



NRC NEWS

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NRC Statement on Passing of Former President Carter

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission mourns the loss of Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States. President Carter exemplified a lifelong commitment to public service, innovation and safety and made extraordinary contributions to the nuclear community.

“President Carter’s legacy in the nuclear field serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of accountability, transparency and innovation in the safe use of nuclear technology,” said NRC Chair Christopher T. Hanson. “His work helped lay the foundation for the robust, effective regulatory framework we continue to uphold.”

President Carter’s leadership during the 1979 Three Mile Island accident remains a defining moment in NRC history. His selection of the NRC’s Harold Denton as the President’s personal representative provided stability during the worst of the event. President Carter’s leadership led to significant advancements in NRC regulatory oversight and safety protocols, many of which remain central to the agency’s mission today.

President Carter also oversaw a pivotal NRC reorganization that streamlined its operations and clarified the roles and authorities (particularly during emergencies) of the Chair, Commission and Executive Director for Operations. The changes enhanced the safety of nuclear power plants and other uses of nuclear materials.

For more information about the history and mission of the NRC, visit www.nrc.gov.