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SPECIAL REPORT: FY 2014 AND 2015 DOE AND NRC BUDGETS 50
DOE’s nuclear budget up in FY 2014; FY 2015 request down slightly. NRC’s FY 2015 budget request of $1,059.5 million is small increase over FY 2014 appropriation.

POWER 24
Vogtle-3 auxiliary building module placed onto nuclear island. NRC issues final plan for retrospective analysis of its regulations. NRC issues plant performance assessments for 2013. NRC publishes draft generic letter on neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools. Environmental organizations petition NRC regarding expedited transfer of spent fuel from pools to dry storage. NRC mulls enforcement action at FitzPatrick. Some progress made on early site permit application for Hope Creek/Salem site. NRC releases draft environmental impact statement for Davis-Besse license renewal; Calway review delayed. FENOC: Davis-Besse shield building gap not safety related. Renaissance Watch: An update on developments that may lead to new power reactors. Final safety evaluation report for Watts Bar-2 to be issued in May; other licensing developments. (See also Call for Papers, pp. 79–82, for the 2014 ANS Winter Meeting and Nuclear Technology Expo, November 9–13, 2014, Anaheim, Calif.)

SECURITY 34
DOE’s FY 2015 budget request would put Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility on hold; other NNSA news. Colombia ratifies Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

INTERNATIONAL 55
Finland signs new nuclear cooperation agreement with Russia. Chubu Electric applies to restart Hamaoka-4. Electricité de France presents nuclear fleet life extension program to lawmakers. U.S. company AdSTM to support licensing of Jordan research reactor. China seeks to participate in nuclear power projects in South Africa.

Coming up . . .
Mid-April—45th Annual Buyers Guide
May—Special Feature: U.S. Nuclear Power Plant Capacity Factors
June—Special Feature on Construction and Supply Chain

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DOE begins recovery work at WIPP. Hanford Site cleanup costs to top $113 billion. URS dismisses whistle-blower at Hanford Site. Waste vault removed from Hanford Site’s 300 Area. DOE submits plan to empty leaking Hanford waste tank. Ontario Power Generation completes decommissioning of heavy-water plant.

Babcock & Wilcox to support development of TerraPower’s traveling wave reactor; other business developments. B&W receives $1.6 billion in Navy awards; other contracts. 10 CFR Part 21

By one definition, the National Ignition Facility exceeded breakeven. ITER Council approves recommendations of third biennial management assessment report.

Final supplemental environmental impact statement issued for Strata Energy’s Ross project. Accident causes spill of uranium oxide concentrate from Kayelekera mine in Malawi. Powertech Uranium to acquire Azarga Resources; Quaterra to sell its uranium assets. USEC’s planned bankruptcy goes ahead, operations continue. ASLB’s initial decision denies three contentions in MFFF licensing proceeding.

NRC proposes new regulatory guide; other NRC releases. Comments requested on two ANSI standards.

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