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2 **USNRC**

3 **REGULATORY INFORMATION CONFERENCE**

4 **22ND ANNUAL MEETING**

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8 **HELD: BETHESDA NORTH MARRIOTT HOTEL**

9 **CONFERENCE CENTER**

10 **5701 MARINELLI ROAD**

11 **NORTH BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20852**

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14 **Official Transcript of the Plenary Session**

15 **Tuesday, March 9, 2010**

16 **Speech of R. William Borchardt**

17 **Executive Director of Operations of NRC**

18 **Commencing at 9:30 a.m.**

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1

2 **Table of Contents**

3

4 **Page**

5 **Speeches in order of Appearance**

6 **R. William Borchardt 3 - 38**

7 **Executive Director of Operations of NRC**

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1           P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (9:30 a.m.)

3           MR. LEEDS: I would like to take  
4 now a moment to introduce you to Mr. Bill  
5 Borchardt, the NRC's Executive Director for  
6 Operations.

7           Mr. Borchardt became the Executive  
8 Director for Operations at the NRC in May  
9 2008 and since joining the NRC in 1983 he has  
10 held and served as senior site inspector at  
11 both pressurized and boiling water reactors.

12           He has held leadership positions in  
13 the Operating Reactor Program, the  
14 Enforcement Program, the Nuclear Security and  
15 Incident Response Program, and he has served  
16 as a Director of the Office of New Reactors a  
17 position he assumed when the new office was  
18 created in August 2006.

19           Mr. Borchardt is a graduate of the  
20 U.S. Naval Academy with a Bachelor of science  
21 in chemistry. After graduation he spent five  
22 years in the Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program.

1 Please join me in welcoming

2 Mr. Borchardt.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. BORCHARDT: Good morning, and  
5 thank you, Eric. On behalf of the NRC's  
6 staff, I would like to take this opportunity  
7 to welcome everyone to the conference and  
8 especially thank the Offices of the NRR and  
9 Nuclear Regulatory Research for their hard  
10 work in organizing this conference.

11 I appreciate this as an opportunity  
12 to provide an overview of our important  
13 activities.

14 Mostly what I will mention this  
15 morning will be discussed in far greater  
16 detail during the many break out sessions of  
17 the conference, but it is my intent to  
18 provide a broad high-level overview of what  
19 is keeping the staff busy.

20 I also want to recognize that 2010,  
21 marks the 35th anniversary of the creation of  
22 the NRC and during my clock I will give a few

1 data points on how things have changed over  
2 those 35 years.

3           While the specific activities that  
4 we work on at any one time may change from  
5 year to year the dedication and focus on our  
6 core mission of protecting the public health  
7 and safety, promoting security and protecting  
8 the environment remain unchanged.

9           In addition we remain committed to  
10 the principles of good regulation of  
11 independence, openness, efficiency, clarity,  
12 and reliability.

13           I believe the staff demonstrates  
14 great adaptability as the demands of our job  
15 change in both site specific and problematic  
16 ways and as we adapt to changing environments  
17 I see us continuing to be responsive to our  
18 various stakeholder groups.

19           Our top priority will always be the  
20 safety of current reactor and radioactive  
21 materials licensee operations.

22           In addition, however, to the many

1 activities supporting safe operations over  
2 the next year or so we will be giving  
3 significant attention to human capital  
4 development activities of knowledge  
5 management and staff training, upgrading, and  
6 modernization of our information technology  
7 and financial infrastructure and continued  
8 work on new applications that cover the  
9 entire fuel cycle.

10           The pursuit of safety is a never  
11 ending endeavor, and as you will see in a few  
12 minutes, I believe safety performance has  
13 been good and we continue to learn from  
14 operating experience.

15           Nonetheless, we, the NRC and the  
16 industry, need to redouble our efforts to  
17 bring some of the long standing issues to  
18 closure. We have not made the progress on  
19 closure during the last year that we are  
20 striving for.

