

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

**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
POLICY DIRECTIVE 90-8**



**26 AUGUST 2025**

***Special Management***

**ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY AND  
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH  
MANAGEMENT AND RISK  
MANAGEMENT**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This Department of the Air Force Policy Directive (DAFPD) implements Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 4715.1E, *Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health*, Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI), 4715.17, *Environmental Management Systems*, DoDI 4715.18, *Emerging Contaminants (ECS) of Environmental Concern*, DoDI 6055.05, *Department of Defense Hazard Communication (HAZCOM) Program*, and *Department of Defense Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program*. This DAFPDP applies to all DAF civilian employees and uniformed members of the Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve (AFR), Air National Guard (ANG) and the United States Space Force (USSF), and those who are contractually bound to follow DAF issuances. This Department of the Air Force Policy Directive may not be supplemented. Ensure all records generated as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and are disposed in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the office of primary responsibility (OPR) using the DAF Forms 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route DAF Forms 847 from the field through the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Air Force for Operational Energy, Safety, and Occupational Health (SAF/IEN), 1665 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330-1665,

[SAF.OpEnergy@us.af.mil](mailto:SAF.OpEnergy@us.af.mil), on Department of the Air Force Forms 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This publication has been revised and should be completely reviewed. Changes include incorporating the United States Space Force (USSF), changing document designation from Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) to (DAFPD) and updating certification and approval authorities.

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**1. Overview.** This DAFPD defines and establishes policy for environmental, safety, and occupational health and risk management programs. It directs the environmental, safety, and occupational health management systems across the enterprise at all core management levels; see [Attachment 2](#). Additionally, the management process provides leaders with a method to ensure proper program oversight and to achieve goals and objectives related to all environmental, safety, and occupational health requirements.

**2. It is Department of the Air Force policy to:**

- 2.1. Ensure compliance with applicable federal, state, local, and Department of Defense environmental, safety, and occupational health statutes, policies, and regulations.
- 2.2. Provide adequate funding of programs critical to environmental, safety, and occupational health compliance.
- 2.3. Provide safe and healthy workplaces and conduct training and real-world operations in a manner that enhances mission effectiveness, preserves resources, prevents pollution, and minimizes environmental, safety, and occupational health risks to DAF personnel and the public both on and off the installation.
- 2.4. Prevent, mitigate, or control pollution in the air, water, and soil that may cause undue exposure to hazardous chemical, physical, and biological agents.
- 2.5. Integrate risk management into mission and activity planning processes, ensuring decisions are based upon risk assessments.
- 2.6. Promote safety, health, and environmental stewardship by creating a cultural mindset where all personnel are trained and motivated to manage risk by using the 5-step DAF Risk Management Process as defined in AFI 90-802, *Risk Management* during both on- and off-duty activities.
- 2.7. Use the 5-step DAF Risk Management Process when preparing, developing, testing, planning, organizing, training, equipping, sustaining, and employing forces to accomplish all DAF missions.
- 2.8. Ensure that environmental, safety, and occupational health programs focus on mission accomplishment, enable employee involvement, and foster a culture of continuous improvement.
- 2.9. Use and implement approved DAF management systems to support all environmental, safety, and occupational health programs, with a focus on automation of these management systems to share data streams.
- 2.10. Conduct cross-functional analysis to develop interdisciplinary hazard abatement actions.
- 2.11. Establish and implement communication procedures that achieve prompt employee reporting of work-related injuries, illnesses, incidents (including environmental), hazards, and risks. Encourage and provide a way for employees to make recommendations regarding possible hazard control and reporting procedures; and the identification and removal of barriers to reporting.
- 2.12. Utilize the risk assessment code process to support command decisions in prioritizing corrective actions to identified environmental, safety, and occupational health risks.

2.13. Establish Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health Councils (ESOHs) at Headquarters Air Force (HAF), Major Commands (MAJCOMs), Field Commands (FLDCOMs), Direct Reporting Units (DRUs), Field Operating Agencies (FOAs) and installations or equivalents to ensure a systematic, inter-disciplinary approach to achieve environmental, safety, and occupational health (ESOH) goals throughout the DAF.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities.

