



ENERGY CONNECTION



Volume 1, Issue 16

August 9, 2021



A MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY COMMANDER Mr. Dave Kless

It's a great honor to be part of the DLA Energy team. I feel very lucky to have the opportunity to work with such a great group of professionals and I'm excited to partner with you.

My role as the Deputy Commander is to ensure we succeed as a team and have an outstanding reputation both inside DLA as well as outside the Agency.

As we interact and get to know one another, I look forward to hearing your thoughts, opinions, and concerns. I believe in two-way communication, appreciate candor and am open to new ideas to solve problems. While all ideas may not be part of the final solution, I guarantee they will all help shape that solution. I maintain an open-door policy, and I hope that you will take the opportunity when necessary to stop by and talk.

I tend to approach each job with the intention to work hard and play hard. I use the same approach for this job...I think it benefits us personally and professionally and helps us achieve work life balance – which to be honest, is something I continue to work on.

As for my background, I am a Naval Academy graduate who served as a Navy Supply Corps officer for 24 years, retiring in July 2011. I grew up in Buffalo and I am an avid Bills and Sabres fan, which is sometimes not easy. My wife Teresa and I have two wonderful children; Josh (24) is an air traffic controller, and Katie (17). My favorite leisure activity is camping in our RV. I also enjoy watching most sports, and whenever given the opportunity, I enjoy playing a round of golf or cycling.

SAFER FEDERALWORKFORCE

President Biden's announcement that federal employees will need to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or subject to regular testing and certain restrictions in the workplace was released July 29. The new guidance is outlined on the [Safer Federal Workplace website](#).

DLA is in a holding pattern and awaiting guidance from the Department of Defense and the Office of Personnel Management.

In the interim, DLA Energy leadership team is continuing to monitor the situation and study the ways to ensure a safe and methodical return of the workforce to headquarters based on the latest J1 information and acknowledging the new guidance from the White House to the Executive Branch agencies.



The surest way to protect yourself and your loved ones is to GET VACCINATED

DLA employees are authorized up to four hours of administrative leave per COVID-19 vaccination during work hours, and additional time may be granted for recovery as needed. Employees can voluntarily [self-report their vaccination status using the DLA CAC-protected survey platform](#).

Updated Masking Guidelines

[Updated DoD guidance](#) requires masks for all personnel regardless of vaccination status in "areas of substantial or high community transmission," based on the [CDC COVID data tracker](#).

More information can be read in the Leadership Messages on the [DLA Coronavirus Information webpage](#).



HQC/NCR COVID-19 Reconstitution Status: Phase 0 - HPCON B

Workforce Recruitment Program Awards Ceremony

The annual Workforce Recruitment Program Awards Ceremony took place on July 29. The event was virtual and broadcasted on the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service. [Use this link to watch the event.](#)



Congratulations and thank you to DLA Energy Finance Mr. **John Slone** who was the guest speaker! [Learn more about the event and the DLA award winners in this DLA News Story.](#)

VOLUNTEER!!

DLA EEO is seeking volunteers to interview WRP candidates for 14-week internships. Deadline to register is Aug. 27. [Learn more about the opportunity in this DLA Today Announcement.](#)

NEW TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!

Hiring People with Disabilities and Disabled Veteran virtual instructor-led training will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 10, from 1-2 p.m. ET. If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact [DLA Energy Acting EEO Director Adrian Morrison.](#)

IT ALERT: Internet Browser Authentication

Having a hard time loading .com websites on your government computer? Here's why...

J6 is implementing DISA's Cloud-Based Internet Isolation (CBII) to protect users from potential phishing attempts/ malicious .com Internet links.

Starting Aug. 10, 2021, all employees will be using CBII.

To open a .com site, you must use your **Authentication** certificate.

[More information and help in this Announcement.](#)



!!! HQC Mask Update !!!

As of Aug. 3, a mask is required for all personnel inside the McNamara Headquarters Complex regardless of vaccination status.



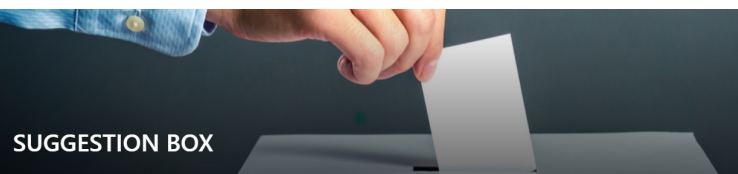
Fairfax County has moved to a "substantial" level of community transmission of COVID-19 per [CDC](#). In accordance with [DoD guidance](#), masks must be worn in areas of high or substantial transmission.

Masks must fully cover the nose and mouth and [comply with CDC guidelines](#). More information is available on the [DLA Coronavirus webpage](#).



Welcome to our new Director of Customer Operations, Air Force **Colonel Eric Haler**! Col Haler is a high-speed, combat-proven leader and a seasoned logistician. He officially assumed the DCO role on Monday, Aug. 2.

Thank you to **Colonel Keith Mecham**, who has stepped into the role over the past 5 months. We are glad Col Mecham will still be with us as he transitions back to his role in DCO as an [Individual Mobilization Augmentee](#).



DLA Energy Virtual Suggestion Box, Ver 2.0

An enhanced version of the DLA Energy Virtual Suggestion Box is online. The expanded VSB allows inputs to be directed to leaders of subordinate Energy echelons (regions, directorates, etc.). The site looks and performs almost exactly as it did before, but offers a drop down menu to choose where to direct your concerns or questions.

To get to the VSB, choose any of these options:

1. Choose the featured link on [DLA Today – Energy](#).
2. Click the red suggestion box on [DLA Energy's eWorkplace homepage](#) OR
3. [Use the direct link](#)

(NOTE: Right click on any of these options to copy the link and paste it into your browser window.)