21           When the NRC was created we were  
22 responsible for the oversight of 56 operating

1 reactors and that number has grown over the  
2 years to the current fleet of 104 and those  
3 104 reactors cut across 65 sites and 31  
4 states. They represent 80 different designs  
5 and are managed by 26 different operating  
6 companies.

7           In this year we completed over  
8 1,100 operating reactor license amendments.  
9 We also received five license renewals  
10 applications for eight units and issued  
11 renewed licenses for five units.

12           In 1975, when the Energy  
13 Reorganization Act established the NRC there  
14 were 19,000 materials licensees, and as of  
15 the end of last year, there were 22,500  
16 covering a range of medical, academic,  
17 industrial and other uses.

18           Our partnerships with the states  
19 sharing regulatory authority over NRC  
20 materials licensees continues and this grew  
21 most recently at the end of last year when  
22 New Jersey became 37th agreement state.

1           Currently, the NRC has five uranium  
2 recovery facility licensees and because of  
3 resurgence of interest and the construction  
4 of new nuclear power plants we anticipate  
5 receiving a number of new applications in the  
6 next few years. The anticipated growth in  
7 nuclear reactors has also sparked a renewed  
8 interest in the fuel cycle.

9           Currently the NRC regulates one  
10 conversion facility, six enrichment  
11 facilities, six fuel fabrication facilities  
12 and one mixed oxide fuel fabrication  
13 facility.

14           Over time as our workload has  
15 increased and our mission has evolved our  
16 budget has grown to slightly over \$1 billion.

17           The 2010 budget is essentially flat  
18 with last year's budget. 76 percent of our  
19 budget goes towards reactors and related  
20 support activities with the remainder going  
21 to the materials and the waste programs.

22           The President's 2011 budget



1 submitted to Congress last month reflects a  
2 slight overall decrease from this year's  
3 levels.

4       That proposed decrease from 2010,  
5 is primarily due to the reductions in the  
6 high-level waste repository program and a  
7 decrease in the number of operating nuclear  
8 power plant license renewal applications  
9 expected in 2011.

10       As you know 90 percent of our  
11 budget is recovered through fees charged to  
12 licensees, so the 2011 budget in fact has a  
13 net appropriation of approximately \$138  
14 million.

15       We began in 2010 with almost 4,000  
16 staff in the NRC. As an aside, I am pleased  
17 to say that during our recent 35th  
18 anniversary celebration we honored 79 NRC  
19 employees who have been with us since the  
20 creation of the NRC.

21       Staffing numbers has stabilized  
22 over the last couple of years and we are not

1 anticipating any significant changes in the  
2 next few years on our staffing levels even  
3 though that work force is not growing in  
4 numbers, it is not stagnant.

5         Retirements continue. The 2009  
6 attrition rate was approximately 4 percent, a  
7 little bit less than normal, and we expect a  
8 higher number approximately 200 people during  
9 this year.

10         The percentage of staff who have  
11 been with the NRC for six years or less is  
12 now at about 50 percent and we continue to  
13 have substantial internal mobility which is  
14 an important part, I believe of the  
15 professional development and knowledge  
16 transfer program at the NRC.

17         Because of this knowledge  
18 management continues to be a significant  
19 focus for us.

20         A part of our 35th anniversary  
21 celebration this past January was a knowledge  
22 management fair that highlighted the

1 impressive array of knowledge management  
2 initiatives and use around the agency.

3           Doing our job well requires more  
4 than having appropriately sized authenticated  
5 and trained work force. We need the  
6 facilities and tools to promote and support  
7 the effective completion of our  
8 responsibilities. We also need to support  
9 and promote a positive work environment.

10           I am pleased to report that the NRC  
11 has recently signed a lease for what we are  
12 calling 3 White Flint North which will be  
13 located across the street from 1 White Flint  
14 North adjacent to the White Flint Metro stop.

