

Radwaste Solutions

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What does this old house have to do with nuclear waste management? Check out the article beginning on p. 48 to find out.

Features

Cover Stories—Spent Fuel/High-Level Waste

International and Regional Repositories: The Key Questions 12

International repositories can make a vital contribution to global environmental safety by ensuring that radioactive substances are permanently removed from the human environment and can greatly enhance global security by simplifying the task of preventing malicious use of fissile materials.

Deep Disposal of Irradiated Fuel: An Alternate Viewpoint 19

In this perspective, the author urges the nuclear energy community to search for a solution that is safer, less grand, and less expensive than deep disposal.

Managing It Remotely: IAEA Review of Remote Technology in Spent-Fuel Management 24

IAEA activities in remote technology, begun in the early 1990s, provide an international survey of status and trends in the use of robotics and remote systems in commercial spent-fuel management.

Waste Management 2001 Best Papers

Low-Dose Radiation Risk: A Biological Reality Check 30

The results of low-dose and/or low dose rate experiments with low LET radiation in human and rodent cells and in animals reject the LNT hypothesis as it applies to the risk of most concern, cancer.

Transition to Private Ownership: Lessons Learned during the Grand Junction Office Site Transfer 36

As the DOE cleans up and shuts down many former weapons sites, it will transfer these properties to private ownership. Lessons learned during the transition activities at the Grand Junction Office site could be beneficial to many other sites.

Other Features

Three Years and Thirty-Three Thousand Truckloads: Fernald Eliminates Groundwater Contamination Source 44

To eliminate the main source of contamination to the underlying Great Miami Aquifer, Fernald workers excavated contaminated soil and disposed of it at the site's onsite disposal facility, completing the work in November.

A New Role for the Nevada Test Site 48

Since weapons testing was suspended at the end of the Cold War, a new and possibly more challenging role has emerged for the Nevada Test Site: managing radioactive waste.

D&D in the Next Generation: A Report from the ANS 2001 Winter Meeting in Reno 54

What can plants currently being decommissioned offer to those of the future? A great deal, as it turns out.

Technology Note

Synroc: Progress and Future Prospects 58

Reviewing the progress in the development of titanate ceramics and ceramic/glass composites (synroc) and addressing the relevance of this work in future radioactive waste management strategies.

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On the Cover:

Yucca Mountain has been found "suitable" to host a spent-fuel/high-level waste repository (see "Headlines," p. 6). The articles beginning on p. 12 cover several issues related to spent-fuel/HLW management, storage, and disposal. (Diagram reprinted courtesy of the U.S. Department of Energy.)

Next Issue:

Low-Level Waste