# POSITION DESCRIPTION

**undersecretary/Administrator for nuclear security, Department of energy**

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| **OVERVIEW** |
| Senate Committee | Armed Services |
| Agency Mission | To ensure America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions. |
| Position Overview | The administrator oversees the National Nuclear Security Agency, which is a separately organized agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for the management and security of the nation’s nuclear weapons, nuclear nonproliferation and naval reactor programs. |
| Compensation | Level IV $155,500(5 U.S.C. § 5315)[[1]](#endnote-1) |
| Position Reports to | Secretary of Energy |
| **RESPONSIBILITIES** |
| Management Scope | In fiscal 2015, the Department of Energy had a budget of $27.391 billion. In 2016 DOE had 14,499 nonseasonal full-time permanent employees. |
| Primary Responsibilities | * Responsible for the management and operation of the National Nuclear Security Agency, as well as policy matters across the Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Agency enterprise in support of the president’s nuclear security agenda.
* Manages and secures nation's nuclear weapon stockpile.
* Works with other federal agencies and international partners on nuclear nonproliferation efforts.
* Manages naval reactor programs.
* Ensures that the U.S. is prepared to respond to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the United States and abroad.
* Provides safe and secure transportation of nuclear weapons and components and special nuclear materials.
* Provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion.
* Supports United States leadership in science and technology.
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| Strategic Goals and Priorities | [Depends on policy priorities of the administration] |
| **REQUIREMENTS AND COMPETENCIES** |
| Requirements | * Strong technical proficiency is a must
* Extensive leadership and management experience
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| Competencies | * Strong interpersonal and communication skills
* Ability to work under high pressure
* Ability to handle sensitive matters
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| **PAST APPOINTEES** |
| Frank Klotz (2014 to 2017) - Commander, Air Force Strike Command; Assistant Vice Chief of Staff and Director of the Air Staff; Vice Commander, Air Force Space Command; Commander, 20th Air Force; Director, Nuclear Policy and Arms Control, National Security Council |
| Thomas D’Agostino (2007 to 2013) - Deputy Administrator, Defense Programs, Department of Energy; Assistant Deputy Administrator, Program Integration, Department of Energy; Deputy Director for Nuclear Weapons Research, Development and Simulation Program |
| Linton Brooks (2002 to 2007) - Deputy Administrator for Nuclear Non-Proliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration; Assistant Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; Chief U.S. Negotiator for the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty |

1. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31, May 5, 2017), contains a provision that continues the freeze on the payable pay rates for certain senior political officials at 2013 levels during calendar year 2017. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)