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SPECIAL SECTION: INSTRUMENTATION & CONTROLS

Duke upgrades to digital I&C at Oconee

The role of I&C technology in enabling the deployment of small modular reactors

BY DWIGHT CLAYTON AND RICHARD WOOD

Digital I&C for research reactors

POWER

NRC staff sends AP1000 final rule package to the commissioners and the Office of Management and Budget. U.S. EPR's digital I&C system gets first NRC approval. US-APWR design certification now scheduled for October 2014. NRC reschedules work on Turkey Point-6 and -7 into 2014. Entergy submits Grand Gulf license renewal application to NRC. Renaissance Watch: An update on developments that may lead to new power reactors. NRC issues draft environmental statement supplement for Watts Bar-2 license. ASLB drops one of three contentions in Levy licensing proceeding; other licensing developments. Comments on Fermi-3 draft EIS accepted through January 11. Robinson-2 moves higher, Sequoyah-1 lower in NRC's ROP action matrix.

SECURITY

Stolen sodium diuranate traced to Areva's Trekkopje mine in Namibia.

INTERNATIONAL

Czech utility ČEZ invites vendor bids for new Temelin reactors. Taiwan's new energy policy calls for nuclear power phaseout. Commercial start of Finland's Olkiluoto-3 may be delayed again. UAE's Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation requests approval for site preparation work at Braka. Dome of China's first EPR, Taishan-1, is put in place. Russia applies for membership in OECD Nuclear Energy Agency. IAEA mission team issues preliminary report on Fukushima Daiichi.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

GAO looks into potential uses for Yucca Mountain repository site. Argonne researchers look for new spent fuel recycling techniques. NRC Chairman Jaczko comments on spent fuel issues. NRC approves disposal of Westinghouse low-level waste at Idaho facility. New groundwater treatment facilities up and running at Hanford Site.



INDUSTRY

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Areva, China National Nuclear Corporation to work on improving reactor performance in China; other business developments. Refurbished diesel pistons found to shed tin plating. DOE awards contract to Portage for cleanup work at former uranium ore processing facility; other contracts.

FUEL

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Regulatory control of USEC's Portsmouth plant being returned to DOE. NRC issues final environmental assessment for Nuclear Fuel Services' fuel fabrication facility. NRC investigates yellowcake incident at Wyoming site.

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NRC returns regulatory authority over Shieldalloy decommissioning to New Jersey. NNSA, NorthStar to share costs of developing Mo-99 production capability. NRC proposes revisions to consumer product policy statement.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & WORKFORCE

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ORISE report shows shifts in career opportunities for nuclear engineering grads. University of Pittsburgh hosts Nuclear Night.

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Two standards published, new standard initiated.

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Coming up ...

January—Preview 2012: A look at the year ahead

March—14th Annual Reference Issue

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