



Stephen G. Burns

Stephen G. Burns completed his service as a Commissioner of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in April 2019. President Obama had appointed Mr. Burns as a Commissioner on 5 November 2014. Mr. Burns served as the 16th Chairman of the NRC from 1 January 2015 through 23 January 2017.

Commissioner Burns has had a distinguished career within the NRC and internationally. Immediately prior to his service as Commissioner, Mr. Burns was the Head of Legal Affairs of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris from 2012 to 2014.

Prior to assuming his post at the NEA, Commissioner Burns was a career employee at the NRC from 1978 to 2012. He served in a variety of roles during his career, including being appointed as the NRC's General Counsel from May 2009 until April 2012. Also of note, Commissioner Burns was the Executive Assistant to former NRC Chairman Kenneth M. Carr and the Director of the Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication.

Commissioner Burns currently serves as a Senior Visiting Fellow at Third Way in its climate and energy program, and he provides consulting services on nuclear energy law. The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency appointed Mr. Burns the chair of the International Nuclear Safety Group (INSAG) in May 2022.

Commissioner Burns received his JD degree in 1978 from the George Washington University in Washington, DC, and his BA degree in 1975 from Colgate University in Hamilton, New York. In 2020 the Government of Japan awarded Commissioner Burns the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star, in recognition of his contributions to enhancing the co-operation between Japan and the United States on nuclear safety regulation.