15           We anticipate ground breaking will  
16 occur in late April or early May and that we  
17 will begin by occupying the space in 2012.

18           This will once again allow us to  
19 reconsolidate for a second time at the White  
20 Flint complex as the staff is currently  
21 working at five different locations around  
22 the Rockville area.

1           In recent months we have entered  
2 into a new bargaining agreement that extends  
3 the new work schedule model to essentially  
4 all employees.

5           This new program is called New Flex  
6 and it's one of a range of efforts that we  
7 are pursuing towards better human capital  
8 management. New Flex offers greater  
9 flexibility in establishing individual work  
10 schedules to meet the agency's mission  
11 requirements and the needs of our work force.

12           We believe it can maximize employee  
13 productivity and help us to keep and attract  
14 highly qualified and motivated individuals to  
15 work at the NRC.

16           The agency is also pursuing  
17 information technologies to promote what we  
18 are calling, "Work with Anyone and Work From  
19 Anywhere," programs.

20           "Work with Anyone" supports groups  
21 of staff collaborating effectively both  
22 within the agency and with stakeholders to

1 accomplish the agency's mission.

2           We pursue this to increase  
3 development and the use of collaborative  
4 tools and services such as virtual meetings,  
5 collaborative websites such as SharePoint and  
6 communities of practice.

7           Working from anywhere was the  
8 number one goal selected during the agency's  
9 2009 Information Technology Summit as having  
10 the greatest value to the NRC's staff.

11           It enables us to securely access  
12 and use the systems and information needed to  
13 perform our jobs regardless of where we are  
14 located.

15           This year we are placing more  
16 emphasis on the concept called Open  
17 Collaborative Work Environment and its  
18 communication and the programs associated  
19 with particular emphasis on ensuring that the  
20 support offices recognize their very  
21 important roles and contributions to achieve  
22 the agency's mission.

1           **Open Collaborative Work Environment**

2 is an environment that encourages trust,  
3 respect and open communication to support and  
4 promote a positive work environment.

5           It supports individuals coming  
6 together to solve problems and the Open  
7 Collaborative Work Environment concept  
8 encompasses the entire staff and seeks to  
9 promote administrative and corporate support  
10 personnel working together with members of  
11 technical staff.

12           It enables the NRC to maximize our  
13 capabilities and productivity by tapping into  
14 the energy and talents of every single  
15 individual.

16           Finally, as the chairman mentioned  
17 on December 9, the President issued the "Open  
18 Government Directive for Executive  
19 Departments and Agencies," and since December  
20 we have put up a new open government web page  
21 on the NRC website and linked it to a new  
22 tool for the public to comment on our efforts

1 on the area of transparency, participation  
2 and collaboration.

3           Now turning my attention to some of  
4 the technical issues that we are dealing with  
5 let me begin by highlighting a few of these  
6 key issues.

7           Last October the Fatigue Management  
8 Work Hour Controls Requirements became  
9 effective. This represents our most recent  
10 efforts to enhance the Part 26 requirements  
11 regarding "fitness for duty."

12           The NRC actively engaged the public  
13 and the industry through a series of public  
14 meetings to answer questions, receive  
15 feedback on industry lessons learned and  
16 develop regulatory guides in implementing the  
17 rule requirements.

18           The NRC is inspecting industry  
19 implementation of Part 26 requirements and  
20 continues to coordinate with external  
21 stakeholders on the potential future  
22 rulemaking to further enhance this ruling.

1           There is no doubt that the  
2 implementation of these new requirements has  
3 been challenged and several unanticipated  
4 issues have emerged.

5           We look forward to discussing the  
6 results of this rule's implementation with  
7 all stakeholders in the near future.

8           Operating nuclear power plants are  
9 required to maintain a fire protection plan  
10 with the objective of minimizing the  
11 likelihood and consequences of fire.  
12 Licensees may demonstrate compliance either  
13 by maintaining their approved fire protection  
14 program or by transitioning to a risk  
15 informed performance based fire protection  
16 program based on NFPA 805.

