

Radwaste Solutions

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Loading a fuel bundle into a spent fuel storage cask at Big Rock Point. The photo essay beginning on page 32 looks at how the plant became fuel free.

Features

Cover Stories—Decontamination and Decommissioning

Polycubes, Metals, and Oxides . . . and More: Hanford Workers Speed Plutonium Finishing Plant Stabilization, Dismantlement

By February 2004, the DOE and prime contractor Fluor Hanford are expected to complete stabilization and packaging of the PFP's inventory of special nuclear materials.

Decommissioning Strategies and Concerns for Small Non-Fuel-Cycle Facilities

The important points for policy makers, operations, waste managers, and other parties decommissioning small nuclear facilities.

A Fuel-Free Pool at Big Rock Point

The absence of fuel and a spent fuel pool clears the way for the removal and shipping of Big Rock's steam drum and reactor vessel.

Decommissioning the Windscale AGR: The U.K. Demonstration Project for Power Reactor Decommissioning

The UKAEA and its contractors are carrying out a project to remove the core and pressure vessel of the Windscale AGR and in the process answer some questions about decommissioning.

Technology Note

Using CFD Simulation to Determine the Cause of Catastrophic Failure in a Thermal Oxidizer

When physical examination of a failed thermal oxidizer could not conclusively determine why the unit failed, INEEL engineers recreated the failure scenario as a computer simulation.

Meeting Report

Tackling Tough Issues in Tucson: A Report from Waste Management '03

Waste management happenings in a cooler-than-usual, rainy Tucson.

Perspective

The Midland Project: A Bold Proposal to Revitalize the U.S. Waste Program

A perspective by Brian O'Connell, director of the Nuclear Waste Program Office at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Departments

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On the Cover:

Fluor Hanford Plutonium Finishing Plant employees wear protective clothing and respirators to seal packages of plutonium-bearing residues inside a containment tent. See article beginning on page 14 for more on the PFP stabilization and dismantlement. (Photo courtesy Fluor Hanford.)

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Low-Level Waste