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Paul Longsworth Sworn in as NNSA Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham administered the oath of office to Paul M. Longsworth today to be the deputy administrator for defense nuclear nonproliferation of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).

Longsworth previously served as the senior policy advisory for national security and the former Soviet Union for Abraham. The President nominated him to be deputy administrator on April 25, and he was confirmed by the Senate on July 21.

After the ceremony, Abraham said, "Paul Longsworth has done an excellent job as a senior advisory in the critical areas of national security and nonproliferation. He brings leadership and experience to a vital position that has many nonproliferation initiatives worldwide which are important to the security of our nation."

Longsworth has over seventeen years of experience in national security, nuclear, and environmental issues. He has served in the Executive and Legislative branches of the federal government and in the private sector.

Longsworth said his main concerns will be to continue promoting the administration's nonproliferation priorities, which include preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction through securing and reducing nuclear materials worldwide, and improving transborder security to keep dangerous weapons and materials from reaching the hands of our adversaries or ending up on U.S. soil.

"I am honored to be nominated for this position by President Bush. I am also honored to be given the chance to work with the men and women of the NNSA's nonproliferation program. I can think of no organization that is better prepared to address the threats posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction than the Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation," Longsworth said.

Prior to coming to the Department of Energy (DOE), Longsworth served as a professional staff member on the Senate Armed Services Committee, where he was responsible for defense nuclear matters, including: nuclear weapons, radioactive cleanup, fissile materials disposition, and naval nuclear propulsion programs. He has also worked for the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and the DOE Office of Science and Technology.

NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency that carries out the national security responsibilities of the Department of Energy. It maintains the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, promotes international nuclear non-proliferation, and provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion.

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