



PEÑA: Beginning of the end?

Murkowski then warned that the job demands someone "with the proper professional background and a stiff backbone."

Peña's connection with energy issues is apparently limited to his concerns as Denver's mayor with cleaning up DOE's Rocky Flats nuclear weapons facility and the Army's Rocky Mountain Arsenal. He encouraged R&D to advance renewable energy and alternative fuels as ways of reducing pollution in Denver. At Transportation, Noah Rifkin, who served as Peña's science adviser, characterized him as a "workaholic" who expects "hard work and dedication" from those around him. Rifkin said Peña believes in R&D "as a means to an end. His vision is that research and technology help drive an engine for creating jobs, improving our business competitiveness and solving social problems."

Confirmed in January 1993 as transportation secretary, Peña presided over a department responsible for the nation's highways, air traffic, railroads and Coast Guard, with more than 107 000 employees and an annual budget of \$36 billion, which is about twice the size of DOE's. Like DOE, the department has disparate missions and consists of several components that were cobbled together. A Congressional staffer noted that Peña was "a fairly effective leader who maintained a low profile." But the press often portrayed him as a captive of his department's bureaucracy and various constituency groups. He was harshly criticized, recalled the Congressional staff member, for making slow progress in handling airline disasters and in restructuring the Federal Aviation Administration, the department's largest entity. Peña upset the White House last summer when he publicly avowed

the safety of ValuJet Airlines after one of its planes had plunged into the Florida Everglades. Apparently with this episode in mind, he announced after the November election that he would leave the Administration and posted a "for sale" sign in front of his house in suburban Alexandria, Virginia.

As Peña awaits his confirmation hearing, he is being briefed by senior DOE staff on an extensive list of issues, embracing nuclear weapons, nuclear waste, environmental pollution, research laboratories and collaboration with CERN on the Large Hadron Collider (see page 58). As energy secretary, Peña will soon learn that the department often comes in conflict with the Interior Department, the Defense Department and the Environmental Protection Agency. That is one reason why previous DOE leaders, particularly James Schlesinger, Donald Hodel and John Herrington, have urged Congress to break up the department and turn over some of its missions to other agencies.

Senator Pete Domenici, the New

Mexico Republican whose support will be critical to Peña's confirmation, has conceived a plan that includes redesigning DOE so that nuclear weapons and energy research would continue to operate under a civilian agency similar to the old Atomic Energy Commission or its successor, the Energy Research and Development Administration. Domenici, who chairs the Senate's Budget Committee and appropriations subcommittee on energy, expressed his dissatisfaction with DOE in a report that accompanied the 1997 funding for the department. "The department's administration has become too cumbersome" and has lost its focus, the report says. The resulting higher costs and lower output "will seriously jeopardize the future of the department." Domenici didn't push his plan during the past two years, while freshman House members were trying to jettison the \$16.5 billion department. But he anticipates returning to it if and when Peña moves into DOE's Forrestal Building.

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Washington Ins & Outs

Changes at DOE, FAA and Congress

After an extensive search over the past year, Martha Krebs, director of the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Research, selected **S. Peter Rosen**, dean of science and professor of physics at the University of Texas at Arlington, as her associate director of high energy and nuclear physics. He succeeds **Wilmot N. (Bill) Hess**, who served in that job from 1987 until his retirement last February. John O'Fallon, the deputy associate director, had been acting head of the program.

Krebs's letter in December announcing Rosen's appointment observed that Rosen has spent nearly 40 years in physics research and is a "respected scholar with an international reputation."

Born in London, England, Rosen received his BA in mathematics in 1954 from Merton College of the University of Oxford, and his PhD in physics three years later from the Clarendon Laboratory at Oxford. He was a postdoc at Washington University in St. Louis from 1957 to 1959, then joined the Midwest Universities Research Association (MURA), the organization that fought tirelessly against formidable political forces for a particle accelerator in the region. After a year as a NATO Fellow at the Clarendon Lab in 1961-62, Rosen returned to the US to teach theoretical physics at Purdue Univer-

sity. Purdue granted him leave from 1975 to 1977 to work as a senior theoretical physicist at the Energy Research and Development Administration, the short-lived agency that served as a transition from the Atomic Energy Commission to the Department of Energy. The university gave him leave once again from 1981 to 1983 to serve as a physics program officer at the National Science Foundation. In 1983 Rosen joined the research staff at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and in 1990 he became a physics professor at the University of Texas at Arlington, which drew him into another particle physics battle, this time for the Superconducting Super Collider, which was to be built under grasslands around Waxahachie, Texas.

On 15 December **John M. Deutch** left President Clinton's cabinet as director of the Central Intelligence Agency to return to MIT as an institute professor. Deutch, who had been undersecretary and then deputy secretary at the Pentagon under William Perry, was considered on the inside track for Defense Secretary. But after Clinton's reelection, the President nominated his national security adviser, Anthony Lake, for the CIA post, leaving Deutch out in the cold. The White House viewed Deutch as a con-

troversial figure, too aggressive and outspoken, say sources in the administration, to direct the prima donnas on the Pentagon's stage.

