# **Editorial Staff**

EDITOR & PUBLISHER Betsy Tompkins

INTERNATIONAL EDITOR Dick Kovan

> SENIOR EDITOR **Rick Michal**

SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR E. Michael Blake

> ASSOCIATE EDITOR Phyllis Ruzicka

PRODUCTION EDITOR Patricia A. Matas

> DESKTOP EDITOR Chris Salvato

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS Andrea Bianchi Susan Gallier

CONTRIBUTING COLUMNISTS Linda C. Byus Bill Minkler

# Advertising & **Circulation Staff**

SALES MANAGER Jeff Mosses

ADVERTISING/PRODUCTION ASSISTANT MANAGER Erica McGowan

CIRCULATION ASSISTANT Bess Weglarz

# **Editorial Advisory** Committee

Sam K. Bhattacharyya, Roger S. Reynolds, Roger W. Tilbrook, and Paul Turinsky

# **ANS Headquarters**

GENERAL NUMBER 708/352-6611 Fax 708/352-0499 Web site <www.ans.org>

NUCLEAR NEWS ADVERTISING 708/579-8226, 800/NUC-NEWS Fax 708/352-6464 Web site <www.ans.org/advertising> e-mail <advertising@ans.org>

> NUCLEAR NEWS EDITORIAL 708/579-8245 Fax 708/352-6464 e-mail <nucnews@ans.org>

INTERNATIONAL EDITOR (DICK KOVAN) +44 1737 842687 e-mail <dkovan@compuserve.com>

# **Nuclear New** Volume 52, Number 7

June 2009



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF

SCIENCE & HISTORY

E A

# FEATURE ARTICLES

Renaissance Watch: Uncertainties abound

BY E. MICHAEL BLAKE 27

p. 54

Excelsior College: Filling the nuclear industry's employment pipeline INTERVIEW BY RICK MICHAL 47

National nuclear museum reopens at new site in Albuquerque

# SPECIAL REPORT: FY 2010 DOE & NRC BUDGETS

DOE budget is a mixed bag for nuclear programs. NRC budget boost of 2.4 percent is fairly evenly distributed.

## POWER

Limited work authorization request for Levy-1 and -2 dropped; reactor startup delayed at least 20 months. AP1000 R-COL designation to be shifted from Bellefonte to Vogtle. Hearing opportunity announced for Watts Bar-2 licensing proceeding. Three reactors up, three down in NRC's oversight action matrix for first quarter of 2009. NRC asked to continue work on COL application for suspended Callaway-2. Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards deny contentions in licensing proceedings for Bellefonte-3 and -4 and Lee-1 and -2; ASLBs named to review petitions to intervene in COL proceedings for Callaway-2, South Texas -3 and -4, and Comanche Peak-3 and -4; ASLB holds oral argument in Fermi-3 COL proceeding. Tritium found in water in cable vault at Oyster Creek; transformer failure forces manual scram. NRC finds fault with UniStar's alternative site selection process for Calvert Cliffs. NRC issues SER chapter for AP1000 design certification; GE Hitachi to revise QA procedures for ESBWR design. WANO indicators for 2008 show sustained reactor performance.

## SECURITY

IAEA meeting addresses global nuclear security issues. NNSA roof project at Nevada Test Site facility beats estimates by wide margin.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

## 43

38

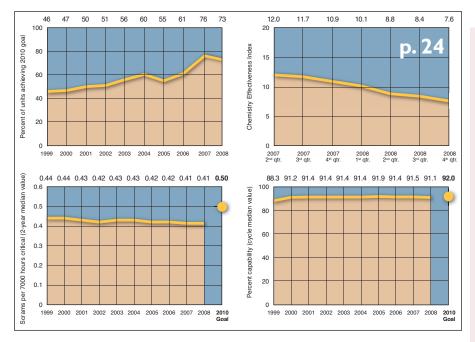
ASLBs admit 299 contentions in Yucca Mountain licensing proceedings. Energy secretary grilled on Yucca Mountain decision. Senator Graham introduces bill calling for Nuclear Waste Fund rebates. Savannah River Site sends first shipment of remote-handled TRU waste to WIPP.

