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MARTIN DESIGNATED NNSS DISTINGUISHED ENGINEER

LAS VEGAS – The Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) has just selected Chief Nuclear Officer, Dr. Charles “Chip” Martin, to be recognized as “Distinguished Engineer” in his elevated position.

The Distinguished Engineer position signifies an exceptional role in the engineering community. Martin was honored for formulating numerous projects that will posture the NNSS for a much expanded set of future missions. These include several high-end scientific experiments, among them nuclear and non-nuclear rockets. Further, Martin serves as an expert advisor and consultant to senior management. He also serves as an adjunct professor of Nuclear Engineering in the Mechanical Engineering Department at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He previously served on the faculties of the University of Maryland and the U.S. Air Force Academy.



Martin became the director of Nuclear Operations in 2014, where he was responsible for the technical leadership and management of the NNSS’ nuclear safety and high/moderate hazard facilities’ operations. He later moved into the Executive Office of the President when he was named Chief Nuclear Officer in June 2016.

Martin has more than 20 years of experience as a senior engineer with the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, which has given him extensive knowledge of the relevant directives, codes, standards and regulations related to nuclear safety and facility operations, as well as experience in developing nuclear safety. His work with the Board also allowed him to develop working relationships with the National Laboratories, the DOE, the NNSA, and various NNSA field offices. While at the Board, he received the John W. Crawford Jr. Award and the Meritorious Service Medal from the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

“I’ve known Chip a long time, and I’ve always had a reliance on his technical background and outstanding competency. His history with the NNSS and the years of nuclear work that he’s accomplished enables us to recognize him as Distinguished Engineer,” said Raffi Papazian, NNSS vice president for Program Integration.

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MARTIN DESIGNATED DISTINGUISHED.... Continued

A graduate of North Carolina State University, Martin earned his Master of Science and Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology. He has authored or co-authored 45 publications.

The Nevada National Security Site and its related facilities help ensure the security of the United States and its allies by: supporting the stewardship of the nation’s nuclear deterrent; providing nuclear and radiological emergency response capabilities and training; contributing to key nonproliferation and arms control initiatives; executing national-level experiments in support of the National Laboratories; working with national security customers and other federal agencies on important national security activities; and providing long-term environmental stewardship of the NNSA’s Cold War legacy.

The NNSA falls under the jurisdiction of the National Nuclear Security Administration, a semiautonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The Site’s operations are government-controlled and contractor-operated. They are overseen by DOE’s Nevada Field Office, headquartered in North Las Vegas.

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