

**CLASS DEVIATION
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION
FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION (FAR) PART 50 - EXTRAORDINARY
CONTRACTUAL ACTIONS AND THE SAFETY ACT**

Findings

1. The objective of this class deviation is to implement the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's model deviation text to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 50 – Extraordinary Contractual Actions and the SAFETY Act.
2. On April 15, 2025, President Donald J. Trump issued Executive Order (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 Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council – i.e., the General Services Administration (GSA), the Department of Defense (DOD), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and federal buying agencies. The goal is refocusing 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 - Remove duplicative or outdated language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 implementing enterprise deregulation as follows: Phase one, FAR Council deviation guidance, and phase two, formal rulemaking. Phase one involves the FAR Council issuing guidance on a rolling basis with clear, plain language model deviation text organized by FAR part. The goal is streamlining the regulation by aligning it more closely to its statutory base. According to the memorandum, agencies should adopt this model deviation text within 30 days by issuing either individual or class deviations.

4. On May 2, 2025, the FAR Council issued further implementing guidance in a memorandum titled *Deviation Guidance to Support the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation*. Pursuant to the FAR Council's memorandum, “agencies that adopt the Council's RFO class deviation text without change, or require different text only to address statutory direction unique to the agency, do not need to coordinate with the Council.”

5. On August 1, 2025, the FAR Council issued model deviation text for FAR Part 50. Part 50 has been updated for clarity and practical use. Statutory requirements and presidential directives were retained include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- National Defense Contracts (50 U.S.C. § 1431 et seq.)
- Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies (6 U.S.C. § 441 et seq.)
- E.O. 10789, Contracting Authority in Connection with National-Defense Functions

The RFO Part 52 model deviation text retained all existing provisions and clauses; however, clause 52.250-5 *SAFETY Act-Equitable Adjustment* has been updated with plain language edits. Plain language edits were made throughout Part 50 to enhance readability and remove redundant, unclear, or non-essential language, decreasing the word count by more than 500 words. Requiring activity responsibilities related to SAFETY Act prequalification designation notices are being moved to a forthcoming FAR companion guide. The foregoing is not an exhaustive description of Part 50 retained or removed content.

Determination

In accordance with RFO 1.304 *Class deviations* and Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation (DEAR) 901.404 *Class deviations*, to fully comply with the requirement of E.O. 14275 and the revised FAR Parts 50 and 52, it is hereby determined that a class deviation is appropriate pursuant to OMB memorandum M-25-26 (Attachment 1) and the FAR Council memorandum (Attachment 2) issued on May 2, 2025, using the RFO model deviation text for Part 50 (Attachment 3). Specifically, DOE/NNSA will use the RFO model deviation text for Part 50 in lieu of 48 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 50, and the RFO model deviation text for the applicable sections of Part 52 in lieu of 48 CFR 52.250-1, 52.250-2, 52.250-3, 52.250-4, and 52.250-5. 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 on November 3, 2025, and will remain effective until cancelled or incorporated into the FAR.

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Attachments:

OMB Memorandum M-25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*
FAR Council Memorandum, *Deviation Guidance to Support the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation*
RFO Parts 50 and 52 Model Deviation Text