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# Features

#### Cover Stories—Low-Level Waste The IAEA's Current Activities in Low- and Intermediate-Level

### Radioactive Waste Disposal

A review of the agency's current activities in L/ILW disposal and a discussion of several emerging issues that are becoming increasingly important at both the national and international levels.

#### Endless Search, Endless Failure, Endless Conflict:

The Siting of a Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility in South Korea During the last 20 years, Korea has made several efforts to find a permanent disposal site for its L/ILW and an interim storage site for spent fuel, but all these efforts have failed. This article looks at the reasons why, and offers some solutions.

## **Other Features**

#### MADness and Spent-Fuel Cask Safety

A safety assessment of NAC's multipurpose dry-storage systems in the face of terrorist attacks.

#### Pit Viper Strikes at the Hanford Site: Pit Maintenance Using Robotics at the Hanford Tank Farms

Containing jumper lines, valves, pumps, and other equipment used to transfer radioactive waste throughout the tank farms at Hanford, the "pits" are difficult for workers to access and most are contaminated. To the rescue: the new "Pit Viper."

#### Diamonds Are a Cutter's Best Friend:

Diamond Wire Cutting the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor

Engineers at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory decided to investigate an innovative technology for dismantlement of the TFTR vacuum vessel: diamond wire cutting.

#### Stumping for Yucca Mountain: Grassroots Efforts to Secure Congressional Support for the High-Level Waste Repository

If Congress doesn't override the state of Nevada's veto, the federal government will have to start all over again in its search for a national storage site for high-level radioactive waste. So local citizens are taking action to gain congressional support.

#### Waste Management 2002: Step-by-Step, Top-to-Bottom, Rebecca, and Other Topics

A report from the 27th Annual Waste Management Symposium in Tucson.



Video games at work? See article beginning on page 33 to see what's really happening.

# Departments

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#### 25 On the Cover:

Background: Aerial view of the Aube Center in France, which handles all French low- and intermediate-level 33 waste (photo courtesy ANDRA). Upper right: Waste drums in a trench at the Richland, Wash., low-level waste disposal facility in the United States (photo courtesy US Ecology).

- 40 Center: Offloading waste drums at a trench at the Vaalputs disposal facility in South Africa (photo courtesy AEC, South Africa). Lower left: The SFR disposal facility in Sweden (photo courtesy SKB).

## Next Issue:

Decommissioning, Decontamination. and Reutilization