



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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**OPENING REMARKS OF NRC CHAIRMAN GREGORY B. JACZKO
AT TODAY'S BRIEFING FROM
THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS**

Good morning. The Commission meets today to receive its annual briefing from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS). The Commission has been continually impressed by the NMSS staff's work in effectively managing the broad portfolio of issues under their responsibility. NMSS's critical work ranges from the front end of the fuel cycle – in the licensing and oversight of enrichment and fabrication facilities – to the back end of the fuel cycle – in ensuring the safe storage and transportation of spent fuel.

In addition to hearing a general overview of several NMSS initiatives, the Commission also will be discussing in greater detail the agency's ongoing efforts to review our spent fuel storage and transportation programs. This is an area in which we have tremendous expertise and over two decades of experience with over 1200 casks at over 50 sites today. The Commission is confident that we have the resources to conduct the necessary research and develop the right regulatory framework to continue ensuring safe storage.

We will begin this morning with presentations from the staff, and then hear from a panel of stakeholders.

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