

Editorial Staff

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Betsy Tompkins

INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

Dick Kovan

SENIOR EDITOR

Richard A. Michal

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

E. Michael Blake

Phyllis Ruzicka

PRODUCTION EDITOR

Patricia A. Matas

DESKTOP EDITOR

Chris Salvato

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Daniel Bailey

CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

Bill Minkler

Advertising Staff

ADVERTISING AND CIRCULATION
SALES MANAGER

Jeffery R. Mosses

ADVERTISING/PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Patricia Fairchild

CIRCULATION ASSISTANT

Bess Weglarz

Editorial Advisory Committee

Ramon Ashley, Sam K. Bhattacharyya,
Roger Tilbrook, and Paul Turinsky

ANS Headquarters

GENERAL NUMBER

708/352-6611

Facsimile 708/352-0499

Web site <www.ans.org>

NUCLEAR NEWS ADVERTISING

708/579-8226, 800/NUC-NEWS

Facsimile 708/352-6464

Web site <www.ans.org/advertising>

e-mail <advertising@ans.org>

NUCLEAR NEWS EDITORIAL

708/579-8240

Facsimile 708/352-6464

e-mail <nucnews@ans.org>

INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

(DICK KOVAN)

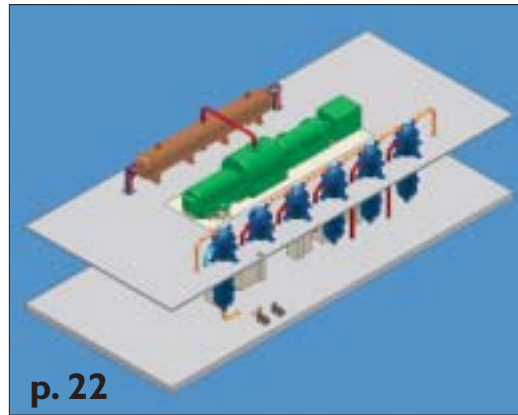
011-44-1737-842687

e-mail <dkovan@compuserve.com>

Nuclear News

September 2004

Volume 47, Number 10



FEATURE ARTICLE

Larry Townsend: Barge transporting of modular reactors

INTERVIEW BY RICK MICHAL 20

POWER

12

Single failure led to offsite power loss, shutdown of all three units at Palo Verde. N.J. governor seeks to block Oyster Creek license renewal. NRC issues draft text for risk-informed LOCA rule. Detector fault triggers false alarm at Perry; no shutdown. Control rods inserted properly, signal found erroneous at Columbia. Full-time staff, contractors at plants seen to be declining. NRC mulls license amendments for FitzPatrick and Davis-Besse. Wisconsin Paper Council endorses sale of Kewaunee plant to Dominion. NRC issues draft documents on human reliability analysis and nonconforming conditions. (See also Call for Papers, pp. 59–62, for the ANS 2005 Annual Meeting and Embedded Topical Meeting, June 5–9, 2005, in San Diego, Calif.)

OPERATIONS

20

The *Nuclear News* Interview—Larry Townsend: Barge transporting of modular reactors.

SECURITY

25

Nuclear plant eyed by 9/11 terrorists, but rejected as too difficult a target. Security lapses at Los Alamos bring DOE scrutiny, response. NRC pulls security information from its Web site. INEEL develops explosives detection system. NRC approves Indian Point's emergency preparedness exercise.

INTERNATIONAL

30

OPG prepared for next Pickering restart project. IEA supports plan to build demo EPR. New Chernobyl shelter gets go-ahead. Insecurity of nuclear fuel supply dominates European Supply Agency fuel cycle report. China's State Council approves four new reactors. Uranium 2003: 20th edition of "Red Book" released. Security meeting to precede IAEA's General Conference. IAEA revives small and medium-sized reactor program. IAEA approves CRPs on fast reactors and accelerator-driven systems. U.K.'s Prime Minister Tony Blair explains his position on nuclear to parliament. Appointments made, honors announced in U.K. Radwaste oversight company set up in U.K. Australian government abandons plans for national LLW repository.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

39

Yucca Mountain: NWTRB concludes corrosion of spent fuel containers is unlikely. NRC: Indian Point's plan for dry cask storage facility is safe and secure. Humboldt Bay plant searches for missing fuel segments. DOE issues cleanup Request for Proposals for Hanford Site, fines Fluor Hanford. Agencies agree to change cleanup method at ANL-West.



INDUSTRY

43

Acquisitions, alliance, award, and license agreement. AREVA gets reprocessing work; other contracts.

RESEARCH

44

NASA backs 19 space radiation shielding and biology projects.

FUEL

45

USEC agrees to buy NAC International for \$16 million. Commerce Department confirms Eurodif has curtailed LEU pricing. NRC proposes fine against Westinghouse for alleged safety violations.

ISOTOPES AND RADIATION

53

NRC exempts Army from reporting losses of sealed-source devices.

EDUCATION

55

Report shows where government is investing federal R&D funds. College credit for workplace training could lead to degree.

STANDARDS

57

Standards approved, initiated, withdrawn.

DEPARTMENTS

ANS Membership Application	51	10	Letters
Backscatter	64	58	People
Calendar	6	9	Proceedings Available
Call for Papers	7	8	Recently Published
Index to Advertisers	49	4	Setpoint
Late News in Brief	17	7	Short Courses and Seminars



ANS Officers

PRESIDENT

James Tulenko

VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

E. James Reinsch

TREASURER

William Naughton

CHAIRMAN, ANS PUBLICATIONS

STEERING COMMITTEE

Steven A. Arndt

Administrative

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Harry Bradley

Coming up ...

October—Special Section on

Nuclear Power Plant Maintenance

December—Special Section

on Nuclear Medicine



Audit Bureau of Circulations

Nuclear News (ISSN: 0029-5574), Volume 47, Number 10. 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 \$350 for 2004; overseas subscribers add \$53 per year for postage and handling. ABC applied for. Single copy price is \$30; \$9 additional for overseas postage and handling (except for the Buyers Guide issue, which is \$108; \$11 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. POSTMASTER: 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 © 2004 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.