17           This approach will provide greater  
18 regulatory consistency and clarity and  
19 provide more flexibility for licensees to  
20 address the low-risk issues without prior NRC  
21 approval.

22           Moving to the security rule has a



1 full implementation date at the end of this  
2 month.

3           While we have not agreed to a  
4 request for industry wide extension to this  
5 date we have received and are acting on  
6 approximately 25 individual exemption  
7 requests.

8           These sites may have difficulty  
9 achieving full compliance with certain  
10 aspects of the rule and have requested  
11 extensions to extend the rule of compliance  
12 date for some very specific requirements.

13           The use of the exemption process  
14 enables the staff to give full consideration  
15 to the unique circumstances applicable to  
16 each of these requests and to review the  
17 requests based on their individual merit.

18           Among the most significant  
19 requirements of this new rule is the  
20 additional provisions associated with cyber  
21 security. We expect to initiate a cyber  
22 security inspection program in the 2011 to

1 2013 time frame.

2           The agency believes that prompt  
3 full implementation of the power reactor  
4 security rule is an important step in  
5 completing efforts to enhance security at  
6 licensed nuclear power reactors.

7           Following the Commission's  
8 direction received in 2008, the NRC staff has  
9 been assessing among other things how to  
10 expand the safety culture policy to address  
11 the unique aspects of security whether safety  
12 culture as applied to reactors need to be  
13 strengthened and how to increase the  
14 attention to safety culture in the nuclear  
15 materials area. The staff anticipates  
16 submitting the proposed final rule to the  
17 Commission in March 2011.

18           The previous slide is only an  
19 example of the many key issues that are  
20 currently being worked on with the existing  
21 fleet of nuclear power plants.

22           This slide shows some of the other

1 topics which we are spending considerable  
2 time in trying to resolve.

3           There have been a number of recent  
4 operating experiences regarding leaks from  
5 buried pipe in nuclear power plants and in  
6 fact there have been approximately ten leaks  
7 reported since 2005.

8           The staff is reviewing the  
9 regulations and the regulatory guidance, the  
10 codes, standards, and industry practices to  
11 ensure that degradation of buried piping is  
12 managed in a manner that provides reasonable  
13 assurance that there are no challenges to a  
14 safe plant operation and no unintended  
15 releases that adversely affect the  
16 environment.

17           We have just initiated the task  
18 force on ground water contamination that will  
19 among other things evaluate the buried pipe  
20 initiative.

21           In 2006, the NRC began a detailed  
22 review of underground electrical power cables

1 after moisture induced cable failures were  
2 identified at some plants.

3           We issued a generic letter in 2007  
4 to inform licensees about the potential  
5 problem and the industry has been working to  
6 develop and implement a cable assessment  
7 strategy.

8           However, we continue to find  
9 examples of cables in submerged conditions at  
10 nuclear power plants during our inspections.

11           Licensees need to restore cables to  
12 an environment to which they were designed  
13 and then need cable monitoring programs to  
14 demonstrate that cables can perform their  
15 designed functions when called upon.

16           The NRC staff in collaboration with  
17 the Department of Energy and others has  
18 developed an integrated aging management  
19 long-term research plan to address "Life  
20 beyond 60."

21           It focuses on those topics within  
22 license renewal that may need additional

1 technical information to provide regulatory  
2 assurance of the capabilities of the systems,  
3 structures, and components and the materials  
4 to maintain their safety related function in  
5 subsequent license renewal periods.

6         As a result of the staff's initial  
7 scoping activities several areas of technical  
8 focus have emerged including the aging of  
9 cable insulation, concrete exposed to high  
10 temperature, and radiation and the aging  
11 management of the reactor pressure vessel.

12         We believe research activities in  
13 these areas will help provide important  
14 information to support the staff in  
15 effectively evaluating these topics for the  
16 period of extended operation and developing  
17 appropriate modifications to the regulatory  
18 framework.

