

Neil Wilmshurst is Senior Vice President of Energy System Resources for the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). He has overall management and technical responsibility for the research and development activities conducted by EPRI with its global membership related to all generation sources and storage.

Leadership

In August 2021, Wilmshurst became Chair of the World Energy Council (WEC) US Member Committee. The US Member Committee is hosted by EPRI, and represents innovators, leaders, and disruptors in the US energy community, bringing their voices to the global community of WEC.

From 2010-2020, when he was EPRI's Chief Nuclear Officer, the nuclear sector global membership expanded to encompass more than 80% of the world's commercial nuclear fleet.

The 2011 Fukushima event created unique technical needs and a demand for unprecedented collaboration in an industry that already practiced superb teamwork.

EPRI responded with its Japan-based nuclear tech staff and immediately added more research talent. Wilmshurst reinforced EPRI's industry role after the event: "Our reputation for reliable performance and credibility as an independent organization supporting the industry was paramount. Our focus has always been delivering on our promises, stretching ourselves and providing crucial technical analysis when and where they are needed in the industry. Our unique position proved during this challenging time EPRI could positively assist the industry and Japan as it recovered from the Fukushima event."

Professional background

Wilmshurst joined EPRI in 2003 as a Senior Project Manager in the Plant Support Engineering program. In 2008, he became Director of the Plant Technology department, and was appointed as Vice President, Nuclear and Chief Nuclear Officer in 2010. In November 2020 he was appointed to his current role.

Before joining EPRI, Wilmshurst worked in a variety of nuclear utility engineering and maintenance roles with AmerGen at Three Mile Island Unit 1 and British Energy at the Sizewell B plant. Prior to joining the civil nuclear program, Wilmshurst served for 13 years in the Royal Navy as a Nuclear Submarine Engineer Officer.

Education

Wilmshurst earned a bachelor's degree in electrical, mechanical, and control engineering from the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon, UK; a post graduate diploma in nuclear reactor technology from the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, UK; and a master's degree in defense administration from Cranfield Institute of Technology, Shrivenham, UK. While serving in the Royal Navy he was certified as a Naval Nuclear Plant Operator.