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DOE security czar visits Pacific Northwest

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Bonneville Power Administration

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PORTLAND, Ore. – Former commander in chief of Strategic Command General Eugene E. Habiger will travel to federal facilities in the Pacific Northwest next week for the first time in his new role as the U.S. Department of Energy's security czar.

Habiger will meet with the media at 11:45 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 30, at the Bonneville Power Administration located at 905 N.E. 11th Ave. in Portland, Ore.

In June 1999, U.S. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson named General Habiger as the director of a new high-level Office of Security and Emergency Operations. The appointment was part of Richardson's aggressive actions to strengthen security and counterintelligence at the Department of Energy.

Habiger is responsible for implementing Secretary Richardson's comprehensive security reform plan. Habiger oversees all security functions, including safeguards and security policy, cyber-security, emergency operations functions and counter terrorism. In his former position as commander in chief of Strategic Command, Habiger was instrumental in the formulation and establishment of DOE's program for maintaining the country's nuclear deterrent without nuclear testing. In addition to being commander in chief, Habiger commanded two U.S. Air Force bombardment wings. He began as an enlisted man in the U.S. Army and later served with distinction as a bomber pilot in the Vietnam War with over 150 combat missions.

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