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BEACH NAMED NRC REGION III ADMINISTRATOR

A. Bill Beach has been selected to be the new Administrator of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Region III, which has offices in Lisle, Illinois. Mr. Beach has been Deputy Regional Administrator since July of last year.

He will succeed Hubert J. Miller, whose appointment as the new Administrator of NRC Region I in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, was recently announced. Both Mr. Beach and Mr. Miller's new assignments are effective August 4. A new Region III Deputy Administrator will be named later.

A native of Virginia, Mr. Beach is a graduate of Virginia Tech, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering and architecture. After graduation, he worked for four years as a mechanical engineer on nuclear submarine projects at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

He joined NRC in 1978, first as a mechanical engineer on the Region IV staff in Arlington, Texas. Later, he was senior resident inspector at the River Bend plant in Louisiana. In 1981, he was assigned to the NRC headquarters Office of Inspection and Enforcement, where he conducted performance appraisal and construction appraisal team inspections. He also served as deputy and director of the NRC enforcement staff, and briefly headed the quality assurance branch in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

In 1987, Mr. Beach was assigned to Region IV as a senior manager at the agency's Region IV office in Arlington, Texas. At the time of his appointment to Region III last year, he was director of the Region IV Division of Reactor Projects. Mr. Beach in 1993 received the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award, second highest given senior Federal executives. In 1994, he directed an NRC diagnostic examination team which performed a comprehensive review of management effectiveness and regulatory compliance at the Quad Cities nuclear power plant in Illinois.

Region III is comprised of eight midwestern states and includes 27 commercial nuclear power plants.

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