NRC Names John Monninger as New Region IV Administrator

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has announced the appointment of John Monninger as the Region IV Administrator in Arlington, Texas. He has been serving as Deputy Regional Administrator since September 2020.

Monninger succeeds Scott Morris, who became Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs in October 2022.

The appointment becomes effective July 30, when Robert Lewis, who has been serving as Acting Regional Administrator, returns to his position as Deputy Director in the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards at NRC Headquarters.

“John’s experience in a variety of roles across the agency will serve him well as Region IV Administrator,” said NRC Executive Director for Operations Dan Dorman. “John has shown an unparalleled commitment to technical and managerial excellence in a wide variety of assignments in our regional offices as well as at NRC headquarters during his 34 years of service.”

NRC’s Region IV office is responsible for the inspection and safety assessment of 18 nuclear reactors at 12 sites. Region IV covers 22 states, including Alaska and Hawaii, overseeing the inspection and licensing of medical, academic, and industrial users of radioactive materials. Seventeen of those states are Agreement states, which implement the NRC’s materials inspection and licensing programs.

Monninger joined the NRC in 1989 as a reactor engineer in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. From 1989 to 2001, he held progressively more responsible positions, including technical assistant to the Associate Director for Inspection and Programs, technical assistant to the Chairman, and chief of the Licensing Section in the Spent Fuel Project Office.

Later, Monninger served in several senior management positions, including deputy director of the Division of Risk Assessment and Special Projects; deputy director of the Division of Safety Systems and Risk Assessment; associate director for the Japan Lessons-Learned Project Directorate; deputy director of the Division of Operating Reactor Licensing; director of the Division of Safety Systems and Risk Assessment; director of the Division of Advanced
Reactors; and director of the Division of Advanced Reactors and Non-Power Production and Utilization Facilities.

Monninger holds a bachelor’s degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Maryland. He is a 2006 graduate of the NRC’s Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program.