



Department of Defense Energy Security Act (DODESA) Key Provisions – 2014



Authorizes Mobile (Non-Building) Energy Saving Performance Contracts (ESPCs)

ESPCs allow federal agencies to save on up-front capital costs by partnering with an energy-service company (ESCO), which designs and constructs building projects after conducting a comprehensive energy audit and identifying energy-saving improvements. Those cost-savings then pay for the project over the contract term. The ESCO arranges the necessary initial funding, and all additional cost savings accrue to the agency.

- DODESA 2014 would expand the traditional ESPC concept by authorizing ESPCs for mobile assets, such as ships and deployable generators for use in theater.

Encourages Research on Tactical Vehicle Efficiency

Tactical vehicles demand heavy armor to protect warfighters and assets in battle. However, adding the weight of protecting current engines and armor significantly increases fuel consumption.

- DODESA 2014 encourages continued DOD research to reduce fuel consumption — thereby reducing battlefield vulnerabilities — of light tactical vehicles.

Establishes a DOD-wide Energy Project Database

Hundreds of operational energy-related R&D programs are under way across the services, research labs and warfare centers, but they aren't visible to all program managers and operational energy stakeholders.

- DODESA 2014 directs the creation of a central online repository of operational energy-related programs to enable inter-service collaboration and reduce redundant efforts.

Establishes a Warrior Power Executive Agent

The Army and Marine Corps are working to reduce the load for ground troops by developing easily portable power generation systems, like troop-portable solar panels and devices that generate electricity from a troop's movements.

- To align these efforts and reduce redundancy, DODESA 2014 directs the Secretary of Defense to establish a DOD Executive Agent to advance warrior power programs, which will reduce costs and speed the development of systems that reduce the number and weight of batteries troops must carry — increasing their combat power while lightening their loads.

Establishes Secure Energy Innovation Program

As DOD has worked to ensure continued operations in the event of a power outage, the difficulty of defining and measuring the true value of energy security has created challenges.

- DODESA 2014 establishes the Secure Energy Innovation Program and requires DOD to develop quantifiable metrics by which the costs of installation energy-assurance programs are measured against the potential costs and risks associated with a sustained lack of access to power. This allows military leaders to accurately balance costs and risks for energy programs — and allow for better strategic decision-making.

Allows DOD Access to Energy Savings Investment Fund (ESIF)

Energy managers and installation commanders currently lack incentives to invest in energy-savings technologies.

- DODESA 2014 would allow DOD to reinvest some of the savings realized from smart energy programs back into other energy-reduction programs, establishing a virtuous cycle by which energy savings would contribute to lower costs and future investments in additional energy-saving programs.

Authorizes Investments from Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure Fund

As with other federal agencies, DOD is required by Executive Order to acquire alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) for all new non-tactical acquisitions beginning in FY2015.

- DODESA 2014 authorizes DOD to invest in fueling infrastructure on or near DOD facilities to support the operation of these vehicles while reducing fuel costs and lowering the long-term expense of non-tactical vehicle fleets.