Deutch took control of a CIA struggling to define its role in the post-cold-war world even as it coped with a series of internal scandals—notably the Aldrich Ames and Harold Nicholson spying cases, revelations of CIA involvement with a Guatemalan military officer implicated in the murder of an American, the exposure of CIA operatives who spied on industrial firms in France, the discovery of a special \$4 billion fund buried within the super-secret National Reconnaissance Office, and the unsubstantiated reports of a CIA connection to Nicaraguan drug traffickers in California.

In an interview with the *Boston Globe*, Deutch said he would have remained in Washington if President Clinton had chosen him to be Defense Secretary. "After being in Washington for four years, you're eager to be a private citizen. I've been away from MIT as long as one can be politely away and still be a faculty member," Deutch told the newspaper.

Also returning to MIT in February is **Ernest J. Moniz**, associate director for science at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. While chairman of MIT's physics department, Moniz was already a consultant to OSTP on scientific matters. President Clinton nominated him in July 1995 for the post of associate director. But it wasn't until just before the Senate left Washington for its Christmas recess that year that Moniz was confirmed. He officially assumed his position at OSTP on 2 January 1996.

After Clinton's reelection in November, Moniz knew he had "to come to grips with what I wanted to do: Stay at OSTP or return to MIT." Having completed his role in the annual budget cycle, which he calls the "heavy lifting" aspect of the job, he decided that rejoining MIT would provide more fun and less frustration. Remaining at OSTP would have meant taking part in the continuing struggle with the Office of Management and Budget on spending allocations, with the science agencies that remain intent on raising their outlays for research and with the scientific community desperate for special treatment as R&D funds become scarcer. At MIT, Moniz will return to his position as professor and head of the physics department, which are certain to make him a supplicant for research funds again.

Moniz's departure leaves John H. Gibbons, OSTP's director, without any

of the four associate directors assigned to the agency.

After 10 terms as the Republican representative of Pennsylvania's 16th Congressional district, **Robert S. Walker** gave up a safe seat and retired as chairman of the House Committee on Science and vice chairman of the House Budget Committee at the end of the embattled 104th Congress, and joined one of Washington's most aggressive lobbying firms. On 6 January, a day before the start of the 105th Congress, Walker became president of the Wexler Group. In Walker's new job, his Congressional pay of \$133 600 will probably triple.

Founded only 15 years ago, the Wexler Group represents an impressive list of more than 50 corporate biggies, including AlliedSignal, American Airlines, Anheuser-Busch, ARCO, Asea Brown Boveri, Bristol Myers Squibb, Columbia University, Eastman Kodak, General Motors, Johnson & Johnson and Science Applications International Corp (SAIC). Its fold also contains the Business Roundtable, an organization of chief executives of some 200 major corporations, and the Science Coalition, a group of scientific societies in Washington.

Last October **Anthony Fainberg**, who had been a senior associate at Congress's Office of Technology Assessment until it was scuttled by Congress in 1995, became director of policy and planning for airline security at the Federal Aviation Administration. Fainberg has been active in the American Physical Society ever since he served as a congressional science fellow in 1983–1984, during which he was a legislative aide to Senator Jeff Bingaman, Democrat of New Mexico. In 1992–93 Fainberg was chairman of the APS Forum on Physics and Society. When he accepted the FAA position, Fainberg was in line to be chairman of the Panel on Public Affairs this year. But he was advised by FAA counsel that he is forbidden by government ethics rules to serve on such nongovernmental committees. Accordingly, he resigned from POPA.

After receiving a PhD in experimental particle physics from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1969, Fainberg did postdoc research at CERN, then did research and taught at Syracuse University from 1973 to 1977. He was a staff physicist in Brookhaven National Laboratory's department of nuclear energy from 1977 to 1983, and after a year as an APS congressional fellow, he joined OTA. In 1991–92, Fainberg took a year's leave from OTA to serve as a visiting scholar at the

Center for International Security and Arms Control at Stanford University.

His office oversees research grants and contracts worth about \$60 million this year.

Helmut W. Hellwig, director of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research since 1990, has moved up to become the Air Force's deputy assistant secretary for science, engineering and technology. His successor at AFOSR is **Joseph F. Janni**, who was chief scientist at the Air Force's Phillips Laboratory at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico.

Upon the retirement at the end of the 104th Congress of Senator J. Bennett Johnston, the Louisiana Democrat who chaired the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the appropriations subcommittee on energy and water development, two highly regarded staffers also left last month. They are **W. Proctor Jones**, who served 36 years in the Senate, first as special assistant to Richard Russell, the Georgia Democrat who was majority leader in the 1960s and later as chief of staff on the energy and water subcommittee, and **Benjamin S. Cooper**, who was with the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for 22 years, the last six as staff director. Since 1995, when the Republicans took control of Congress, both Jones and Cooper have had smaller minority staffs under their aegis.

Cooper, who earned a PhD in nuclear theory at the University of Virginia in 1968 and then worked as a researcher at the Ames Laboratory while teaching at Iowa State University, joined the Senate staff in 1974 on the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, led at the time by Senator Henry M. (Scoop) Jackson, Democrat of Washington. After the oil embargoes imposed by the Arab states, the committee was absorbed in legislation on energy issues, creating new agencies and debating Federal programs in energy R&D. Under Johnston, he moved up the staff ladder to the top rung. Cooper organized hearings of the committee, which was renamed the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in 1984, and helped draft the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 and the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

Both Cooper and Jones believe "it's time to move on." In Jones's case, he will work with Johnston, who has established a political consulting and business development office in Washington.

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