutory roots. To that end, the FAR is being updated to:
 - Remove language that is not required by statute
 - Remove duplicative or outdated language
 - Clarify or provide more plain language
 - Revise language for the new FAR framework
 - Retain language necessary for governmentwide acquisition standards

The OMB memorandum M-25-26 established a two phased approach to implement enterprise deregulation as follows: Phase one, FAR Council deviation guidance, and phase two, formal rulemaking. During phase one, the FAR Council issued plain language model deviation text for all applicable FAR parts.

4. On August 8, 2025, the FAR Council issued model deviation text for FAR Part 26 and the corresponding section of FAR Part 52, which the Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) adopted through a class deviation (Attachment 3), issued via Policy Flash 2025-57 on September 3, 2025.
5. To implement the requirements of E.O. 14275 and the revisions to the FAR resulting from the RFO in agency regulations, DOE (including NNSA) is updating its supplement

to the FAR (the DEAR), by issuing class deviations. The class deviations update FAR references in the corresponding DEAR part as well as to make more substantive changes, when necessary, which are driven either by the RFO revisions to the FAR part (typically elimination of certain non-statutory requirements) or the implementation of the requirements of E.O. 14275 and OMB Memorandum M-25-26, as outlined above, in the DEAR.

During phase one of the RFO – when the FAR is updated via class deviations incorporating the RFO model text – the DEAR will not be updated to align with the new FAR numbering structure. Once the RFO revisions to the FAR are finalized through formal rulemaking (phase two), the DEAR will be updated through its formal rulemaking to align with the revised FAR the numbering structure.

6. Accordingly, DEAR Part 926 is updated to revise internal references following the RFO, as implemented by DOE/NNSA class deviation, make plain language edits, including changes to the active voice, where appropriate, and edits to improve readability. The plain language edits are not intended to change existing DEAR requirements, but rather to improve clarity pursuant to the federal plain language guidelines as directed by the Plain Writing Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-274). Additionally, revisions are made throughout the DEAR text and DEAR provisions and clauses to replace the use of the term “shall” with “must” or “will,” as appropriate, to impose requirements.

Determination

In accordance with DEAR 901.404 *Class deviations*, to fully comply with the requirement of E.O. 14275 and the revised FAR Part 26 (Attachment 4), it is hereby determined that a class deviation is appropriate pursuant to OMB memorandum M-25-26 (Attachment 5), using the attached deviation text for DEAR Part 926 (Attachment 2). Specifically, DOE/NNSA will use the deviation text for Part 926 in lieu of 48 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 926. Once approved, the Department will share the deviation widely among its workforce to ensure full awareness of and compliance with the revisions to the affected regulations. This class deviation is effective upon issuance and will remain in effect until cancelled or incorporated into the DEAR.

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Attachments:

1. DEAR Part 926 Deviation Text – Line Out
2. DEAR Part 926 Deviation Text – Final
3. Class Deviation to Adopt Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) Part 26 - Other Socioeconomic Programs
4. RFO FAR Part 26 Model Deviation Text
5. OMB Memorandum M-25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*