



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa.resource@nrc.gov Site: www.nrc.gov

Blog: <http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov>

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OPENING REMARKS OF NRC CHAIRMAN GREGORY B. JACZKO AT THE 45 DAY REVIEW OF THE JAPAN TASK FORCE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

Good morning. The Commission meets today to discuss the staff's 45-day review of the Japan Task Force's safety recommendations. The Steering Committee, which we established to conduct this review, has clearly confirmed that the Task Force did an outstanding job. The Steering Committee has endorsed moving forward with virtually all of the Task Force's recommendations. In addition, they also have recommended several new measures beyond the steps outlined by the Task Force, which touch on important issues such as spent fuel storage and emergency planning.

I want to thank the Steering Committee for their excellent work, as well as the many other NRC staff who assisted their efforts. I also want to thank the stakeholders who participated in this process. The Steering Committee benefited from the diverse perspectives they brought to the table, and the Commission will hear from many of them today. Because of the staff's hard work and the tremendous participation of our stakeholders, the Commission is now in the position to provide clear and definitive guidance on the Task Force's recommendations. It is important that we move forward expeditiously because we still have a great deal of work ahead of us. We not only need to implement the recommendations that we decide to adopt, but we also have to conduct the longer-term review, which could lead to additional recommendations based on new information and insights.

During today's meeting, we will hear from the staff and a broad cross-section of stakeholders, including: other federal agencies, state representatives, industry leaders, and public interest groups committed to nuclear safety and environmental protection. Our first panel will consist of stakeholders who will share their perspectives on the recommendations related to preventing and mitigating an accident. The second panel will also consist of stakeholders, who will address the recommendations related to emergency planning. In the third and final panel, the staff will provide an overview of the additional information that the Commission requested concerning the recommendations.

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