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NRC REASSIGNS REGIONAL MANAGERS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has named William L. Axelson, currently Acting Deputy Regional Administrator of NRC Region III in Lisle, Illinois, as Deputy Regional Administrator of NRC Region I, which has offices in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Axelson succeeds William F. Kane, who will direct the Spent Fuel Project Office in the Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland.

Mr. Kane is replacing Dr. William D. Travers, recently named to head a Special Projects Office within the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation to oversee all inspection and licensing activities at the Millstone and Haddam Neck plants operated by Northeast Utilities in Connecticut.

The Axelson and Kane assignments will be effective in early March. A successor to Mr. Axelson in Region III will be named in the near future.

Region I encompasses 11 states and the District of Columbia in the northeastern United States and has 29 commercial nuclear power reactors. Region III is responsible for the NRC regulatory program in eight midwestern states having 27 commercial nuclear reactors.

Mr. Axelson has served as Acting Regional Deputy Administrator of NRC Region III since August, after having served there as Director of the Division of Reactor Projects since 1995. He joined the NRC in 1977 as a radiation specialist in the Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards. In 1979, he became an emergency preparedness analyst, subsequently forming and supervising the Emergency Preparedness Section until 1983, when he became chief of the nuclear materials and safeguards branch.

In 1987, he was assigned to NRC Region III's Division of Reactor Projects, and assumed a similar branch chief role for operating reactor project management. While in the Division of Reactor Projects, he also assumed the responsibilities of chief

of the technical support staff. He was appointed to the position of deputy director of the Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards in 1990, and became director of that division in 1993.

Mr. Kane has been the Region I Deputy Administrator since 1990, after three years' service as director of the Division of Reactor Projects. He joined the Atomic Energy Commission, the predecessor to the NRC, in 1973, as a project manager in what is now the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at NRC headquarters. Between 1973 and 1984 he served as a senior project manager, as acting chief of the standardization branch, and in senior managerial positions in the Office of the NRC's Executive Director for Operations. He was deputy director of the Division of Reactor Projects from 1985 to 1987.

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