

## And we're off!

With this first issue of *Radwaste Solutions* for 2014 comes a change. The frequency of the magazine has returned to four times a year, as it was when the magazine was launched in 1994, from five times a year, as it has been for the last three years. The goal, however, is to keep the total amount of content essentially the same for the entire year, even though we are producing one fewer issue. The four issues are scheduled to be mailed in the middle month of each quarter: February, May, August, and November.

Each year's first issue of *Radwaste Solutions* is distributed to all attendees at the Waste Management Conference, sponsored by WM Symposia and held in Phoenix, Ariz. And the topic of the issue again this year is Spent Fuel/High-Level Waste. The features on this topic cover three aspects of spent fuel: direct disposal of spent fuel in existing dual-purpose canisters (page 26); predicting stress corrosion cracking in the canisters used for dry-cask storage (page 40); and how the current and future characteristics of commercial spent nuclear fuel affect the design and licensing of systems for its storage, transport, handling, and disposal (page 50).

To keep you up to date on radwaste policy issues and emerging waste management topics, our colleagues at ExchangeMonitor Publica-

*A change in the frequency of Radwaste Solutions for 2014 has been implemented, but the magazine will still offer a variety of features, meeting reports, and news throughout the year.*

tions & Forums provided us with reports on two of their meetings—the Seventh Annual RadWaste Summit, held in September (page 60), and the 25th Annual Weapons Complex Monitor Waste Management & Cleanup Decisionmakers' Forum, held in October (page 66). Special thanks go to Make Nartker, editor-in-chief, for his assistance in preparing these reports for publication in *Radwaste Solutions*.

It has also become a tradition for this issue to include articles based on the best oral presentations from the previous year's Waste Management Conference. The ANS Best Oral Presentation Award for 2013 went to Mark Layton, of Savannah River Remediation LLC, for "Communicating Performance Assessment Results" (page 70); and the ASME Best Oral Presentation Award went to Bo Wirendal, of Studsvik Nuclear AB, and David Saul, Joe Robinson, and Gavin Davidson, of Studsvik UK

Ltd., for "Studies, Transport, and Treatment Concept for Boilers from the Berkeley Nuclear Power Plant" (page 74).

The subsequent issues of *Radwaste Solutions* for 2014 also have specific topics assigned and will be distributed at meetings throughout the year, including Low-Level Waste (April-June)/EPRI's International Low-Level Waste Conference & Exhibit; Environmental Remediation (July-September)/Exchange Monitor Publications' Eighth Annual RadWaste Summit and 26th Annual Waste Management & Cleanup Decisionmakers' Forum; and the 10th Annual Buyers Guide (October-December), with a Decontamination and Decommissioning editorial feature.

We welcome your contributions to the magazine, and as always, thank the authors and advertisers who have helped make this annual Waste Management Conference Show Issue a big success.—*Betsy Tompkins, Publisher*