



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

February 3, 2021

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE FEDERAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ADVISORY BOARD**

**FROM**

**Karin**  
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Department of Energy, Office of the Chief Financial Officer

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Date: 2021.02.02 18:03:12  
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**Thomas P. Griffin**  
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Department of Energy, Office of the Chief Financial Officer

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**SUBJECT**

Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB): *Annual Report Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2020 and Three-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2021 - 2023*

The Department of Energy (DOE) appreciates the opportunity to comment on FASAB's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020 and three-year plan. DOE has no specific comments regarding the projects outlined in the plan. DOE plans to continue its working relationship with FASAB through active participation on the leases implementation workforce, and accounting and reporting of government land project. DOE will also participate in FASAB's project on intangible assets.

In addition to the projects outlined in FASAB's three-year plan, DOE is reviewing two matters that may lead to requests for changes to FASAB guidance, exemptions from FASAB standards, or further clarifications of those standards.

- **Accounting for Environmental Liabilities.** DOE plans to propose changes to or clarifications of FASAB's guidance regarding environmental liabilities, including Technical Release 2, *Determining Probably and Reasonably Estimable for Environmental Liabilities in the Federal Government*. Specifically, DOE plans to propose:
  - Clarifications regarding the use of contingencies in estimates of environmental liabilities, and
  - Clarifications on time period for which cleanup liabilities are deemed to be reasonably estimable.
- **Accounting for Nuclear Materials and National Security Assets.** DOE is currently reviewing accounting requirements for Nuclear Materials and other national security assets to identify potential changes that could reduce the level of effort when accounting for these assets. In the future, DOE may approach FASAB staff to discuss potential changes to or exemptions from current standards to improve efficiency.

Please contact Tynesha Douglass at (202) 586-6144 with any questions regarding this response.