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WILLIAM J. RAYMOND SELECTED AS FIRST RECIPIENT OF NRC EDWARD MCGAFFIGAN JR. PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD



The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has selected William J. Raymond, senior resident inspector at the Seabrook Nuclear Power Station, as the first recipient of the prestigious Edward McGaffigan Jr. Public Service Award. The Commission established the award to honor the memory of Commissioner McGaffigan, who dedicated his career to public service, and to recognize others who demonstrate similar commitment.

“Bill Raymond’s contributions to nuclear safety demonstrate the highest levels of commitment to public service, integrity, professional dedication and moral courage,” said NRC Chairman Dale Klein. “He truly reflects the spirit of public service Ed McGaffigan represented. His work as a mentor of new inspectors has helped train a new generation of NRC employees committed to protecting people and the environment.”

Recommended to be the first recipient of the prestigious Commission-level award by his peers and supervisors, Raymond was selected by the Commission after a rigorous review of a number of highly talented nominees with deep commitment to public service.

Raymond began his NRC career in 1975 as a reactor engineer in the NRC’s Region I Office in King of Prussia, Pa. He was a member of the NRC’s Onsite Support Group following the accident at Three Mile Island in 1979. He has been an inspector at half a dozen nuclear plants, mostly in the New England area, including Vermont Yankee in Vernon, Vt., and Indian Point 2 in Buchanan, N.Y. He also worked in the regional office as a senior reactor engineer in the Division of Reactor Safety. In 1985 and in 2002, Raymond was awarded the NRC Meritorious Service Award for his performance as a resident inspector. He has been an exceptional role model in training new inspectors to be top-notch regulators.

Prior to joining the NRC, Raymond worked for Babcock and Wilcox Company as a lead startup engineer at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Plant near Harrisburg, Pa., and as a startup engineer at the Oconee Nuclear Plant near Seneca, S.C. He also worked as a reactor operator/research associate at Virginia Tech. He earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from

Fairfield University (Fairfield, Conn.), and a master's in nuclear science and engineering from Virginia Tech. He also attended the graduate liberal studies program at Wesleyan College in Conn.

The Commission will present the award to Raymond at the annual Awards Ceremony to be held April 9.

McGaffigan – the longest-serving NRC Commissioner – was on the Commission for 11 years when he died Sept. 2, 2007.

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