

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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PUBLIC MEETING ON OVERSIGHT

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TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 16, 2003

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The meeting was held at 9:00 a.m., in the DNFSB Hearing Room, 625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 300, Washington, D.C., John T. Conway, Chairman, presiding.

PRESENT:

- JOHN T. CONWAY, Chairman
- A.J. EGGENBERGER, Vice Chairman
- JOHN E. MANSFIELD, Board Member
- R. BRUCE MATTHEWS, Board Member

STAFF PRESENT:

- RICHARD A. AZZARO, General Counsel
- J. KENT FORTENBERRY, Technical Director
- KENNETH M. PUSATERI, General Manager

ALSO PRESENT:

- MICHAEL R. ANASTASIO, Director, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- RALPH E. ERICKSON, Manager, Los Alamos Site Office
- GEORGE PETER NANOS, Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory
- CAMILLE C. YUAN-SOO HOO, Manager, Livermore Site Office

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J. KENT FORTENBERRY

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Chairman Conway

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(8:57 a.m.)

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3 CHAIRMAN CONWAY: Good morning, ladies and
4 gentlemen.

5 Today's meeting and hearing were publicly
6 noticed in the Federal Register on November 28th. The
7 meeting and hearing are held open to the public in
8 accordance with the provisions of the Government in
9 the Sunshine Act.

10 Today's meeting is an extension of the
11 hearings held on September 10, October 21 and 23, and
12 December 3 and 4. This meeting today constitutes the
13 sixth in a series during which the Board is examining
14 the Department of Energy's [DOE] current and proposed
15 models of safety oversight and management of the
16 contracts and contractors it relies upon to safely
17 accomplish the mission assigned to DOE under the
18 Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

19 The Board will focus on DOE's proposed new
20 initiatives and what impact, if any, they may have
21 upon assuring adequate protection of the health and
22 safety of the public and the workers at DOE's defense
23 nuclear facilities.

24 I welcome today's presenters, members of
25 the public, members of the press in our audience, and

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1 those viewing our proceedings electronically.

2 In accordance with the Board's practice,
3 and as stated in the Federal Register, we will welcome
4 comments from interested members of the public at the
5 completion of the -- at the conclusion of today's
6 testimony.

7 This concludes my opening remarks.

8 Dr. Eggenberger?

9 VICE CHAIRMAN EGGENBERGER: Mr. Chairman,
10 I really don't have any remarks, except I would like
11 to say that I'm very interested in hearing the
12 testimony today, because in my view, the Laboratories
13 are a most important part of the weapons complex, and
14 appropriate oversight of the Laboratories by the
15 Department is very important.

16 Thank you, sir.

17 CHAIRMAN CONWAY: Thank you.

18 Dr. Mansfield?

19 DR. MANSFIELD: No, nothing.

20 CHAIRMAN CONWAY: All right. Dr. Bruce
21 Matthews?

22 DR. MATTHEWS: No comments.

23 CHAIRMAN CONWAY: Very good. And with
24 that, we are pleased now to welcome Admiral Pete Nanos
25 and Ralph Erickson. Ralph Erickson is the Director of

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