

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 91-1**

**24 OCTOBER 2019**



**NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND SYSTEMS  
SURETY**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

---

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Publications and forms are available on the e-Publishing website at [www.e-Publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-Publishing.af.mil) for downloading or ordering.

**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

---

OPR: AFSEC/SEW

Certified by: AF/SE  
(Maj Gen John T. Rauch)

Supersedes: AFPD 91-1, 30 November 2016

Pages: 4

---

This Directive implements Department of Defense Directive 3150.02, *Department of Defense Nuclear Weapons Surety Program*. It also establishes the Air Force Nuclear Surety Program. This Directive provides policies for managing nuclear weapons and weapon systems, and for protecting personnel, property, and the environment from hazardous exposure to radioactive materials. These policies apply to all Air Force personnel, including the Air National Guard of the United States (i.e., the Air National Guard in Title 10 status), the Air Force Reserve, nuclear certified equipment, and facilities involved with nuclear weapons, nuclear weapon systems, radioactive materials-related programs, and nuclear systems certified software. Refer recommended changes and questions about this policy directive to the Office of Primary Responsibility using the AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*. Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with Air Force Records Information Management System Records Disposition Schedule.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This document has been updated to reflect current references and modified to conform with recent changes to publication guidelines.

## 1. Policy.

1.1. The potential destructive power of nuclear weapons is well known, and all radioactive materials pose hazards if not properly controlled. Nuclear systems require special handling and other protective measures to prevent accidents, unauthorized use, or dangerous exposure.

1.2. Nuclear Surety, as defined in Department of Defense Directive 3150.02 and expanded in this document to include specified non weapons related nuclear hazards, is the centerpiece of the Air Force Nuclear Enterprise. Air Force leaders at all levels will provide emphasis to ensure focus remains on nuclear surety. Priority will be to strengthen nuclear surety compliance in accordance with guidance contained in Air Force publications and technical orders.

1.3. The Air Force will ensure nuclear weapons and weapon systems receive special attention and consideration because of their political and military importance, their destructive power, and the potential consequences of an accident, unauthorized act, or public perception of such.

1.4. The Air Force will ensure that personnel, the environment, and property are protected from undue risk of damage or harm by maintaining risks as low as reasonably possible consistent with mission requirements. This policy applies to nuclear weapons, nuclear weapon systems, nuclear energy power and propulsion systems, and the life cycle of all terrestrial reactors. Also included are radioactive sources intended for missile or space use. Some of these systems may also be subject to policies of Air Force Policy Directive 40-2, *Radioactive Materials (Non-Nuclear Weapons)*.

1.5. The Air Force will keep personnel exposures to intrinsic ionizing radiation from nuclear weapons as low as reasonably achievable (also known as ALARA) consistent with mission requirements.

1.6. The Air Force will establish and conduct programs to maintain surety of nuclear weapons and weapon systems in Air Force custody, from storage and assembling, testing, transporting, and delivering it on the target. Additionally, the Air Force will ensure the safety and security of terrestrial reactors the Air Force owns or operates, all nuclear energy power and propulsion systems, and radioactive sources intended for missile or space use.

## 2. Roles and Responsibilities.

2.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Installations, Environment and Energy (SAF/IE) will, in accordance with the Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive 1-18, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy)*, provide guidance, direction, and oversight of all matters pertaining to the formulation, review, and execution of policies, plans, programs, and budgets relative to environment, safety, occupational health, radiation safety, and radioactive materials management matters.

2.2. The Chief of Safety (AF/SE) will provide guidance, direction, and oversight of all matters pertaining to nuclear surety of all nuclear weapons and weapon systems in Air Force custody, from storage and assembling, testing, transporting, and delivering it on the target. AF/SE will, in accordance with Air Force Policy Directive 13-5, *Air Force Nuclear Mission*, coordinate with the Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10) to develop and establish Air Force Nuclear Surety standards, guidance, training,

planning, programs, and safety design certification of nuclear weapon systems and components. AF/SE will coordinate with the AF Surgeon General (AF/SG) to develop and issue radiological health matters guidance in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction 6055.08, *Occupational Ionizing Radiation Protection Program*.

2.3. The Surgeon General (AF/SG) will coordinate with AF/SE to develop and issue guidance on radiological health matters.

2.4. The Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF/AA) is the Restricted Data/Formerly Restricted Data Management Official and provides oversight for accountability, training, and provision of accurate guidance for handling, safeguarding, protecting, or releasing nuclear-related information pursuant to Department of Defense Instruction 5210.02, *Access to and Dissemination of Restricted Data and Formerly Restricted Data*.

2.5. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (SAF/AQ) provides guidance, direction, and oversight of all matters pertaining to acquisition life cycle activities on Air Force nuclear weapons delivery systems and specific non-nuclear component/subsystems as described in Department of Defense Directive 5000.01, *The Defense Acquisition System*, Department of Defense Instruction 5000.02, *Operation of the Defense Acquisition System*, Air Force Policy Directive 13-5, Air Force Instruction 63-101/20-101, *Integrated Life Cycle Management*, and Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive 1-10, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition)*.

Barbara Barrett  
Secretary of the Air Force

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

Department of Defense Directive 3150.02, *DoD Nuclear Weapons Surety Program*, 24 April 2013

Department of Defense Directive 5000.01, *The Defense Acquisition System*, 12 May 2003

Department of Defense Instruction 5000.02, *Operation of the Defense Acquisition System*, 7 January 2015

Department of Defense Instruction 5210.02, *Access to and Dissemination of Restricted Data and Formerly Restricted Data*, 3 June 2011

Department of Defense Instruction 6055.08, *Occupational Ionizing Radiation Protection Program*, 15 December 2009

Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive 1-10, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition)*, 2 September 2016

Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive 1-18, *Assistance Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy)*, 10 July 2014

Air Force Instruction 63-101/20-101, *Integrated Life Cycle Management*, 9 May 2017

Air Force Policy Directive 13-5, *Air Force Nuclear Mission*, 17 July 2018

Air Force Policy Directive 40-2, *Radioactive Materials (Non-Nuclear Weapons)*, 19 June 2019

Air Force Manual 33-363, *Management of Records*, 1 March 2008

42 USC Section 2011 et.seq., *Atomic Energy Act of 1954*

10 CFR Part 1045, *Nuclear Classification and Declassification*, 1 January 2011

***Adopted Form***

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*