James McConnell

Associate Administrator for Safety, Infrastructure, and Operations

Mr. McConnell is the Associate Administrator for Safety, Infrastructure and Operations. He is responsible for overall NNSA safety activities, operations, infrastructure, capital planning, packaging and transportation, nuclear materials integration and sustainment & environmental programs for the NNSA National Security Enterprise. In addition, Mr. McConnell is the NNSA Central Technical Authority responsible for overall safety policy and interpretation throughout NNSA.



Prior to his current position, Mr. McConnell was the Deputy Associate Administrator for Infrastructure and Operations. He held several positions within NNSA's Office of Defense Programs including Assistant Deputy Administrator for Nuclear Safety and Operations.

Mr. McConnell was the first Chief of Defense Nuclear Safety for NNSA. In that position, he established the office and functions of the CDNS.

Prior to joining NNSA, Mr. McConnell held several senior staff positions at the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) including Deputy Technical Director, Group Leader for the Nuclear Weapons Program, and Site Representative at the Pantex Plant.

A former U.S. Navy submarine officer, he holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy and master's degrees in engineering from the Catholic University of America and George Washington University.