19         On the last topic, the aggregate  
20 impact of rulemaking and other resource  
21 demands on our licensees has been a topic  
22 raised as an issue of concern by some of our

1 stakeholders. I look forward to some  
2 constructive dialogue on this topic in the  
3 very near future.

4       We started to collate the results  
5 of the Reactor Industry Trends Program for  
6 the past year and I wanted give you a preview  
7 of some of the results. The Industry Trends  
8 Program looks at overall industry performance  
9 by tracking various industry performance  
10 indicators as well as an indicator that looks  
11 for significant acts in precursors.

12       The Industry Trends Program allows  
13 us to step back and look at the broad  
14 long-term performance of the industry and to  
15 assess whether there are trends that warrant  
16 more staff attention.

17       The Industry Trends Program also  
18 compliments the Reactor Oversight Program  
19 which assesses individual licensee  
20 performance and is an input to the agency  
21 performance goals which are reported to  
22 Congress.

1           The results of the program are  
2 reported to the Commission in an annual  
3 Commission paper and will be posted on our  
4 public website later this spring.

5           In 2009, there were no  
6 statistically significant adverse trends in  
7 overall industry performance identified based  
8 on the long-term trend. On an industry wide  
9 basis, the performance indicators that we  
10 trend remain significantly improved compared  
11 to 10 or 15 years ago.

12           These improvements, I believe, are  
13 likely the result of a number of factors  
14 including effective corrective action  
15 programs, the maintenance rule, an effective  
16 operating experience program and increased  
17 focus on risk insights at plant operations.

18           We also look at changes in the  
19 short-term. None of the indicators conceded  
20 short-term prediction limits and no issues  
21 were identified that warrant further program  
22 adjustments.

1           In 2008, we also implemented a new  
2 industry wide performance indicator called  
3 "the Baseline Risk Index for Initiating  
4 Events" that introduces a risk informed view  
5 of industry performance.

6           In 2009, this new indicator  
7 indicates better than baseline industry  
8 performance and is well below the established  
9 reporting threshold.

10          This improving trend and overall  
11 industry safety performance continued in 2009  
12 for all of the indicators in the Industry  
13 Trends Program and I will run through these  
14 slides very quickly so you can see the  
15 results.

16          Automatic strams while critical  
17 although the indicator and any of the  
18 indicators may increase or decrease in a  
19 given year as a result of some operational  
20 occurrences or unforeseen events, the  
21 calculated line you will see on each of these  
22 slides indicates the overall trend for the



1 indicator.

2           On this slide and on a member of  
3 the following slides you will notice in 2003  
4 that there is a significant increase for a  
5 number of those, and if you remember, these  
6 are due to the 2003 Black Out" event that  
7 affected the North East part of the country  
8 and also parts of Canada.

9           On the next safety system  
10 actuations, again, in 2003, you see the same  
11 Black Out event.

12           In contrast to 2003, however, the  
13 2005 change in the indicator does not have a  
14 single initiating cause and this event was  
15 caused at many different sites and were  
16 caused by many different factors.

17           Going to the next slide,  
18 "Significant Events." These are those events  
19 that have serious safety implications and  
20 include graded-safety equipment, a reactor  
21 shutdown with complications, and unexpected  
22 response to change in a plant parameter or a

1 degraded fuel rod or coolant pipe.

2           Significant events are determined  
3 through a detailed screening and evaluation  
4 of operating experience, safety system  
5 failures, forced outage, equipment forced  
6 outages, collective radiation exposure and  
7 unplanned power changes. So those are the  
8 industry trend results from 2009.

9           I would now like to turn quickly to  
10 the topic of new reactors. Currently, the  
11 Office of New Reactors has five design  
12 certification applications under review. The  
13 ESPWR, the USBPR, the USAPWR as well as  
14 AP1000 and then the ABWR design certification  
15 rule amendment.

