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June 2007

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FEATURE ARTICLE

Carter and Miller: On commercial quality control during new plant construction INTERVIEW BY RICK MICHAL 31

QUOTING AT RANDOM

NRC Commissioner Jeffrey Merrifield: You ain't seen nothin' yet

POWER

Dominion contracts GE Energy for long-lead components for new reactor at North Anna. Duke Energy seeks to buy out Southern Nuclear's share of proposed Lee plant. TXU Energy scales back plans to two new reactors. Unistar chooses Calvert Cliffs as site for U.S. EPR. NRC wants more data on General Electric's ESBWR design certification application. Svinicki nominated to replace Merrifield at NRC. Maximizing the Assets: A status report on license renewal and power uprates. Entergy submits application for Indian Point -2 and -3 license renewal. NRC begins consequence analysis revision. Five reactors trip in half-month period. NRC's yellow finding leads to increased oversight of Ginna plant.

SECURITY

NRC proposes plane-crash reviews for new reactor design certification. University of California, others win contract to manage Lawrence Livermore laboratory. NNSA selects companies for nonproliferation work. Wackenhut signed for security services at Oak Ridge Complex.

INTERNATIONAL

Canada's Bruce Power, Ontario Power take next steps for new reactor construction. Construction of first floating nuclear plant launched in Russia. IPCC sees nuclear as key technology for mitigating climate change. Romania's Cernavoda-2 achieves initial criticality. India's Kaiga-3 is connected to commercial grid. Bulgaria's NEK seeks investors for Belene project. Australian government to expand uranium exports. Australia's Labor Party drops "three mines" policy. Opening ceremonies held for Australia's OPAL research reactor. MHI chosen to develop fast breeder reactor in Japan. New French President Sarkozy is strong nuclear supporter. Iran announces plans for 50 000 centrifuges at Natanz. Iran invites bids to build two nuclear plants. Two U.K. AGRs cleared to operate 10 more years. Unauthorized organ, tissue sampling alleged in United Kingdom. IAEA's reconstituted nuclear energy advisory group holds first meeting. IAEA-led team conducts knowledge management activities at two Canadian plants. Bentonite laboratory opens at Sweden's Äspö site. IAEA holds 12th quadrennial symposium on isotope hydrology.

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WASTE MANAGEMENT

DOE commits \$27.5 million for uranium contamination studies at sites in Washington and Colorado. DOE offers \$60 million to spur industry engagement in design of GNEP facilities. Yucca Mountain electronic database now holds 30 million pages. DOE's inspector general says control system at Hanford treatment plant does not meet nuclear QA standards.

INDUSTRY

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Westinghouse picks South Korea's Doosan Heavy Industries to supply components for two AP1000s in China; other contracts. Curtiss-Wright acquires Scientech; other business developments.

ISOTOPES & RADIATION

Washington's governor asks NRC to require GPS tracking of mobile and portable radioactive sources.

FUEL

USEC looking to reenrich DOE-held depleted uranium. Mothballed uranium mill sold to Canada's SXR Uranium One. EIA reports on first quarter 2007 production of uranium concentrate in the United States. Russell Industries buys Utah uranium mine rights. Joint venture formed for uranium exploration in Wyoming.

RESEARCH

New circuit developed by Russian researchers may lead to practical inertial confinement fusion. INL's Advanced Test Reactor is designated national user facility.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

NRC imposes additional fingerprinting, background check requirements at research and test reactors. Students selected for summer fellowships at DOE's Center for Space Nuclear Research. Coalition endorses budget request for DOE's Office of Science.

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Coming up ...

- July—Special Section on Health Physics
- August—I 3th Annual Vendor/ Contractor Profile Issue
- September—Focus on Europe: ENC2007
- October—Special Section on Nuclear Power Plant Maintenance





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