

No: 14-039

June 30, 2014

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NRC Names William (Bill) Dean Director of Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Allison M. Macfarlane announced Monday, on behalf of the Commission, the selection of William (Bill) Dean as director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR). In his new position, Dean will be responsible for the regulatory oversight of the nation's 100 operating commercial nuclear power reactors as well as research and test reactors. He replaces Eric J. Leeds, who retires today. Leeds served as director of NRR since May 2008.



“Bill Dean has a long record of accomplishment during his career with the NRC, and he is ably qualified to oversee our important work protecting public health and the environment by ensuring the nation’s nuclear power plants operate safely,” Macfarlane said. “Eric Leeds has been an outstanding public servant. His leadership on the agency’s response to Fukushima and other important issues has helped improve the safety of the U.S. reactor fleet.”

Dean has served as the NRC’s regional administrator in the Region I office in King of Prussia, Pa., since October 2010. He oversees regulation of commercial nuclear power plants in the Mid-Atlantic and New England states, as well as radioactive materials throughout the eastern United States. He began his NRC career in Region II as an operator licensing examiner in 1985, after serving eight years as an officer in the U.S. Navy’s Nuclear Power Program. He has held a number of positions of increasing responsibility within the NRC, including assistant for operations in the Office of the Executive Director for Operations, several management positions in NRR, and deputy director of the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response.

He received the NRC’s Meritorious Service Award in 2001 and a Presidential Rank Award in 2003.

Daniel H. Dorman, currently NRR’s deputy director for engineering and corporate support, will serve as acting director until Dean assumes his new duties at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Md., in the next few months.