
David M. Donselar



Deputy Director, Reactor Refueling Division NAVSEA 08



Mr. David Donselar was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in 2018 with the assignment as the Deputy Director, Reactor Refueling Division in the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA 08), a joint Department of the Navy/Department of Energy program responsible for all aspects of naval nuclear propulsion. His primary responsibility is to assist the Director, Reactor Refueling Division with the direction and coordination of all research and development work involved in the refueling and reactor servicing of nuclear submarines, aircraft carriers, moored training ships, and land-based prototype reactor, as well as the processing and storage of spent fuel at the Naval Reactors Facility and program management for the multi-billion dollar Spent Fuel Handling Recapitalization Project. In this role, he is also responsible for the security and safety of special nuclear materials, lifting and handling programs at shipyards, laboratories, and prototypes, the refueling of prototype reactors, and oversight of all reactor-servicing related business management.

Mr. Donselar previously served as the head of the Submarine and Prototype Reactor Servicing Group in the Reactor Refueling Division, in which he was responsible for the planning and execution of all LOS ANGELES-class and OHIO-class submarine reactor servicing work and all prototype reactor servicing work performed by three public shipyards and two private shipyards. He was instrumental in the reform of regulatory requirements to replace unnecessarily prescriptive rules with principles-based requirements and the coordination of shipyard and laboratory efforts to deliver technological innovations that reduced maintenance durations and improved performance in the execution of submarine and aircraft carrier maintenance.

Mr. Donselar previously served on active duty for 25 years as both an enlisted sailor and Naval officer in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Born and raised in Nunica, Michigan, he holds a B.S. in Nuclear Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an M.S. in Administration from Central Michigan University.