#### 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

2015—Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 114–92 substituted "in accordance with section 2286(c)(7) of this title, hire" for "hire".

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 public such recommendation and any related correspondence from the Secretary by—

- (1) providing such recommendation and correspondence to the public in the regional public reading rooms of the Department of Energy; and
  - (2) publishing in the Federal Register—
  - $(\hat{\mathbf{A}})$  such recommendation and correspondence; and
- (B) a request for the submission to the Board of public comments on such recommendation that provides interested persons with 30 days after the date of the publication in which to submit comments, data, views, or arguments to the Board concerning the recommendation.

## (c) Response by Secretary

- (1) The Secretary of Energy shall transmit to the Board, in writing, a statement on whether the Secretary accepts or rejects, in whole or in part, the recommendations submitted to him by the Board under section 2286a of this title, a description of the actions to be taken in response to the recommendations, and his views on such recommendations. The Secretary of Energy shall transmit his response to the Board within 45 days after the date of the publication, under subsection (b), of the notice with respect to such recommendations or within such additional period, not to exceed 45 days, as the Board may grant.
- (2) At the same time as the Secretary of Energy transmits his response to the Board under paragraph (1), the Secretary, subject to subsection (i), shall publish such response, together with a request for public comment on his response, in the Federal Register.
- (3) Interested persons shall have 30 days after the date of the publication of the Secretary of Energy's response in which to submit comments, data, views, or arguments to the Board concerning the Secretary's response.
- (4) The Board may hold hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments on its recommendations and the Secretary of Energy's response