2

14

54

33



## EDUCATION, TRAINING & WORKFORCE

DOE announces \$44 million in funding for nuclear R&D. British Energy sponsors competition for U.K. schoolchildren.

## INTERNATIONAL

Britain's Centrica to acquire stake in British Energy from EDF Group. U.K.'s Nuclear Decommissioning Authority completes auction of three potential nuclear sites. One of seven reactors restarts at quake-idled site in Japan. French companies GDF Suez, Total invest in EDF's Penly-3. UN initiative marks 23rd anniversary of Chernobyl accident. Waste treatment facility completed at Chernobyl. Power uprate goes into effect at Czech Republic's Dukovany-3. Russia to begin floating-reactor keel work. Chinese utility forms joint venture with Kazakhstan's Kazatomprom. Future of nuclear energy topic of IAEA conference.

#### INDUSTRY

GE Hitachi, Equipos Nucleares to collaborate on reactor pressure vessel fabrication for ABWRs and ESBWRs; other business developments. Areva certifies French subcontractors. Hanford mission support contract awarded to Mission Support Alliance; other contracts.

#### FUEL

Recovery Act to fund nuclear fuel research center at Idaho National Laboratory. NRC grants Areva's Richland fuel fabrication facility 40-year license renewal. NRC seeks public comments on Areva's proposed Eagle Rock uranium enrichment facility. USEC says progress has been made on American Centrifuge Plant, but loan guarantee is needed. NRC increases oversight at Westinghouse fuel fabrication plant.

## ISOTOPES & RADIATION

NRC seeks public input on whether to adopt recommendations of International Commission on Radiological Protection.

#### DEPARTMENTS

ceedings Available 2 cently Published 2
ort Courses & Seminars
VERTISING
rect Answer 62
lex to Advertisers 61
ployment Ads Begin 69

# **ANS** Officers

PRESIDENT William E. Burchill VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-FLECT Thomas L. Sanders TREASURER Eric P. Loewen

CHAIRMAN, ANS PUBLICATIONS STEERING COMMITTEE Roger W. Tilbrook

# Administrative

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR John M. Tuohy, Jr.

#### Coming up ...

5 I

57

68

70

73

- July—Nuclear News 50th Anniversary Issue; Profile of incoming ANS President Thomas L. Sanders
- August—15th Annual Vendor/ Contractor Profile Issue (see ad on page 53)







Nuclear News (ISSN: 0029-5574), Volume 52, Number 7. Published monthly (except during the month of April when issued twice monthly) by the American Nuclear Society, Incorporated, with business, executive, and editorial offices at 555 N. Kensington Ave., La Grange Park, Illinois 60526; telephone 708/352-6611. Subscription rate is \$400 for 2009; overseas subscribers add \$65 per year for postage and handling. Single copy price is \$40; \$12 additional for overseas postage and handling (except for the Buyers Guide issue, which is \$110; \$15 additional for overseas postage and handling). Individual ANS members receive NN as part of membership. Replacement copies may be obtained at the single copy price, as long as copies are available. Inquiries about the distribution and delivery of Nuclear News and requests for changes of address should be directed to the American Nuclear Society. Allow six weeks for a change to become effective. POSTMAS-TER: Send change of address orders to Nuclear News, American Nuclear Society, 555 N. Kensington Ave., La Grange Park, Illinois 60526, or <nucnews@ans.org>

Nuclear News is printed in New Richmond, Wis. 54017, by St. Croix Press, Inc. Nonprofit periodicals postage paid at La Grange, Illinois, and at additional mailing offices. Copyright © 2009 by the American Nuclear Society, Inc. Trademark registered in USA and Canada.

Opinions expressed in this publication by the authors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors, the American Nuclear Society, or the organizations with which the authors are affiliated, nor should publication of author viewpoints or identification of materials or products be construed as endorsement by this publication or by the Society

Texts of most Nuclear News articles are available on the NEXIS database, from Mead Data Corporation.

## June 2009