

Brookhaven manager to lead review of FFTF

The Department of Energy has named Michael Holland, manager of its Brookhaven Area Office, to lead the review of the decision to permanently deactivate Hanford's Fast Flux Test Facility.

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham decided to suspend for 90 days a previous administration decision to shut the FFTF down. During that period, qualified personnel led by Holland will review all available information that might have an impact on the future of the FFTF. The scope of the review will encompass the following, according to a DOE statement:

- A review of all existing studies, reports, assessments and environmental reviews related to the FFTF's original missions of medical isotope production, Pu-238 production for space missions and nuclear energy research
- A well-defined forum for the submission of public- and private-sector interest in the continued operation of the FFTF for original and potential missions
- Additional opportunities for stakeholder input through open public meetings.

Holland has 25 years of experience in the conduct of operations of nuclear reactors and large facilities. He has been with the Department of Energy for 10 years overseeing the operation of research reactors, facility decommissioning and environmental restoration.

Holland has also led teams in the completion of complex projects for the shipment of spent nuclear fuel, community outreach and the commissioning and decommissioning of large facilities.

The FFTF operated from 1982 until 1992 to test advanced fuels and materials in support of the national Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactor Program. The plant also produced a variety of medical and industrial isotopes, including tritium, and conducted research and testing for advanced power systems. ♦