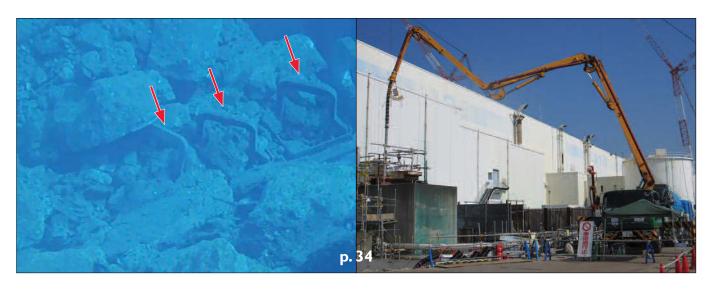
Nuclear News

ANS

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September 2015

Volume 58, Number 10



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Coming up ...

October—Special Section on Nuclear Power Plant Maintenance December—Special Section on Fuel

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FEATURE ARTICLE

After Fukushima Daiichi: Developments on several fronts BY DICK KOVAN, E. MICHAEL BLAKE, AND TIM GREGOIRE

POWER

Final EPA Clean Power Plan helps, hurts nuclear power. Vogtle-3 CA01 module is placed in containment. Hot functional testing completed for Watts Bar-2. NuScale identifies potential policy issues in NuScale Power Module design certification work. Maximizing the Assets: A status report on license renewal and power uprates. New rule would revise emergency planning zones for small modular reactors, non-LWR designs. Focus on Finance. Seabrook renewal EIS issued, contention settled. St. Lucie-1 upgraded to routine oversight by NRC. Davis-Besse, Diablo Canyon license renewal developments.

SECURITY

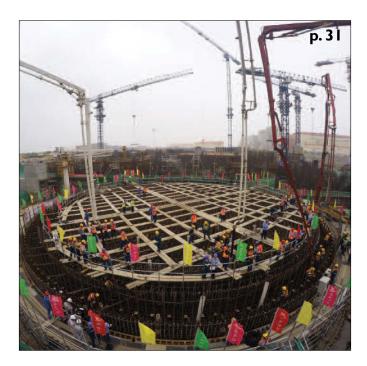
U.S.-China nuclear trade pact passes congressional review. Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material ratified by United States. Sen. Lindsey Graham threatens to block IAEA funding over Iran deal. Irradiators containing U.S.-origin sources returned from Mexico; other NNSA developments.

INTERNATIONAL

EDF to own most of Areva's nuclear power subsidiary as part of strategic partnership pact. Fennovoima settles issue over Hanhikivi-1 ownership. Compensation claims for Olkiluoto-3 are updated. Two halves of Chernobyl New Safe Containment joined. CEO of Brazil's Eletronuclear faces bribery allegations. Construction begun at China's Hongyanhe-6. New preferred subtier bidders for Hinkley Point C chosen. Grants awarded in United Kingdom for accident-tolerant fuel work. Vietnam signs framework agreement with Russia.

On the cover: On February 5, 2015, workers at the damaged Fukushima Daiichi plant began filling the inside of trenches—underground tunnels housing pipes and cables—on the seaside of Units 2 and 3 with a special liquid cement, while removing contaminated water from those trenches. According to Tokyo Electric Power Company, removal of water from the Unit 2 trench was completed on June 30, and from the Unit 3 trench, on July 30. For an update on some of the work being done at the Fukushima plant, post-Fukushima developments elsewhere in Japan, and continuing post-accident issues being addressed in the United States, see the article that begins on page 34.

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WASTE MANAGEMENT

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DOE delays WIPP reopening date. Savannah River Remediation employees prepare Vault 4 disposal unit for coating application. Ohio approves DOE plan to demolish Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant buildings. Spain's regulator finds interim high-level waste storage site suitable. TRU waste said to be stored safely at Oak Ridge.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & WORKFORCE 4

ORISE report finds that nuclear engineering degree recipient numbers are leveling off.

RESEARCH

47

DOE opens funding opportunity for advanced reactor concept development.

INDUSTRY

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Export-Import Bank's future uncertain as Congress entered August recess. Mitsubishi to assist Holtec on SMR systems; other business developments. Holtec chosen to provide dry casks; other contracts. Two Part 21 reports each on, or by, four companies.

ISOTOPES & RADIATION

52

NRC denies petition to expand availability of tritium markers. NRC settles prolonged dispute with radiographer. NRC fines Michigan-based medical licensee.

FUEL

54

Alert declared at Metropolis Works for UF₆ leak in Feed Materials Building. Uranium mining bans challenged in Virginia and Québec. Hearing begun on Crow Butte contentions; other licensing news. Denison sells off Mongolian interests; other business developments.

STANDARDS & DOCUMENTATION 56

One standard approved, one new standard initiated. Three regulatory guides revised; other documents.

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