

MEEM LECTURE
Mr. Tom Burns
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB)

Thursday May 19, 2005
Sleep Inn Motel in Charlottesville, VA

[Directions](#)

"DOE, DNFSB, and Constructive Oversight/Regulation"

[Download Dr. Burns' Presentation](#) [1.3MB]

The lecture will provide an overview of the DOE defense nuclear complex over which the DNFSB has oversight jurisdiction. The wide range of DOE defense nuclear activities, from nuclear materials production to waste disposition, will be presented as well as the oversight challenges they present. The structure, mission, responsibilities, and authorities of the DNFSB will be discussed as well as areas of current DNFSB involvement. Finally, the author will outline a perspective on constructive oversight/regulation and its importance in facilitating the expanded use nuclear technology.

Dr. Burns is currently a site representative for DNFSB at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. In this capacity he provides real time oversight of complex nuclear activities including plutonium processing, tritium processing, critical mass experiments, and waste disposition. Additionally, he serves as the DNFSB liason with federal and contractor management, the public, and state and local officials. He was previously the DNFSB site representative at the Savannah River Site in Aiken, SC where he oversaw nuclear chemical processing operations, tritium production, and high-level waste stabilization activities. Prior to joining the DNFSB staff, Dr. Burns had served as a research associate at several premier national and international laboratories, including Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Idaho National Laboratory, and the French Nuclear Laboratory at Cadarache. Areas of research interest included computational radiation and neutral particle transport and medical applications of nuclear technology. Dr. Burns received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D degrees in nuclear engineering from the University of Virginia in 1994, 1995, and 1998, respectively.