Special Section: Waste Management

The new decommissioning rules
by Tim Gregoire

D&D of Hanford’s PFP nears end

Ken Robuck: The D&D business model
interview by Tim Gregoire

National Cleanup Workshop: The path to cleanup
by Tim Gregoire

Power

Georgia regulators begin hearings on fate of Vogtle project. Judge cuts PG&E’s requested rate increase for Diablo Canyon plant closure. Focus on Finance. Calls for investigations into Summer-2 and -3 construction halt continue to accumulate; SCANA leadership changes announced. Renaissance Watch: An update on developments that may lead to new power reactors. NRC revises oversight level for four reactors.

Security

NRC rulemaking on cybersecurity for fuel cycle facilities progresses. Material regulations for Caribbean territories updated. Study finds that nuclear programs do not increase proliferation risk. NNSA initiative launched in New York City to lessen “dirty bomb” threat.

Policy & Legislation

Comments on Energy Secretary Rick Perry’s plan for nuclear, coal plants flood FERC. Tax reform bill passes in House of Representatives with revised nuclear production tax credit. Pennsylvania General Assembly passes resolutions in support of proposed DOE rule. Six new bills filed in South Carolina House of Representatives following failure of Summer project. Connecticut passes bill that will benefit Millstone, ratepayers. FERC nominees approved, remaining seats filled.
Waste Management 66
Hanford Site’s Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant controls found insufficient. Washington River Protection Solutions receives project management award for work at Hanford. Congress urged to act on DOE’s Nuclear Waste Policy Act obligations. Remediated nitrate salts treated and re-packaged at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Fuel 75
Cameco suspends operations at McArthur River mine and Key Lake mill. Peninsula Energy looks to replace alkaline leach solution with low pH in situ recovery solution. American Centrifuge work continues; other business developments.

Education, Training & Workforce 78
IAEA offers course on safety leadership for young professionals, other training opportunities. NRC receives above-average marks in 2017 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey.

Industry 80
Global Power’s Mechanical Solutions sold to Innova Power; other business developments. Underwater Construction’s diving team honored at U.K. Nuclear Decommissioning Authority’s annual Estate Supply Chain Event. BWXT joint venture is awarded Savannah River Site contract; other pacts. Gouge discovered on pump motor at APS’s Palo Verde nuclear plant; other 10 CFR Part 21 reports.

Standards & Documentation 84
Standards approved and initiated, comments requested. NRC draft regulatory guide, NUREG issued for comment.