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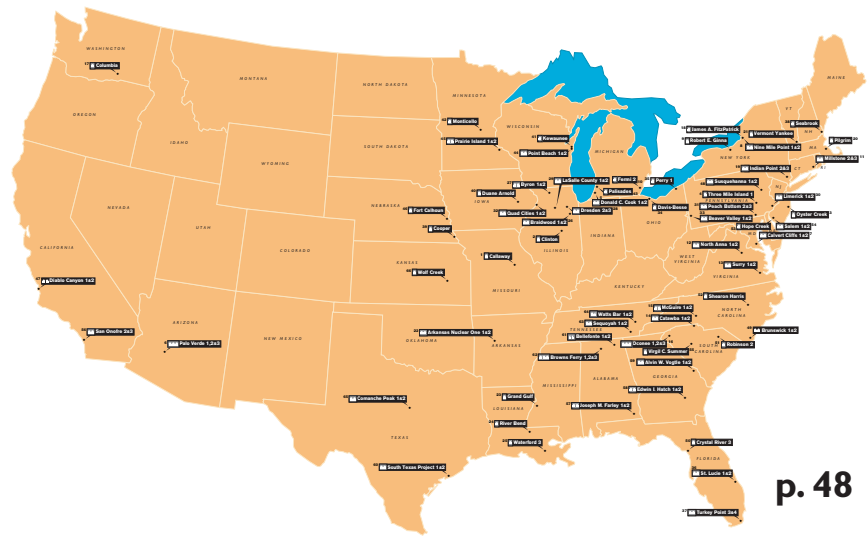
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SPECIAL REPORT: DOE, NRC BUDGETS

DOE seeks boosts for Gen IV, NP 2010, hydrogen. A setback for nuclear spacecraft. NRC proposes \$702-million budget, 80 percent from fees.

POWER

U.S. power reactors generated more electricity in 2004 than in any previous year. Status of license renewals and power uprates in the United States. Bodman sworn in as energy secretary; deputy secretary not yet named. Six plants found to be potentially vulnerable to a single electrical failure. NRC issues draft revisions to license renewal documents; re-reviews begin for Brunswick-1 and -2 license renewal. Slow turbine control valve closure could lead to turbine overspeed. Small reactor coolant leak isolated at South Texas-2. NRC amends rules to clarify emergency planning procedures. Control rod misalignment causes startup delay at Surry-1.

OPERATIONS

The *Nuclear News* Interview—Karen Vierow: Severe accident code analysis.

SECURITY

Petition filed with NRC calls for construction of “Beamhenge” at nuclear power plants. NRC considers changes to “sensitive material” regulations. IAEA considers the next phase of its nuclear security program. NNSA imposes penalty on University of California for security problems at LANL.

INTERNATIONAL

TVO hands over Olkiluoto-3 site to consortium for construction of EPR. China and Canada sign cooperative agreements. German Atomic Forum conference addresses political, economic, and environmental issues. Decommissioning plan being developed for Kazakhstan’s BN-350. South African court decision will delay PBMR project. Japan’s AEC releases draft budget for FY 2005. IAEA’s radiation “Safety Bible” to undergo review. EBRD announces plans to develop new energy policy.



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Coming up ...

April—Special Section on
Outage Management

Mid-April—*Nuclear News*
Buyers Guide 2005

May—Special Feature: U.S. Nuclear
Power Plant Capacity Factors

WASTE MANAGEMENT 75

Target date for Yucca Mountain opening pushed back to 2012. Envirocare of Utah's new owners say no to B and C waste. Buried transuranic waste removed from INEEL's Pit 4. Contract modified for DOE's purchase of AMWTP from BNFL Inc.

INDUSTRY 78

Aveva Group signs alliance with Z+F UK Limited; CAE sells Marine Controls. Furmanite, B&W Canada, Framatome ANP, Talon Composites sign for work.

ISOTOPES & RADIATION 85

NRC revokes one company's materials license, denies license renewal for another. NRC reduces fine against Baxter Healthcare in return for further corrective actions.

FUEL 87

NRC staff approves proposed MOX plant at Savannah River Site. USEC begins testing centrifuge machine. In LES case, NRC rules that U tailings are LLW.

EDUCATION 89

World Nuclear University selects 74 fellows to attend first summer institute.

STANDARDS 92

One standard approved, three initiated; comments requested.

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