



Contact: Nora Khalil  
(202) 694-7028

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## Media Release

### Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Announces Staff Changes

Washington, D.C. – Today, Board Chairman Joyce Connery announced the addition of several new staff members and staff moves at the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board).

“I am very pleased to welcome several new and returning staff members to the Board. These skilled men and women will augment the incredible talent already on staff at the Board and further strengthen the Board’s ability to carry out its safety mission,” said Chairman Connery.

**James Biggins** has been named the new General Counsel. Prior to coming to the Board, he worked on nuclear reactor and nuclear materials licensing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). After starting on new reactor licensing with the NRC, Mr. Biggins was selected as a Deputy Assistant General Counsel for rulemaking. He is licensed to practice law in Illinois, Texas, and Missouri. He is a graduate of Southern Illinois University School of Law.

In addition, **Mr. Greg Floyd** is the Board’s new Chief Information Officer. He previously supported the Department of Defense for 28 years in various assignments while on active duty and as a federal civilian employee. Mr. Floyd has a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and a Master of Science degree in information technology.

**Ms. Miranda McCoy** recently returned to headquarters following a professional development technical assignment in the Aeromechanics Branch of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Ames Research Center. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Carnegie Mellon University and a Master of Science degree, also in mechanical engineering, from Leland Stanford Junior University. Ms. McCoy has been a member of the Board’s technical staff since 2013.

**Mr. Chris Scheider** joins the Board’s technical staff after serving as a Nuclear Submarine Officer in the United States Navy. While in the Navy, he managed nuclear operations and training as well as emergency preparedness and response for the nuclear reactor during an engineered refueling overhaul. Most recently he was an Assistant Professor of Naval Science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Mr. Scheider is qualified as a chief engineer for nuclear submarines and he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Also new to the Board’s technical staff is **Dr. Fernando Ferrante**. Prior to joining the Board, Dr. Ferrante worked for eight years at the NRC in the reactor oversight program as well as a three year tenure at the Southwest Research Institute’s Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analysis. He obtained a Ph.D. in civil engineering at Johns Hopkins University focused on stochastic mechanics, a Master of Science in civil engineering from the University of Virginia, and a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering from University College London, in England.

**Ms. Kelsey Amundson** joins the Board’s staff after completing a research internship at the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory. Kelsey has a Bachelor of Science degree in nuclear engineering as well as certificates in nuclear engineering materials and mathematics from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Also new to the Board’s technical staff is **Mr. Andrew Martin**. He holds Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in civil engineering, with an emphasis in architectural engineering, from Purdue University, and completed an MBA from there as well. In addition to his academic accomplishments, Mr. Martin worked as a building controls intern for the Purdue University Physical Facilities department, developing opportunities to reduce campus energy consumption.

**Ms. Katie Sullivan** joins the Board after work with the Southern Nuclear Company as a reactor and systems engineer in Augusta, GA. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Tennessee.

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*The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board is an independent Federal agency responsible for safety oversight of the Department of Energy’s defense nuclear facilities.*