16           Thus far the NRC has received 18  
17 combined license applications for 28  
18 reactors. Five of those applications for a  
19 total of six units have been deferred or  
20 suspended at the applicant's request.

21           We are already implementing a  
22 vigorous vendor inspection program both in

1 the United States and internationally making  
2 excellent progress on the timely development  
3 of the Construction Development Program and  
4 we will be prepared to carry out our  
5 responsibilities to oversee construction and  
6 in fact have already begun to do so.

7 I will make note that just recently  
8 the senior resident inspector for the global  
9 construction site was recently selected and  
10 will be reporting to the site in the next few  
11 months.

12 Regarding advance reactors we have  
13 seven letters of intent that have been  
14 submitted for small and medium-sized  
15 reactors. We have performed an  
16 infrastructure assessment of the NRC's  
17 technical capabilities focusing on the  
18 development of guidance, expertise, tools,  
19 data, and methods that will be needed to  
20 ensure that the agency is prepared to address  
21 the multiple review technologies being  
22 proposed.

1           We are currently engaged in a  
2 number of advanced reactor activities  
3 including working closely with the Department  
4 of Energy on the congressionally mandated  
5 next generation nuclear plant program to  
6 ensure that we will be ready to review the  
7 application, interact with domestic and  
8 international stakeholder communities in  
9 order to stay abreast of developments and  
10 refinements to these technologies for  
11 conducting preapplication interactions with  
12 these potential applicants and identifying  
13 and executing the needed research.

14           We are also developing the  
15 analytical tools and identifying policy  
16 issues that will be brought to the Commission  
17 for decisions in the coming years and  
18 developing the reviewer skills as well as  
19 implementing knowledge management activities  
20 to support those future licensing activities.

21           I know that most of the people in  
22 this room are clearly from the reactor arena,

1 but I thought it would be worthwhile to take  
2 a moment or two to talk about some of the  
3 other NRC responsibilities.

4       So moving to the non-reactor side  
5 of the house there are several current  
6 initiatives that I would like to mention.

7       With an orderly closure to the  
8 Yucca Mountain license application likely  
9 over this year, next year we are developing a  
10 strategy for integrated spent fuel management  
11 to position the NRC to address future  
12 challenges related to spent nuclear fuel  
13 management.

14       Specifically this strategy will  
15 support the evaluation of issues and options  
16 for extended storage of spent nuclear fuel  
17 and the disposal of high level waste at  
18 alternative locations.

19       These activities will be closely  
20 coordinated with existing programs in the  
21 spent fuel storage and transportation and new  
22 fuel facilities arrangements.

1           Something that you have already  
2 heard considerable discussion about in recent  
3 months have been issues associated with  
4 master materials licensees, specifically the  
5 patient treatment issues at the Veterans  
6 Administration.

7           We have been working with the VA  
8 and have performed inspections of their  
9 facilities and we are now finalizing our  
10 regulatory actions.

11          On the front end of the fuel cycle,  
12 there are a couple of topics that I would  
13 like to note. We have had a lot of activity  
14 in the area of new enrichment facilities over  
15 the last few years.

16          We are currently conducting the  
17 Operational Readiness Review for the LES  
18 Enrichment Facility and are currently  
19 reviewing a license application for Ariva  
20 Enrichment Services for construction of the  
21 proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility and  
22 an application from General Electric Hitachi

1 Global Laser Enrichment which submitted a  
2 license application to the NRC.

3           With regard to uranium recovery we  
4 are expecting as many as 24 applications by  
5 2013 for new recovery facilities and  
6 expanding or restarting existing uranium  
7 recovery facilities. As of this month we  
8 have received five applications for four new  
9 facilities and four applications to expand or  
10 restart an existing facility.

11           In support of these activities the  
12 staff has developed an integrated safety and  
13 environmental review strategy, completed a  
14 generic environmental impact statement for  
15 in-situ uranium recovery facilities and is  
16 currently updating the regulations.

