

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, DC 20555  
Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234  
Internet:opa@nrc.gov

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MERSCHOFF, DYER NAMED TO TOP POSTS IN NRC REGION IV

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has named Ellis W. Merschoff as the new Regional Administrator and James E. Dyer as new Deputy Regional Administrator of NRC Region IV, which has offices in Arlington, Texas.

Mr. Merschoff is currently director of the Division of Reactor Projects in the Region II office in Atlanta, while Mr. Dyer is director of the Region IV Division of Reactor Projects. They will succeed L. Joseph Callan and Samuel J. Collins, whose appointments to positions in NRC headquarters were recently announced. Mr. Callan will be the new NRC Executive Director for Operations, and Mr. Collins will be the new Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Mr. Merschoff's appointment will become effective in May. Until that time, Mr. Dyer will serve as acting Region IV Regional Administrator, beginning in mid-February, when Mr. Callan and Mr. Collins assume their new duties.

A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Mr. Merschoff also holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After his graduation from the academy, he served as a naval officer on a nuclear-powered guided missile cruiser and a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

Mr. Merschoff joined NRC in 1980 as a nuclear engineer in the headquarters Office of Standards Development. Later, he held progressively more responsible positions in the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. He also headed the Vendor Inspection Branch in NRC headquarters.

Transferring to the Atlanta regional office in 1987, he was deputy director of the Division of Reactor Safety for three years before being named to his present position in 1990. Mr. Merschoff led a special NRC assessment team which recently examined conditions at the Maine Yankee plant. Earlier, he led an NRC diagnostic evaluation at the Cooper Nuclear Station in

Nebraska.

Mr. Dyer is a graduate of the University of California at Davis, where he earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry. After his graduation he served as an officer on a Navy nuclear-powered submarine. Later, he earned a master's degree in business administration from Frostburg (Md.) State University and an associate of arts degree in accounting from Montgomery College.

He joined NRC in 1983, working first as an inspector and later as a team leader in the headquarters Office of Inspection and Enforcement. Subsequent assignments were as a section chief in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and as chief of the regional operations staff in the Office of the Executive Director for Operations.

Beginning in 1990, Mr. Dyer served in three managerial positions in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. In June 1994, he was assigned to Region IV as deputy director of the Division of Reactor Projects, and became the division director in July 1995.

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