the Board may enter into an agreement with the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences or any other appropriate group or organization of experts outside the Federal Government chosen by the Board to assist the Board in carrying out its responsibilities under this subchapter.

## (h) Resident inspectors

The Board may assign staff to be stationed at any Department of Energy defense nuclear facility to carry out the functions of the Board.

# (i) Special studies

The Board may conduct special studies pertaining to adequate protection of public health and safety at any Department of Energy defense nuclear facility.

## (j) Evaluation of information

The Board may evaluate information received from the scientific and industrial communities, and from the interested public, with respect to—

(1) events or practices at any Department of Energy defense nuclear facility; or

(2) suggestions for specific measures to improve the content of standards described in section 2286a(b)(1) of this title, the implementation of such standards, or research relating to such standards at Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities.

(Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, title I, §313, as added Pub. L. 100-456, div. A, title XIV, §1441(a)(1), Sept. 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 2079; amended Pub. L. 101-510, div. C, title XXXII, §3202, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1844; Pub. L. 102-190, div. C, title XXXII, §3202(a), Dec. 5, 1991, 105 Stat. 1582; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 102-486, title IX, §902(a)(8), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2944; Pub. L. 112-239, div. C, title XXXII, §3202(g), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2220; Pub. L. 113-291, div. C, title XXXII, §3203(a), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3903.)

#### AMENDMENT OF SUBSECTION (b)(1)(A)

Pub. L. 113–291, div. C, title XXXII, § 3203, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3903, provided that, effective Oct. 1, 2015, subsection (b)(1)(A) of this section is amended by striking "150 full-time employees" and inserting "130 full-time employees".

## References in Text

The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, referred to in subsec. (a)(2)(D), are set out in the Appendix to Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

#### AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 113-291 substituted "130 full-time employees" for "150 full-time employees".

2013—Subsec. (j)(2). Pub. L. 112–239 substituted "section 2286a(b)(1) of this title, the implementation" for "section 2286a(1) of this title, the implementation".

1991—Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 102–190, §3202(a)(1), substituted "150" for "100".

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 102-190, §3202(a)(2), substituted "Notwithstanding any other provision of law relating to the use of competitive procedures, the Board may" for "The Board may".

1990—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101–510 designated existing provisions as par. (1), redesignated former pars. (1) and (2) as subpars. (A) and (B), respectively, inserted "including such scientific and technical personnel as the Board may determine necessary," after "Board," in subpar. (A), and added par. (2).

# EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2014 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 113-291, div. C, title XXXII, §3203(b), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3903, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on October 1, 2015."

# §2286c. Responsibilities of Secretary of Energy

## (a) Cooperation

The Secretary of Energy shall fully cooperate with the Board and provide the Board with ready access to such facilities, personnel, and information as the Board considers necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this subchapter. Each contractor operating a Department of Energy defense nuclear facility under a contract awarded by the Secretary shall, to the extent provided in such contract or otherwise with the contractor's consent, fully cooperate with the Board and provide the Board with ready access to such facilities, personnel, and information of the contractor as the Board considers necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this subchapter.

## (b) Access to information

The Secretary of Energy may deny access to information provided to the Board to any person who—

(1) has not been granted an appropriate security clearance or access authorization by the Secretary of Energy; or

(2) does not need such access in connection with the duties of such person.

(Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, title I, §314, as added Pub. L. 100-456, div. A, title XIV, §1441(a)(1), Sept. 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 2080; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 102-486, title IX, §902(a)(8), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2944.)

#### § 2286d. Board recommendations

## (a) Submission of recommendations

(1) Subject to subsections (h) and (i), not later than 30 days before the date on which the Board transmits a recommendation to the Secretary of Energy under section 2286a of this title, the Board shall transmit to the Secretary in writing a draft of such recommendation and any related findings, supporting data, and analyses to ensure the Secretary is adequately informed of a formal recommendation and to provide the Secretary an opportunity to provide input to the Board before such recommendation is finalized.

(2) The Secretary may provide to the Board comments on a draft recommendation transmitted by the Board under paragraph (1) by not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the draft recommendation. The Board may grant, upon request by the Secretary, additional time for the Secretary to transmit comments to the Board.

(3) After the period of time in which the Secretary may provide comments under paragraph (2) elapses, the Board may transmit a final recommendation to the Secretary.

# (b) Public availability and comment

Subject to subsections (h) and (i), after the Secretary of Energy receives a recommendation from the Board under subsection (a)(3), the Board shall promptly make available to the pub-