

## New Director of the Navy's Energy and Environmental Readiness Division Outlines His Priorities

*Editor's note: On 18 May 2010, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) announced new flag leadership for CNO's Environmental Readiness Division. Rear Admiral Philip Cullom was assigned as Director, relieving Rear Admiral Herman Shelanski. At the same time, this division was assigned responsibility to lead the Navy's energy program, both operational and ashore.*

It is with great pleasure that I assume leadership of the Navy's Energy and Environmental Readiness Division. In both areas, the challenges and opportunities have never been greater or potentially more impactful for the long term. I look forward to working with Navy professionals, regulators, and non-governmental organization representatives to achieve the Navy's and the nation's important objectives.

I salute Rear Admiral Shelanski and thank him for his leadership since July 2009. In March 2010, the CNO tapped him to lead Navy's participation in the Secretary of Defense's study on the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy. The importance of this issue to military readiness caused Rear Admiral Shelanski's short-term assignment to be substantially extended, requiring assignment of new leadership for the division.

mental and energy program objectives under the reorganized division will allow the Navy to meet all program objectives (i.e., energy goals and carbon footprint reduction) in a holistic and effective manner.

As a Surface Warfare Officer and former Carrier Strike Group Commander, I am acutely aware of the importance of Navy's ongoing program for environmental planning, permitting, and consultations associated with Navy training areas at sea. Ensuring timely annual renewals of range and operating area permits require us to keep our environmental planning efforts on track and will necessarily be among my highest priorities.

I will also be focused on the emergent national Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning effort and immediate issues of encroachment on Navy training areas at sea. As our country identifies alternative energy opportunities, such as wind farms at sea, the Navy will need to carefully consider



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For the past twenty months I had the distinct honor to serve as Director, Fleet Readiness Division. A significant part of my responsibilities there included establishing Navy's Task Force Energy and institutionalizing Navy efforts to achieve Secretary Mabus' and the CNO's ambitious energy goals. Achievement of Navy energy goals is critically important to the Navy's combat capability. These efforts will reduce our total cost to operate and maintain our military platforms at sea as well as ashore.

Environmental professionals know that achieving Navy's energy goals is also the key to achieving existing and future carbon footprint reduction mandates. I am very excited to lead the integration of Navy environmental and energy programs. I firmly believe combining environ-

the pros and cons in terms of both the energy and national defense implications. The Navy will need to play actively in the Regional Planning Bodies that will soon be established to implement Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, and we intend to provide cogent and well-reasoned input into this national effort.

I look forward to working with the professional environmental staff of the division, the Navy Secretariat, other agencies, departments, and non-governmental organizations to achieve our goals of environmental stewardship and energy responsibility. ⚓

All the best,  
Rear Admiral Philip Cullom  
Director, Energy and Environmental Readiness Division