



**Subcommittee on National Security,  
Emerging Threats and International Relations**

Christopher Shays, Connecticut  
Chairman

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**\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\***

For Immediate Release  
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**Congressman Christopher Shays to Convene June 24 Hearing on**

**“Emerging Threats:  
Assessing Nuclear Weapons Complex Facility Security ”**

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Christopher Shays (CT-4), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, will convene an oversight hearing Tuesday, June 24 to examine the adequacy of security at nuclear weapon facilities within the Department of Energy (DOE).

At the hearing, the General Accounting Office (GAO) will release a new report on Department of Energy management of safety and security programs since September 11, 2001. At the Subcommittee’s request, GAO examined physical security at National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and DOE facilities the contain Category I (fissile) materials. According to GAO, NNSA has not been effective in managing the safeguards and security program.

Nuclear facility security programs are driven by a vulnerability assessment called the “design basis threat” (DBT). The Department initially resisted providing GAO with access to the draft DBT documents, but ultimately acceded to the Comptroller General’s request. Lack of access would have prevented GAO from fully answering the Subcommittee’s questions regarding future security requirements. An updated DBT was issued in May 2003.

The Tuesday, June 24, 2003 hearing will convene at 9:00 a.m., room 2247 Rayburn House Office Building followed by a **closed hearing** at 2:00 p.m., room 2203 Rayburn House Office Building.

# **WITNESS LIST**

## ***PANEL ONE***

**Robin M. Nazzaro, Director**  
Natural Resources and Environment  
U.S. General Accounting Office

**James Noel, Assistant Director**  
Natural Resources and Environment  
U.S. General Accounting Office

**Jonathan M. Gill, Evaluator**  
Natural Resources and Environment  
U.S. General Accounting Office

**Glenn S. Podonsky, Director**  
Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance  
Department of Energy

## ***PANEL TWO***

**Linton F. Brooks, Administrator**  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Department of Energy

**Joseph S. Mahaley, Director**  
Office of Security  
Department of Energy

## ***PANEL THREE***

**Danielle Brian, Executive Director**  
Project on Government Oversight

**Ronald E. Timm, President**  
RETA Security