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CHARLES A. CASTO NAMED ADMINISTRATOR OF NRC'S REGION III OFFICE



The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has named Charles A. Casto as the new administrator of its Region III office in Lisle, Ill. Casto officially assumed his new position on May 21, 2012.

As regional administrator, Casto will oversee a staff of more than 300 employees. Region III is responsible for regulating 16 commercial nuclear power plants and over 1,200 materials licensees in seven Midwestern states.

"Charles Casto is exceptionally well qualified to lead Region III in carrying out our mission of protecting people and the environment," said Bill Borchardt, the NRC's executive director for operations. "He has held positions of increasing responsibility and continues to successfully meet the challenges before him. Most recently, he led the NRC's team of experts dispatched to Japan in response to the emergency at the Fukushima Dai-ichi site. He brings this unique experience and insight to Region III to continue our unwavering commitment to safety. "

Casto joined the NRC in 1985 as an Operator Licensing Examiner in Region II. He held a number of progressively more responsible leadership positions in Region II from 1997 to 2008.

He was appointed as Deputy Regional Administrator in Region IV in 2008. In 2010, he returned to Region II in the position of Deputy Regional Administrator for Construction, the program responsible for the oversight of new nuclear plant construction activities.

Casto was the lead NRC executive providing support to the Japanese government and U.S. Ambassador following the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan affecting several reactors at the Fukushima Dai-ichi site between March, 2011 and February, 2012.

Prior to joining the NRC, Mr. Casto worked in the nuclear industry as an operator and operations instructor at Browns Ferry in 1979 and as an NRC certified Senior Reactor Operator Instructor at Brunswick in 1984.

He received a Bachelor's degree from the State University of New York, a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Georgia, and is a doctoral student in business at Kennesaw State College.

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