

Alfredo Valdez Named DOE Director of Procurement

RICHLAND, Wash., March 31, 1995 -- Alfredo Valdez has been named Director of Procurement at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Richland Operations Office, becoming the first Hispanic to head an administrative division at the agency that owns the Hanford Site in southeastern Washington.

Valdez has more than 23 years of experience in the field of procurement in both the public and private sectors. Valdez was named to the post from a pool of more than 70 well-qualified applicants.

"I feel very fortunate to have been selected for this position. I will have the unique opportunity to apply Secretary O'Leary's contract reform initiatives at Hanford. Those initiatives also match my personal conviction of greater performance and productivity by government contractors to provide the taxpayers the maximum value for their money," said Valdez.

Jim Bauer, DOE's Director of Human Resources and Administration, said, "Al is an excellent addition to our office. He has a broad background in procurement with several federal agencies and with a DOE contractor firm. His experience as a contracting officer with responsibility for managing several complex contracts makes him well suited for his new post."

Valdez, a native of Albuquerque, graduated from the University of Albuquerque with a bachelor of science degree in accounting with a minor in economics in 1971. He also did graduate work in accounting at the University of Albuquerque.

He began his career as an accountant with the Veterans Administration Hospital in New York in 1971. The following year Valdez accepted a position as a contracting officer with the U.S. Air Force System Command in Albuquerque. In 1978, he went to work for the DOE Los Alamos National Laboratory. He served as the chairman of several source selection boards and was responsible for overseeing the laboratory's contracting system as a contracting officer. In 1979, Valdez accepted a position with the DOE Albuquerque Operations Office as a contracting officer responsible for the contractor procurement system review program.

Valdez was appointed as the contracting officer of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Office at the DOE-Headquarters Office in 1987. He orchestrated the major procurement activities of that office until he transferred to the Department of the Navy in 1988. While with the Navy, he directed the procurement management review program.

Valdez accepted a private sector position with Jacobs Engineering in 1989. He was responsible for managing contracts at the firm's Albuquerque office and was later promoted as the Western Regional Contracts Manager. He also served as the Director of Projects for the Fernald Project in Cincinnati. He remained with the firm until he resumed his government career with DOE in 1995.

"I hope to use my public and private sector experience to promote greater teamwork between DOE and our contractors. By working together we can eliminate the red tape that impedes efficiency," Valdez added.

###

For more information contact:

Keith V. Taylor (509) 376-2282

Department of Energy Office of External Affairs

RL-95-031