

From: "Ward, James" <jimmy.ward@hq.doe.gov>

Date: February 1, 2019 at 9:33:13 AM EST

To: "Ward, James" <jimmy.ward@hq.doe.gov>

Subject: DOE Talent Policy Notification

The Department of Energy's world class National Laboratories have a unique ability to link leaders in America's scientific and academic communities with the best minds around the world to foster innovation and better understand the world around us. Unfortunately, some foreign government-sponsored talent recruitment programs have taken advantage of America's openness to collaboration to infiltrate our labs, steal our technology and use our own resources against us. We can no longer allow these programs to operate within our scientific community at the expense of our own national interest. To limit further exploitation of the National Lab system and prevent taxpayer dollars from benefiting foreign competitors, going forward, DOE federal and contractor personnel, including laboratory employees, will be subject to limitations, including prohibitions on their ability to participate in talent recruitment programs sponsored by countries determined sensitive by DOE while maintaining employment within the DOE system.

NOTIFICATION:

- DOE is announcing the policy today and will implement it in an orderly fashion pursuant to DOE internal processes.
- This policy will address talent recruitment programs sponsored by certain countries seeking scientific and technological exploitation of our expertise.
- This policy seeks to cease the influence of foreign talent recruitment programs in the U.S. scientific community, specifically the DOE laboratory complex. This action is being taken to protect U.S. national security interests and scientific integrity.
- DOE values and fully intends to continue international collaboration efforts. We will maintain our engagement in shared research opportunities and welcome new opportunities for cooperation with those countries that follow the scientific principles of transparency and reciprocity.
- It mandates that DOE federal and contractor personnel **fully disclose and, as necessary, terminate** affiliations with foreign government-supported talent recruitment programs.

MEDIA REPORTS:

- Examples and reports of foreign abuse in our national laboratory system can be found [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

Please contact us for a briefing request.

Jimmy Ward
Legislative Affairs Advisor
U.S. Department of Energy