

Congressman Don Beyer

**Remarks to Introduce Jeff Baran, Nominee to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

May 10, 2023

Good morning.

Today, I have the honor of introducing Commissioner Jeff Baran to this esteemed Committee on the momentous occasion of his nomination for a fourth term as a Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner.

I am honored to be Commissioner Baran's Representative and I am glad that he has been nominated to again represent all of our best interests in nuclear regulatory policy, as he has done since 2014.

Jeff got his start at Ohio University with a bachelor's and master's degree in political science, and then earned a law degree at Harvard Law School.

Jeff then made a choice that all of us in the room resonate with—he set his sights to Capitol Hill.

Jeff worked in the House of Representatives for over 11 years, first as counsel to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, then in the House Energy and Commerce Committee, where he worked for over 11 years.

In the Energy and Commerce Committee, he pulled together bills around energy efficiency, supporting renewable energy, bolstering the electric grid, and pipeline and nuclear safety, including really impactful projects like the cleanup of nuclear waste in and around the Navajo Nation.

Additionally, during his time on the Committee, he oversaw many of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's activities, preparing him directly for his current role as a Commissioner.

Jeff was then nominated to the NRC in 2014 by President Obama, and approved by this Committee.

During his time at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Jeff and the other Commissioners have served diligently, making strides in approving and regulating cutting edge technologies like small modular reactors, and my personal favorite, setting a framework for how to regulate fusion energy once it moves into power plant readiness.

These areas have kept our nuclear power stores safe and operational, while continuing to promote innovation by giving engineers the freedom to find more efficient ways to create and store energy.

Jeff's work has also made significant strides toward creating a cleaner and more reliable grid.

I look back with pride on Jeff's work as a Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner, and look forward to the ways in which he will continue to serve our country if he is approved again.

Thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.