Special Section: Outage Management

Surry senior management on preparing for outage excellence

interview by Michael McQueen

Surry’s fall 2015 outage

Streamlined onboarding in place for Darlington refurbishment

by Dick Kovan

BRIMS: Innovation, collaboration key to successful development

by Dick Kovan

Special Report: FY 2017 DOE and NRC budget requests

Power

Bechtel takes charge of mPower development. The latest milestone in the construction of Vogtle-3 was reached on March 6. NRC staff considers lingering Levy design issues to be resolved. Watts Bar-2 startup awaits completion of preoperational tests. Renaissance Watch: An update on developments that may lead to new power reactors. NRC issues 2015 performance appraisals for all power reactors. Pilgrim found to comply with two post-Fukushima orders. Outside requests for NRC action on safety issues met with mixed results. Seabrook environmental impact statement upheld; other license renewal developments. NRC issues guidance on changes to NFPA 805 use. NRC audits seismic data for North Anna-3; other licensing actions. (See also Call for Papers, pp. 75–78, for the 2016 ANS Winter Meeting, November 6–10, 2016, Las Vegas, Nev.)

Security

U.S.–South Korea commission launched to address spent fuel issues and other non-proliferation matters. Last separated plutonium removed from Switzerland. NRC concerned about impact of OSHA findings at Palisades. Paraguay has ratified the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

Policy & Legislation

House of Representatives passes nuclear R&D bill. House requests GAO probe into Yucca Mountain. Legislators support lawsuit against Clean Power Plan. Senators ask GAO to conduct study on NRC’s use of requests for additional information. Kentucky Senate approves bill to allow nuclear power plant construction.
International 55
Molten salt reactor design to be reviewed by Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. IAEA assists effort against Zika virus. France’s president backs EDF’s Hinkley Point C in United Kingdom. Japanese district court halts operation of Tahama-3 and -4. Bruce Power CEO leaves for U.K.’s Horizon Nuclear. Cold hydro tests completed at UAE’s Barakah-1 and China’s Taishan-1. Sweden’s Oskarshamn-1 will close at the end of June 2017.

Waste Management 64

Industry 67
General Fusion receives $9.6-million grant; other business developments. Westinghouse gets TVA, ČEZ work; other contracts. Nonconformances in AP1000 welds, supports still being evaluated.

Isotopes & Radiation 69
SHINE Medical Technologies receives construction permit for molybdenum-99 production facility.

Fuel 70

Standards & Documentation 72
Comments requested on three standards. ANS answers inquiry on ANS/ANS-3.4–2013. NRC issues interim staff guidance on tornado missiles, mitigation strategies.