Coming up . . .

December—Special Section on Fuel
March—18th Annual Reference Issue

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Closing the civility gap at NRC public meetings
BY DAN YURMAN

POWER 28
NRC finishes technical reviews of COL applications for South Texas-3 and -4. NRC denies petition on Turkey Point ultimate heat sink. Focus on Finance. Nuclear’s low-carbon role boosts public support. Maximizing the Assets: A status report on license renewal and power uprates. NRC cites Entergy Nuclear for issues with Pilgrim plant’s corrective action program. GE Hitachi, DTE Energy explore detailed design needs for Fermi-3 ESBWR. ASL rules that NRC action does not amend Diablo Canyon licenses. Refueling outage issues encountered at six reactors. (See also Call for Papers, pp. 91–94, for the 2016 ANS Annual Meeting, June 12–16, in New Orleans, La.)

SECURITY 37
NNSA declares Caribbean, Uzbekistan free of high-enriched uranium. Botswana, Kyrgyzstan boost nuclear security treaty. DHS’s Securing the Cities program continues to grow. NRC issues order and fine to Energy Northwest for security lapse at Columbia.

POLICY & LEGISLATION 42
Congress passes continuing resolution to avoid government shutdown. Bill introduced in House would amend Nuclear Waste Policy Act. New head of DOE’s Office of Nuclear Energy nominated. NRC makes personnel changes to help streamline management. NRC amends regulations to streamline rulemaking process.

INTERNATIONAL 46
MEETINGS

IAEA General Conference: Atoms for peace and development; CEA centers become first IAEA research hubs; talent rewarded at youth-focused event; Web-based emergency preparedness self-assessment tool launched; preparations begun for new IAEA laboratories. 2015 RadWaste Summit: Budget and schedules.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Lawsuit filed over proposed spent fuel shipments to Idaho National Laboratory. Water sampling in Fukushima’s Kami-oguni area is part of joint research project. EPA finalizes cleanup plan for Nuclear Metals site. OIG: NRC’s definition of “long-term storage” is unclear. United Kingdom’s Oldbury nuclear power plant defueled; HLW returned to Switzerland.

INDUSTRY

Westinghouse seeks inroads into Australia’s new nuclear market; other business developments. Areva receives multiple contracts for work in Europe and the United States; other pacts. Four new 10 CFR Part 21 reports, one Steris-related update filed with NRC.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & WORKFORCE

Renovation of University of Michigan’s decommissioned research reactor building begins. Russian university to offer IAEA-endorsed postgraduate programs. NRC provides $16.6 million in academic grants for 2015.

FUEL

Criticality safety concerns prompt special inspection at BWXT fuel fabrication facility. Kazakhstan was top U.S. uranium supplier in 2014. Forte Energy backs out of Slovakian projects; other news.

ISOTOPES & RADIATION

NNSA backs General Atomics selective gas extraction project for molybdenum-99 production.

STANDARDS & DOCUMENTATION

Two ANSI/ANS standards published; comments requested on two standards. NRC endorses ASME work, issues interim staff guidance, other documents.