

Statement by Laboratory Director John Browne

I welcome the report of John Hamre and the Commission on Science and Security. The report clearly establishes that science and security are not conflicting objectives, as Secretary Abraham has said.

We look forward to working with the National Nuclear Security Administration and the Department of Energy to implement the reforms announced today by Secretary Abraham. I am pleased to note also that the Los Alamos Strategic Security Implementation Plan that I have just approved as a result of our own internal review of security tracks very well with the CSIS report recommendations and the reforms announced by Secretary Abraham.

In addition to our Strategic Security Implementation Plan, we have initiated several other efforts in partnership with the National Nuclear Security Administration to strengthen the connections between cutting-edge science and effective security:

- The Laboratory's Integrated Safeguards and Security Management program has led to clearer definitions of roles and responsibilities, fewer security violations, and sharper security focus in work planning and execution.
- We are implementing new technological measures to eliminate risks associated with certain types of electronic media.
- We continue to review, modify, and strengthen safeguards and security associated with our highest value assets, particularly in light of the events of September 11.

Also, we strongly agree with the recommendation to strengthen cyber security, one of the most significant potential vulnerabilities in our current information-based society.

Los Alamos and the other NNSA laboratories have dual responsibilities for the link between science and security: We produce knowledge and information that must be protected because it is critical to the national security, and we develop technological solutions for sustaining security excellence in national defense and in homeland security. We are committed to excellence in both.

I pledge the full support of Los Alamos National Laboratory to the Department of Energy and NNSA in implementing the Commission's well-considered recommendations.