

OPENING STATEMENT

The Honorable Ed Pastor
Vice Chairman, Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
House Committee on Appropriations

Hearing on NNSA Defense and Naval Reactor Programs'
Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Request
March 4, 2010

Good morning. We have before us today the Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Mr. Tom D'Agostino is a former nuclear-qualified submarine officer who has been appointed to his present position by the current Administration and by its predecessor. This is a testament to his competence and even-handed stewardship. Joining him to testify before the Committee are Brigadier General Garrett Harencak, Acting Deputy Administrator for Defense programs, and Admiral Kirkland Donald, Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors. They are here today to present the President's fiscal year 2011 request for the NNSA.

After years of relatively flat budgets, the Administration requests \$11.2 billion for the NNSA, an increase of \$1.3 billion or 13%. Today we look forward to discussing, in detail, the proposed increases for Weapons and Naval Reactors. The 26% increase for Nonproliferation activities will be covered in detail in a second hearing on March 10th. However, I expect that it will be raised today as well. We are particularly interested in hearing the explanation for these significant increases and how you propose to execute the expanded programs.

Mr. D'Agostino, I ask you to ensure that the hearing record, the questions for the record, and any supporting information requested by the Subcommittee are delivered in final form to the Subcommittee no later than four weeks from

the time you receive them. Members who have additional questions for the record will have until close of business tomorrow to provide them to the Subcommittee office.

With those opening comments, I would like to yield to our ranking member, Mr. Frelinghuysen, for any opening comments that he would like to make.