

**OPENING STATEMENT
ANNE MARIE WHITE
NOMINATION HEARING
UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

Chairman McCain, Ranking Member Reed, members of the Committee, and Professional Committee Staff, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you as the President's nominee to be the Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management at the Department of Energy (DOE). My warmest thanks to your respective staff for taking the time to share the issues of concern regarding environmental management and for outlining expectations of me in the role of EM-1, a role that involves fulfilling our moral obligation to provide a cleaner, safer, healthier environment by having a clear plan of action to address our nation's environmental legacy challenges from World War II and the Cold War.

I am honored to appear before this Committee and thank President Trump and Secretary Perry for displaying their confidence in me through nomination to this important position. Should the United States Senate honor me with its confirmation, I look forward to working together with you and your staff to resolve the demanding issues that confront the nation by safely reducing environmental and cost risk and delivering meaningful results that protect the U.S. taxpayer.

I would like to introduce Scott Anderson to the Committee. Scott is my best friend, strongest advocate, and greatest supporter. I also thank my close friends and colleagues for being here today.

My Master's Degree is in nuclear engineering, and I was fortunate to have graduated at a time when the environmental field was relatively new and rife with opportunities for innovation and development. With my degree, a creative and curious mindset, and an appreciation for our environment, I determined the nuclear cleanup field was a natural fit.

I began my career performing physical cleanup work in the field. My strategy was to learn the environmental cleanup business bottom up rather than top down, which has been instrumental in understanding, from multiple vantage points, the challenges and opportunities facing the Department in its Environmental Management (EM) mission. It is important to note, this work is not without some level of risk. The women and men in the field implementing plans and delivering projects are of primary importance at the EM sites. Without these individuals in the field, dressing out in protective gear and doing difficult physical work, there would be no cleanup and no risk reduction. Maintaining and further building trust with the workforce that we rely on to address our nation's legacy environmental challenges will be a focus throughout my tenure.

My early career experience in the field was informative and provided a sound basis to help me form my consulting firm. Since founding my firm, my years working within the

commercial and government nuclear industry and the mentoring from well-respected industry experts have helped me grow into an experienced leader and inventive problem solver.

For the past 25 years, I have consulted with commercial, government and international organizations solving complex problems here at home and abroad. I have worked at a number of EM sites, providing me with direct experience addressing the difficult technical and stakeholder issues the Department faces while driving forward the cleanup mission. Through the years I have had the good fortune to work and collaborate with a wonderful group of smart, technically savvy peers to cost effectively solve seemingly intractable problems through teamwork, innovation, ingenuity and optimization. Over the course of my career, I have been able to work on, visit and understand some of the world's great nuclear and environmental challenges; therefore, I consider this potential key leadership position at DOE-EM to be an opportunity to maximize my private sector experience and knowledge to assist the Department in mitigating risk and working toward eliminating existing environmental liabilities.

Should I be confirmed, accountability to safely meet EM responsibilities, commitments and milestones will start with me and I will expect federal staff and our contractors to deliver results that will protect the investments made by the hardworking American taxpayers. I further commit to you that I will communicate and work closely with this Committee, the conscientious staff within the Department, Congress, Native American tribes, regulators, local communities, and the dedicated site workforce to set priorities that will have current and lasting positive impact on the overall EM program.

Chairman McCain, Ranking Member Reed and members of the Committee, thank you again for this opportunity to appear before you as the President's nominee for an Assistant Secretary in the Department of Energy. I look forward to answering your questions as you consider my nomination.