



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC CHAIRMAN GREGORY B. JACZKO'S PREPARED REMARKS AT TODAY'S GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

Good morning. This is an exciting day for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and one we have been anticipating for nearly four years. Three White Flint North – the new building that will rise behind us at this location – will be the culmination of hundreds of hours of planning by LCOR, USAA Real Estate, the GSA, and the NRC. And it would not have been possible without the support of Senator Carper, Senator Voinovich and the other members of the Environment and Public Works Committee and the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

The new building, across the street from our White Flint buildings One and Two, will complete our White Flint North campus. The addition of this third major building will once again allow all of our headquarters employees to work in close proximity, in one central location. This, of course, will be more efficient than having our employees scattered among several buildings in Rockville and Bethesda. But, more importantly, it will support our critical mission for protection of public health, safety and the environment.

One of the many lessons learned from the Three Mile Island accident in 1979, was the importance of having staff work closely together to facilitate coordination and effective, timely communications. The consolidation of NRC headquarters staff has been strongly recommended over many years, by House and Senate Committees, special commissions, the Office of Management and Budget and the Government Accountability Office. It has been a goal for the NRC for more than 35 years. I am honored to be Chairman as we see this project come to fruition after our recent dramatic expansion. This is good news for the NRC, and it is good news for the American people.

Thank you all for joining us today, as we take the first step to make this dream a reality.

Now I'd like to introduce Senator Thomas Carper, who is serving his second term representing the state of Delaware. Senator Carper is the Chairman of the Clean Air and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee of the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee. He also serves on the Finance Committee and the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. We are pleased to have you here today, Senator Carper.

Thank you Senator Carper.

Next, I'd like to introduce Senator George Voinovich. Senator Voinovich is serving his second term representing the state of Ohio. He serves on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and its Clean Air and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee, the Appropriations Committee, and the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. We are proud to have you with us today, Senator Voinovich.

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