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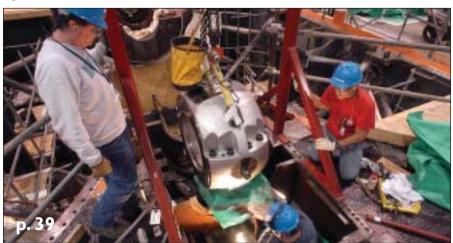
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POWER

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NRC staff approves 20 percent power uprate for Vermont Yankee. ASLB grants hearing on Oyster Creek's license renewal. Eighty-four out of 103 reactors are in highest category of NRC's ROP action matrix. NRC holds two staff meetings on PBMR design. Structural weld overlay for pressurizer spray nozzle installed at Millstone-3. PSEG withdraws request for Hope Creek power uprate. Renaissance Watch: An update on developments that may lead to new power reactor orders and construction. Tritium-laced water found at Palo Verde. NRC withdraws proposed rule for manual actions in post-fire safe shutdown. NRC issues draft EIS for Palisades license renewal. (See also Call for Papers, pp. 83–86, for the 2006 ANS Winter Meeting, November 12–16, in Albuquerque, N.M.)

SECURITY 2

Pennsylvania nuclear plant personnel pass surprise inspections. Coordination lacking between DOE and DHS security R&D. NNSA cites LLNL for safety violations. NRC's IG report says NSIR does good job, but improvements are needed. House bill honors *Bulletin* on 60th anniversary. Guide issued for development of regional readiness and response plan.

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India, United States enter historic nuclear agreement. Baltic leaders support construction of new plant in Lithuania. Canada's nuclear regulator plans for licensing of new plants. IAEA report lambastes Iran's intransigence. IAEA conducts safety culture review of PBMR. Westinghouse takes shares of PBMR from BNFL. Sellafield MOX plant faces output setbacks. INSAG: Stakeholders crucial for nuclear growth. Small reactors without on-site refueling studied. France to create new nuclear safety commission. BNG to develop decommissioning plan for Kurchatov Institute. Australian institute to award nuclear research fellowships.



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National Academies report says transporting spent fuel is safe, but challenges remain. Hatch, Huntsman team up to battle Private Fuel Storage's ISFSI. Work under way to demolish K-29 gaseous diffusion facility in Tennessee. Record amounts of TRU waste leaving Idaho. Materials & Energy Corporation, Ascendent sign subcontracts for DOE work.

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General Atomics to provide pre-conceptual design for test reactor at University of Texas. SNMTS awards \$58 000 in scholarships and grants.

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PET scanning with F-18 can detect Huntington's disease before symptoms arise.

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Urenco buys Westinghouse's share of Louisiana Energy Services. Thorium Power, Novastar Resources agree to merge.

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Cover: The support structure of a main condenser is ground away by a Diablo Canyon worker in order to achieve necessary clearances for installing new low-pressure turbines during a refueling outage. Scenes from Diablo Canyon's outage, along with articles on outage activities at other plants in the United States and abroad, are part of the Special Section on Outage Management that begins on page 27.

Coming up ...

Mid-April—Nuclear News

Buyers Guide 2006

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

June—Special Section on Health Physics





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