

**Argonne National Laboratory Prime Contract****Part I. Section H. Special Contract Requirements**

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*Last revised: September 29, 1999*

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**Clause H.3 - Communications And Trust****(a) Public Affairs and News Releases**

- (1) The Parties agree that each has an obligation and commitment to academic freedom and openness in public information, inquiry and involvement. The Parties also recognize the importance of coordination with each other with regard to areas covered in this Clause so as to achieve public policy objectives important to the nation. As a federal agency, DOE must assure that news releases which describe its policies and procedures as related to the operation of its national scientific laboratories do so on an accurate and timely basis. Accordingly, the Parties recognize the importance of advanced coordination of major news media activities, including new releases, major announcements and significant interactions with national news media.
- (2) Consistent with these principles, the Parties will exercise diligent efforts to inform each other, in advance, of significant public affairs events or other major activities. When such advance exchange is not possible operationally, each party shall promptly furnish the released information to the other party concurrent with its release.
- (3) The Contractor shall not release information attributed directly to DOE or which purports to represent established DOE policy without advance concurrence of DOE. Nothing in this Clause shall be construed so as to limit the right of the Contractor to publicize the results of its scientific research, consistent with the advance coordination principles outlined above.
- (4) In all public releases of information in communication products related to the Laboratory, identification of the facility as a Department of Energy facility shall be made prominently in the communication product involved. The inclusion of such a standard statement does not replace, however, the requirement for prominent identification of the Laboratory as a DOE facility in an appropriate editorial context in the communications product.
- (5) Nothing in this Clause is intended to interfere with requirements associated with information which has received national security classification.

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(b) Public Involvement

- (1) The Contractor agrees to establish community relations and/or public involvement programs and initiatives appropriate to the Laboratory activities involved and the stakeholder interests affected.
- (2) DOE recognizes such activities as an integral component of Contractor management responsibilities in the execution of the contract. The Parties recognize their mutual responsibilities to coordinate public involvement activities and to coordinate all related external communications consistent with the principles outlined in paragraph (a), Public Affairs and News Releases, above.
- (3) In carrying out Laboratory public involvement activities, the Contractor agrees that it will make no statements contrary to DOE policy or enter into any commitments with external parties regarding departmental actions without DOE concurrence.