

1 Armed Services Committee made reference to the goals
2 that they were setting for the Board. The "basic
3 goals," and I'm quoting now from its report, "The
4 basic goals in establishing an independent safety
5 oversight board are to assure and enhance the safety
6 of operations of DOE's nuclear facilities, and to
7 restore public confidence that these facilities are
8 operated without undue risk to public health and
9 safety."

10 Now the report set forth, of course, a
11 number of responsibilities given to the Board, but
12 the report also went on to say, "Above all, the Board
13 should be instrumental in restoring public confidence
14 in DOE's management capabilities, a clear
15 prerequisite for the continued production of the
16 nuclear materials vital to the nation's security."

17 So it's in light of the mandate given to
18 the Board that we are holding the hearings today, in
19 public, and to meet these goals set by the Congress
20 for the Board.

21 With that, we will begin. We welcome the
22 witnesses here this morning. But before that, I'll
23 ask the other Board members if they have anything
24 they wish to say. Dr. Eggenberger?

25 VICE CHAIRMAN EGGENBERGER: Mr. Chairman,

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1 in light that we have a rather ambitious schedule
2 today, I'll hold my remarks to the witnesses.

3 CHAIRMAN CONWAY: Dr. Mansfield?

4 DR. MANSFIELD: As will I.

5 CHAIRMAN CONWAY: Dr. Matthews?

6 DR. MATTHEWS: Just quickly, I want to
7 thank the presenters for taking the time to come
8 here, and just to put it in context that my real
9 issue in this is the age-old problem of balancing
10 productivity and safety. And particularly in the
11 world of accelerated clean-up, I think that is the
12 hot issue, so I'll be looking for that in your
13 testimony. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN CONWAY: And I might say that
15 for each witness that appears before us this morning,
16 we have an autobiography which we will submit, put in
17 the record, preceding each of your testimonies, and
18 with that, I'll turn to Mr. Jeffrey Allison, the
19 Manager of Savannah River Operations Office for the
20 Department of Energy. Mr. Allison.

21 MR. ALLISON: Good morning, Mr. Chairman
22 and members of the Board. I'm Jeffrey Allison, the
23 Manager of the Savannah River Operations Office, and
24 I appreciate the opportunity to talk to you today
25 concerning safety oversight at the Savannah River

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