

May 2015 recommendation for the approval of the repository. The *Detroit News* reported on November 28 that the project, which has advanced under former Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservative Party, may be getting a new look following the October 2015 election of Justin Trudeau as prime minister.

## United Kingdom

The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) announced on October 5, 2015, that the last of the spent nuclear fuel has been removed from the reactors at the Oldbury nuclear power plant. Located in South Gloucestershire, England, Oldbury houses two Magnox reactors. Unit 2 was shut down in June 2011, followed by Unit 1 in February 2012. Defueling began in early 2013.

According to the NDA, more than 52,000 fuel elements were removed from the reactors during defueling, with the last element being removed from Unit 2 on October 4. The spent fuel was shipped over the following month to the Sellafield site in West Cumbria for reprocessing, with the final shipment of spent fuel due to leave the Oldbury site in early 2016. Once all of the spent fuel has been shipped to Sellafield, 99 percent of Oldbury's radioactive inventory will have been removed, and the plant will move into its decommissioning phase.

● International Nuclear Services (INS), a subsidiary of the NDA,

announced on September 19, 2015, that it has delivered the first of two planned shipments of high-level radioactive waste from the Sellafield site to Switzerland. Three casks, each containing 28 containers of HLW in the form of vitrified residues, arrived at the Zwilag storage facility in northern Switzerland on September 18.

The HLW, the result of the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel from Swiss electric utilities, was transported by ship to the port of Cherbourg in France and then by rail to Switzerland. INS said that it had contracted with Areva to safely manage the overland transport across France. The United Kingdom's Vitrified Residue Returns program, a partnership between Sellafield Ltd. and INS, is part of the NDA's strategy to repatriate HLW from the United Kingdom, fulfill overseas contracts, and deliver U.K. government policy.

● Sellafield Ltd., the cleanup contractor for the United Kingdom's Sellafield nuclear site, announced on October 28, 2015, that one of the site's biggest tasks is halfway to completion, with 50 percent of the radioactivity having been removed from the site's oldest nuclear fuel pond.

According to the company, the milestone was achieved in October when the final "canned fuel" was transferred from the Pile Fuel Storage Pond at Sellafield to a modern handling plant operated by the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL). The storage pond, one of four high-hazard facilities on the site that were prioritized for cleanup by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, is a relic from the Cold War, when Sellafield produced

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