3.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Energy, Installations, and Environment (SAF/IE) will:

3.1.1. Serve as the DAF Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO) in accordance with 29 CFR 1960, *Basic Program Elements for Federal Employees Occupational Safety and Health Programs and Related Matters*.

3.1.2. Provide oversight for all disciplines of DAF environmental, safety, and occupational health program performance.

3.1.3. Assign policy and program domains, provide guidance and oversight related to the formulation and execution of plans, policies, programs, budgets, and DAF positions regarding federal and state legislation and regulations; see [Attachment 2](#).

3.1.4. Establish safety and occupational health programs designed to apply risk management principles, eliminate accidents, deaths, and occupational illnesses, pursuant to DoDI 6055.01, *DoD Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program*.

3.1.5. Implement and direct an environmental, safety, and occupational health program and management systems to maintain readiness and support the mission, pursuant to DoDD 4715.1E.

3.1.5.1. Identify enterprise-wide environmental, safety, and occupational health program shortfalls and advocate for resources through the AF corporate structure.

3.1.5.2. Report DAF environmental, safety, and occupational health program performance to the Secretary of the Air Force; Chief of Staff of the Air Force; Chief of Space Operations, United States Space Force; the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness; and the Assistant Secretary of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

3.2. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (SAF/AQ) and the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration (SAF/SQ) will:

3.2.1. Integrate environmental, safety, and occupational health considerations into acquisition policies, instructions, program reviews, and training, as appropriate.

3.2.2. Ensure acquisition program managers employ the system safety risk management standard practices identified in [paragraph 2.6](#) to identify, assess, and mitigate environmental, safety, and occupational health risks and to lower total ownership costs when developing new systems or modifying existing systems.

3.2.3. Include environmental, safety, and occupational health requirements as a mandatory element for all applicable acquisition program reviews. Each program review must address the following topics whenever possible: (1) status of identified system high and serious environmental, safety, and occupational health risks; (2) the Public Law 91-90, *National Environmental Policy Act* /Executive Order 12114 compliance schedule; and (3) system mishap trends and mitigation measures since the last program review.

3.2.4. Develop guidance for contracts requiring activities to seek local environmental, safety, and occupational health office assistance when developing performance-based requirements, source selection criteria, and contract incentives when appropriate.

3.2.5. SAF/AQ and SAF/SQ will collaborate, and coordinate, as necessary, to ensure programmatic and resource alignment.

3.3. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel, and Services (AF/A1) and the Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Personnel (SF/S1) will:

3.3.1. Develop and maintain guidance to ensure that environmental, safety, and occupational health requirements are integrated within professional training, military member evaluations, and the appropriate civilian employee performance plans to include environmental, safety, and occupational health related responsibilities, accountability, and performance.

3.3.2. Develop, implement, oversee, and maintain effective programs aimed at reducing Title 5, United States Code, Chapter 81, *Compensation for Work Injuries*, otherwise known as the *Federal Employee Compensation Act*, claim rates and costs.

3.3.3. AF/A1 and SF/S1 collaborate and coordinate with AF/A8 and SF/S8P, as necessary, to ensure programmatic and resource alignment.

3.4. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3) and the Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Operations, Cyber, and Nuclear (SF/COO) will:

3.4.1. Ensure the airspace and range natural infrastructure needed to meet current and future mission requirements are assessed and managed.

3.4.2. AF/A3 and SF/COO collaborate and coordinate with AF/A8 and SF/S8P, as necessary, to ensure programmatic and resource alignment.

3.5. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection (AF/A4) will:

3.5.1. Develop and maintain environmental program guidance within AF/A4 publications series.

3.5.2. Implement and maintain an environmental management system. Reference consensus standards as guides to assist in establishing an effective management system, (e.g., International Standards Organization (ISO) 14001, *Environmental Management Systems*) at all appropriate organizational levels.

3.5.3. Develop and maintain a list of appropriate facilities as defined by DoDI 4715.17 and ensure formal environmental management systems declaration and/or re-declaration guidance is established for all appropriate facilities. Installations may pursue third party environmental management systems registration if a benefit to the mission can be documented.

3.5.4. Ensure environmental subject matter experts review joint capabilities integration and development system documents to provide inputs on needed environmental or natural infrastructure capabilities.

