

**OPENING STATEMENT
ANNE MARIE WHITE
NOMINATION HEARING
UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Chairman Murkowski, Ranking Member Cantwell, 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 you and your respective staffs for taking the time to share the issues of concern regarding environmental management and for outlining your expectations of me in the role of EM-1, a role that involves fulfilling our moral obligation to clean up our nation's environmental legacy challenges from World War II and the Cold War.

I am honored to appear before this Committee and give my thanks to President Trump and Secretary Perry for the confidence they have placed in me with this nomination. If I am honored with a confirmation by the United States Senate, I will look forward to working together with you and your staffs to resolve the challenging issues that confront the nation in the areas of risk reduction and environmental cleanup from the nuclear weapons production program.

I would like to introduce my family to the Committee. Here today is my father Mike White who began teaching me high-school math in second grade and my mother Donna White who taught me the value of hard work and persistence. Thanks for all you've done. Also here are my sisters, Sara Hall and Katy White with my nieces and nephews Matt, Emily, Hannah and Sam. A group of close friends have also joined me today. Without the support of my family, friends and colleagues, I would not be here today and I thank them all for their support.

My Master's Degree is in nuclear engineering, and I was fortunate to have graduated at a time when the environmental restoration field was relatively new. With my interest in the nuclear field and appreciation for our environment, I determined that environmental cleanup was a natural fit. I began my career performing physical cleanup work. My strategy was to learn the environmental cleanup business in the most basic way, which has been instrumental in understanding the challenges and opportunities facing the Department today and into the future. That experience was informative and provided a sound basis to help form my consulting firm in 1995. 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 innovative problem solver.

Over the past 25 years, I have consulted with commercial, government and international organizations solving complex problems here at home and in a number foreign countries. I have worked at a number of DOE-EM sites, providing me with an appreciation for the

complex technical and stakeholder issues the Department faces in the cleanup of its legacy EM facilities. Additionally, 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 moving forward to mitigate risk and work toward eliminating existing liabilities.

Through the years I have had the good fortune to work and collaborate with a wonderful group of smart, technically savvy peers to solve complex problems through innovation, creativity and optimization. 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 in the cleanup mission. 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 clean up our nation's legacy environmental challenges will be a focus throughout my tenure.

Should I be confirmed, I commit to you that I will work with this Committee, the conscientious staff within the Department and various stakeholders including Congress, Native American tribes, regulators, local communities, and the dedicated workforce at each of the 16 sites for which EM has responsibility. My goal will be to enhance safety through risk mitigation and cleanup and eliminate overall taxpayer liability for legacy environmental cleanup.

Chairman Murkowski, Ranking Member Cantwell 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. Thank you for your time today. I look forward to answering your questions as you consider my nomination.