



**UNITED STATES**  
**NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD**  
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300  
Arlington, VA 22201-3369

*January 11, 2024*  
*For Immediate Release*

*Christopher R. Burk*  
*External Affairs*

**Christopher Burk Named Director of External Affairs at the  
U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board**

Mr. Christopher R. Burk has been named Director of External Affairs at the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB), effective January 2, 2024. Mr. Burk will lead media relations for the Board and liaise with Congress, federal and state agencies, research institutions, and other organizations on matters related to the Board's mission of providing oversight of certain U.S. Department of Energy nuclear waste management activities.

Prior to his current role, Mr. Burk served as a Senior Advisor at the Embassy of Finland in Washington, D.C., and previously with the staff of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment. While working on the Hill, he supported the development of legislation related to nuclear waste management. Mr. Burk has also held a variety of other roles in Washington, Beijing, and Dallas. He earned an M.S. in Energy Policy and Climate from Johns Hopkins University and a B.A. in Government from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Bret Leslie, a member of the Board's Senior Professional Staff who has been leading the Board's external affairs work in recent years, will continue his role with the Board as a geoscientist.

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, an independent federal agency, was created by Congress in the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987. The Board is charged with evaluating the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the Secretary of Energy to manage and dispose of the nation's spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. More information on the Board can be found on its website site: [www.nwtrb.gov](http://www.nwtrb.gov). Mr. Burk may be contacted at [burk@nwtrb.gov](mailto:burk@nwtrb.gov) (email) or 703-235-4886 (office telephone).

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