17           Finally, after some initial  
18 meetings with stakeholders in 2009, and at  
19 the direction of the Commission, the staff is  
20 currently working on a plan for developing an  
21 inspection and phased approach to the risk  
22 informed fuel cycle program.

1 I would like to now briefly touch  
2 on a few of the activities that we have  
3 underway in the international arena.

4 I know that this conference now  
5 attracts a significant number of  
6 international attendees including many  
7 technical session participants and that  
8 nuclear power has truly become a global  
9 activity.

10 Our international relationships and  
11 the range of technical output and cooperation  
12 activities they include are important to us  
13 because we believe they enhance our knowledge  
14 to shared expertise and best practices.

15 Due to the renewed global interest  
16 in developing nuclear power and safe uses of  
17 radioactive materials we are providing  
18 bilateral assistance to regulatory agencies  
19 to strengthen their nuclear safety and  
20 security programs and are now engaging with  
21 more than two dozen countries considering  
22 nuclear power programs for the first time.



1           We are actively engaged in the  
2 multinational design evaluation program and  
3 for the first time the NRC will be the  
4 subject of an international review called the  
5 Integrated Regulatory Review Service.

6           This program seeks to strengthen  
7 and enhance the effectiveness of national  
8 regulatory programs with peer review teams of  
9 high-level senior regulators and other  
10 international experts.

11          We are very excited that the IAEA  
12 will be conducting IRRS mission in the United  
13 States in October of this year.

14          The NRC remains focused on our core  
15 mission with safety of current facilities  
16 both the current fleet reactors as well as  
17 all of the other licensees as our top  
18 priority.

19          As an agency, I believe that we  
20 have responded well to emerging demands such  
21 as the new reactor licensing and advanced  
22 reactors and that we are well positioned for

1 continued success as new challenges emerge.

2           Finally, I would just like to  
3 stress the importance of the communication  
4 with all of our stakeholders and how valuable  
5 we consider your input.

6           Let me now take this opportunity to  
7 make a personnel announcement regarding some  
8 important positions in the EDO's office.

9           Bruce Mallet who is the current  
10 Deputy Executive Director for Reactors  
11 Programs has announced his intention to  
12 retire after more than 30 years of  
13 distinguished public service to the NRC.

14           He has had a wide ranging career in  
15 both headquarters and in a number of the  
16 regional offices and I would just like to  
17 publicly thank him for his service to the NRC  
18 and the nation.

19           Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21           MR. BORCHARDT: While we will very  
22 much miss Bruce and his experience I am happy

1 to announce that Marty Virgilio who is  
2 currently the Deputy Executive Director on  
3 the Materials side of the house will be  
4 assuming Bruce's job upon Bruce's retirement  
5 at the beginning of June.

6 Marty Virgilio, who many of you are  
7 probably familiar with has a long  
8 distinguished career within the NRC as well  
9 and has worked on the reactor side for many  
10 many years before he went over to head up  
11 NMSS and then came to the EDO's office about  
12 six years ago.

13 Replacing Marty Virgilio will be  
14 Michael Weber. Mike is the current director  
15 of the Office of NMSS, so Mike is coming up  
16 to EDO's office in mid May of this year to  
17 help us do an effective transfer knowledge  
18 management and practice.

19 I welcome Michael to the EDO's  
20 office and I hope he will make a valuable  
21 contribution and I thank you for your  
22 attention this morning and hope you enjoy the

1 rest of the conference.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. LEEDS: Thank you very much,  
4 Bill. Unfortunately we have run out of time  
5 at this point to get to some of the questions  
6 that you all submitted to Bill.

7 What we will try to do is we will  
8 respond to these questions over the next  
9 coming weeks and get the questions and the  
10 responses out on the NRC public website.

11 For right now we are scheduled to  
12 have a break until 10:30 and then we will  
13 reconvene to hear from Mr. James Ellis.  
14 Thank you all.

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