3.5.5. Collaborate with SF/COO, as necessary, to ensure appropriate consideration for DAF provided support to the Space Force for Logistics and Force Protection, in accordance with existing Memorandum of Understanding/Memorandum of Agreement.

3.6. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Air Force Futures (AF/A5/7) and the Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Strategy, Plans, Programs, and Requirements (SF/S5/8) will:

3.6.1. Ensure operational capabilities and joint capabilities integration and development system documents address environmental, safety, and occupational health related tasks and requirements, where applicable. Establish procedures to ensure any significant environmental, safety, and occupational health issues are identified and, if necessary, elevated to the appropriate level for resolution.

3.6.2. Integrate environmental, safety, and occupational health requirements into the DAF strategic and fiscal guidance.

3.6.3. AF/A5/7 and SF/S5/8 collaborate, and coordinate, as necessary, to ensure programmatic and resource alignment.

3.7. The Surgeon General of the Air Force (AF/SG) will:

3.7.1. Develop and maintain occupational and environmental health program policy and guidance within AF/SG publications series pursuant to authorities established in HAFMD 1-48, *The Air Force Surgeon General*.

3.7.2. Implement and maintain an occupational health management system. Reference consensus standards as guides to assist in establishing an effective management system (e.g., American National Standards Institute (ANSI-Z10 *Occupational Health and Management Systems*)) at all appropriate organizational levels.

3.7.3. Provide SAF/IE an annual review of programming, budgeting, and performance of the occupational and environmental health program.

3.7.4. Ensure occupational health subject matter experts review joint capabilities integration and development system documents to provide inputs on reducing occupational health risks during weapon system capabilities development.

3.8. The DAF Chief of Safety (AF/SE) will:

3.8.1. Develop and maintain DAF safety program policy and guidance within AF/SE publications series pursuant to authorities established in HAFMD 1-46, *Chief of Safety*.

3.8.2. Implement and maintain a safety management system. Reference consensus standards as guides to assist in establishing an effective management system (e.g., American National Standards Institute (ANSI-Z10 *Occupational Health and Management Systems*)) at all appropriate organizational levels; see [Attachment 2](#).

3.8.3. Provide SAF/IE an annual review of programming, budgeting, and performance of DAF safety programs, to include the activities of the Air Force Safety Center.

3.8.4. Ensure safety subject matter experts review joint capabilities integration and development system documents to provide inputs on needed weapon system capabilities.

3.8.5. Serve as the HQ Air Force and Space Force designated authority and lead agent for the overall cross-functional integration and sustainment effort of risk management into the HQ Air Force and Space Force staff and all subordinate MAJCOMs, FLDCOMs, units, and agencies.

3.8.6. Ensure risk management curriculum integration is tailored to meet the unique mission of the school or program in consideration of the goals outlined in this policy directive.

3.9. The General Counsel of the DAF (SAF/GC):

3.9.1. Serves as the principal legal adviser to SAF/IE, in coordination with Air Force Operations and International Law Directorate, Environmental Law and Litigation Division (AF/JAOE), on policies associated with compliance with environmental, safety, and occupational health laws.

3.9.2. Serves as legal advisor on policies associated with environmental, safety, and occupational health compliance-related issues involving the Department of Defense Office of the General Counsel or the general counsel offices of other federal agencies.

3.10. The Director of Public Affairs (SAF/PA) will advise and assist SAF/IE in the development of communication options for the environmental, safety, and occupational health program to internal and external audiences.

3.11. MAJCOMs and FLDCOMs will conduct internal management system reviews of their installations' environmental, safety, and occupational health management systems and report on their effectiveness annually to HQ Air Force; see [Attachment 2](#).

3.12. Environmental, safety, and occupational health functionals will ensure a self-assessment process and integrate external management system reviews into the DAF inspection system continual evaluation process, including the Unit Effectiveness Inspection. In addition, the environmental, safety, and occupational health functional DAF Instructions will ensure corrective and preventive action procedures for findings identified under external regulatory inspections and AF Inspection System.

3.13. The Judge Advocate General (AF/JA):

3.13.1. Serves as principal legal adviser to SAF/IE, the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force (known as the Secretariat), the Air Staff, and the Office of the Chief of Space Operations (known as the Space Staff), and installations on all litigation matters involving environmental, safety, and occupational health.

