



# NEWS

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## **Statement by Acting Administrator Linton Brooks on Polygraph Study**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The following is a statement by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) **Acting Administrator Linton Brooks** on the polygraph study released today.

“The National Research Council (NRC) has produced a detailed analysis of available data on a very complex subject, the use of the polygraph in protecting national security information. The Department of Energy will carefully review their report. As required by law, NNSA and the Department will consider the findings of the study in developing a new polygraph program over the next several months.

“The polygraph is one of many tools we use to protect some of the nation’s most sensitive secrets. It is used not on a stand-alone basis but as part of a larger fabric of investigative and analytical reviews to help security personnel determine who should have access to classified information. The NRC study will help policy makers assess the role of the polygraph in our security program.

“In presenting their assessment the NRC committee identified the fundamental conflict that we in the national security community must address: how to administer a program that is maximally effective in weeding out security risks while minimizing damage to the vast majority of loyal, patriotic employees. There is no easy answer, but it is a question that we will examine very seriously in the coming months.”

The NNSA, a semi-autonomous agency of the U.S. Department of Energy, enhances U.S. national security through the military application of nuclear energy, maintains the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, promotes international nuclear non-proliferation and safety, reduces global danger from weapons of mass destruction, provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion, and oversees national laboratories to maintain U.S. leadership in science and technology.

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