# **Nuclear News** May 2013 Volume 56, Number 6





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#### Coming up ...

- June—Special Section on New Construction
- July—Profile of incoming ANS President Donald R. Hoffman
- August—19th Annual Vendor/ **Contractor Profile Issue**

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# FEATURE ARTICLES

U.S. capacity factors: A very small decline BY E. MICHAEL BLAKE

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- Overview of the U.S. DOE Light Water Reactor Sustainability Program
- BY SHANNON M. BRAGG-SITTON, JEREMY T. BUSBY, BRUCE P. HALLBERT,
- KATHRYN A. MCCARTHY, RICHARD A. REISTER, CURTIS L. SMITH, AND 47
  - DONALD L. WILLIAMS

#### EPRI's Long-Term Operations Program BY SHERRY BERNHOFT AND RICHARD TILLEY

#### POWER

Crane accident at Arkansas Nuclear One kills worker, damages systems. Maximizing the Assets: A status report on license renewal and power uprates. Southern California Edison submits request to NRC to restart San Onofre-2. NRC nixes EPRI draft ground motion model. Westinghouse, NuScale, and Holtec to seek DOE funding to develop small modular reactors. Four reactors shift in NRC's Reactor Oversight Process action matrix. ASLB finds Levy environmental impact statement valid, denies challenge from environmental groups. PG&E's monthly reports on seismic study at Diablo Canyon are subject of ASLB order. NRC issues supplemental requests for additional information on ESBWR design to GE Hitachi and informs Toshiba that it will not review technical report on 4S design. Focus on Finance. NRC directs staff to review UniStar Nuclear Energy's foreign ownership issue; other licensing developments.

# SECURITY

U.S.-South Korea trade pact in danger of lapsing. GOP House members to examine proposed nuclear export rule. White House fills WMD/defense post. Last HEU removed from Czech Republic; other NNSA news.

# **INTERNATIONAL**

NASA climate change study strengthens case for nuclear power. Swiss court overturns ruling on June closure of Mühleberg reactor. Putin seeks to expand Russia's nuclear work in South Africa. Assembly of containment liner plate begins at UAE's Barakah -1. Tohoku cancels reactors planned for site near Fukushima Daiichi plant. U.K. government sets out new nuclear industrial strategy. Fennovoima negotiates with Rosatom and Toshiba to supply reactor for Finland's Hanhikivi-1 project. International bank funds life extension project for Argentina's Embalse plant. IAEA reviews status of Poland's nuclear infrastructure.

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WASTE MANAGEMENT

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Glass melter at Savannah River Site reaches 10-year mark. Savannah River Site to accept U.S.-origin HEU from Canada. NRC moves to limit revisions to low-level waste regulations. NRC releases waste confidence scoping report. DOE's Office of Inspector General finds Oak Ridge contractor executive salaries to be excessive.

#### MEETINGS

Waste Management Conference 2013: International Collaboration and Continuous Improvement.

### **ISOTOPES & RADIATION**

NASA is confident of U.S. production of plutonium-238. SHINE Medical Technologies submits first part of construction permit application for molybdenum-99 production facility.

#### FUEL

Uranium mining prospects change in Canadian provinces. NRC issues draft supplemental EIS for Ross uranium recovery project; other licensing developments. International Isotopes, Advanced Process Technology Systems team up to submit proposal to DOE for operation of Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant. Australia's Wiluna uranium mine gets final environmental approval.

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Industry certifies Bismarck State College's online nuclear power technology program. Oregon State University grad student invents way to reuse spent nuclear fuel.

#### INDUSTRY

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Areva selling Canberra subsidiary; other business developments. NRC refuses to quash subpoena in Shaw inquiry. Alstom awarded contracts to refurbish steam turbines; other contracts. Licensees submit nine new, three updated Part 21 notices to NRC.

# **STANDARDS & DOCUMENTATION 86**

ANSI/ANS standards approved; other actions. NRC proposes revision to regulatory guide on lead-acid batteries.

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