3.13.2. Serves as legal adviser to the SAF/IE, Air Staff, and Space Staff, and installations on all environmental, safety, and occupational health laws, and the implementation of policy.

3.13.3. Provides functional oversight over environmental, safety, and occupational health law operations within JA legal offices across the DAF.

TROY E. MEINK  
Secretary of the Air Force

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

DoDD 4715.1E, *Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health (ESOH)*, 19 March 2005

DoDI 4715.17, *Environmental Management Systems*, 15 April 2009

DoDI 4715.18, *Emerging Chemicals (ECs) of Environmental Concern*, 9 February 2024

DoDI 6050.05, *DoD Hazard Communication (HAZCOM) Program*, 26 February 2019

DoDI 6055.01, *DoD Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program*, 21 April 2021

HAF MD 1-18, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment, and Energy)*, 10 July 2014

AFI 90-802, *Risk Management*, 1 April 2019

AFI 33-322, *Records Management, and Information Governance Program*, 28 July 2021

Public Law 91-90, *National Environmental Policy Act* 1 January 1970 Executive Order 12114, *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*, 4 January 1979

Title 5 USC Chapter 81, *Compensation for Work Injuries*, 7 September 1916

Title 29 CFR 1960, Subpart 1, *Basic Program Elements for Federal Employees Occupational Safety and Health Programs and Related Matter*, 26 November 2004

ISO 14001:2015, *Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for Use*, 15 September 2015

HAFMD 1-46, *Chief of Safety*, 9 November 2021

HAFMD 1-48, *The Air Force Surgeon General*, 21 February 2023

***Prescribed Forms***

None

***Adopted Forms***

DAF Forms 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**ANSI**—American National Standards Institute

**DAF**—Department of the Air Force

**DAFI**—Department of the Air Force Instruction

**DASHO**—Designated Agency Safety and Health Official

**DoDD**—Department of Defense Directive

**DoDI**—Department of Defense Instruction

**DRU**—Direct Reporting Unit

**FLDCOM**—Field Command

**FOA**—Field Operating Unit

**HAF**—Headquarters Department of the Air Force

**ISO**—International Organization for Standardization

**MAJCOM**—Major Command

**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility

**OSD**—Office of the Secretary of Defense

**USSF**—United States Space Force

### *Terms*

**Acquisition Program**—A directed, funded effort that is designed to provide a new, improved, or continuing material, weapons system, information system, or service capability in response to a validated operational need.

**Air Force Corporate Structure**—The Air Force Corporate Structure is the corporate review process for the Headquarters United States Air Force. Membership consists of civilian and military personnel assigned to the Air Staff or Secretariat, Core Function Lead representatives, and the Major Commands. The corporate structure provides the forum for considering and deciding Air Force resource allocation issues.

**Biological Agent**—A microorganism (or a toxin derived from it) that causes disease in personnel, plants, or animals or causes the deterioration of materiel.

**Core Mission Areas**—For the purposes of this Air Force Policy Directive and Air Force Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health (ESOH) programs, the term “Core Mission Areas” refers to the following organizations at every level of command (where they exist): Operations, Maintenance, Mission Support, Medical, and Acquisition.

**Environmental Health**—The discipline and program concerned with identifying and preventing illness and injury due to exposure to hazardous chemical, physical, and biological agents that may be encountered in the ambient environment – air, water, or soil.

**Environmental Management System**—A systemic approach to handling environmental issues within an organization. The Air Force Environmental Management System is based on the ISO 14001 standard. It provides a continual cycle of planning, implementing, reviewing, and improving the process and actions that an organization undertakes to identify and correct deficiencies and improve environmental (and overall) performance.

**Functional Offices**—This is the different environmental, safety, and occupational health offices that establishes policy and guidance.

**Hazard**—Any real or potential condition that can cause injury, illness, or death to personnel or damage to or loss of equipment or property, mission degradation.

**Information Management**—The administration, use, and transmission of information and the application of theories and techniques of information science to create, modify, or improve information handling systems.

**Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System**—A Joint concepts-centric process that supports the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Requirements Oversight Council in identifying, assessing, and prioritizing joint military capability needs and identifying integrated DOTMLPF solutions (materiel and non-materiel) to fill those needs. Additionally, JCIDS is a key element in the Chairman's effort to realize the initiatives directed in the Transformation Planning Guidance.

**Lead Agent**—Office or agency that has primary oversight of their Air Force-level program to include oversight and development of policies for Secretary of the Air Force approval and guidance, courseware, tools and/or techniques specific to their area of responsibility.

**National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order (NEPA/E.O.)12114 Compliance Schedule**—NEPA/E.O. 12114 *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*, require Federal agencies to consider the environmental impacts of proposed actions within acquisition programs, before they are executed. The Compliance Schedule includes the following information: proposed actions; anticipated start date for each proposed action; proponent responsible for preparing the NEPA/E.O. 12114 documentations; anticipated or actual type of NEPA/E.O. 12114 document; anticipated or actual start and completion dates for the final NEPA/E.O. 12114 document; specific signature approval authority.

**Natural Infrastructure**—All natural resources assets (air and airspace, water, and land) that the Air Force operates in or controls. These are a subset of the overall installation assets required to effectively conduct operations at installations or ranges to support operational capability over perpetual useful life. Natural infrastructure assets are distinct and tangible ecological or physical components of natural infrastructure (e.g., forests, grasslands, wetlands, water bodies, aquifers, and mineral resources) that can be managed as statutory assets or entitlements to access and use the products and capacities of the natural environment.

**Occupational Health**—The discipline and program concerned with prevention of illness resulting from work-related factors. It includes the prevention of illness during deployments not resulting from hostile acts to reduce disease and non-battle injury rates.

**Program Manager**—The designated individual (per DoDD 5000.01 *The Defense Acquisition System*) with responsibility for and authority to accomplish program objectives for development, production, and sustainment to meet the user's operational needs. The Program Manager for programs will be accountable for credible cost, schedule, performance, and materiel readiness.

**Risk Assessment**—The process of detecting/prioritizing hazards and their causes, and systematically assessing the associated risks to mission or activity success.

**Risk Assessment Code**—The assignment of a hazard severity and probability of occurrence indices to a potential hazard. The Risk Assessment Code provides the foundation for comparative analysis among identified hazardous conditions which may impact human health, public health, or the environment.

**Risk Management**—The systematic process of identifying hazards, assessing risk, analyzing risk control options and measures, making control decisions, implementing control decisions, accepting residual risks, and supervising/reviewing the activity for effectiveness.

**Safety Program**—Those risk management activities designed to, and organizational and cultural values dedicated to, preventing injuries and accidental loss of human and materiel resources.

**Source Selection**—Formal process employed in procurement of goods and services, consisting of a request for proposal, evaluation of the responses received, short-listing of the most suitable sources, and award of contract or order.

**System Safety**—The term used to describe the application of the risk management principles and practices to the Systems Engineering environmental, safety, and occupational health risk management process during the developing, sustaining, modifying, and disposing of a weapon system.

**Attachment 2**

**ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY, AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CORE ELEMENTS**

**Figure A2.1. Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Management System Core Elements.**

Management Level	Management System Requirements
SAF/IE and AF/SE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish DAF-wide ESOH policy and strategic direction</li> </ul>
Headquarters Air Force/Space Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy (Air Force Policy Directives)</li> <li>• Programs (DAFIs)</li> <li>• Requirements (laws, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), Air Force, etc.)</li> <li>• DAF-level objectives, targets, metrics</li> <li>• Communication (to lower levels)</li> <li>• Data collection/analysis</li> <li>• Checking (DAF sampling below)</li> <li>• Management review (Headquarters Air Force/Space Force)</li> </ul>
MAJCOM/FLDCOMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programs (MAJCOM Instructions)</li> <li>• Requirements (laws, OSD, DAF, etc.)</li> <li>• MAJCOM-level objectives, targets, metrics</li> <li>• Communication (to higher and lower levels)</li> <li>• Data collection/analysis</li> <li>• Checking (MAJCOM and sampling below)</li> <li>• Management review (MAJCOM Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Council)</li> </ul>
Installations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental management system will meet the performance elements of ISO 14001</li> <li>• Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems will meet the performance elements of ANSI Z10 or Occupational Safety and Health Administration Voluntary Protection</li> <li>• Program Management review (Installation Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health Council)</li> <li>• Communication (to higher and lower levels)</li> </ul>