



In this issue: U.S. uranium production has soared in 2024, NRC improving access to its ADAMS database, upcoming ANS conferences, Senate Committee hearing role of nuclear in meeting energy demand, and more.

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Regulations, Planning, Response, and Recovery

August 5-9, 2024 | Boston, MA



Senate committee discusses growing energy demands, nuclear's role

Members of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Tuesday included nuclear energy as part of their discussions of the increasing demand for electricity anticipated in the coming decade, spurred in large part by the rise of artificial intelligence, data centers, and public consumption.

The committee members discussed the grid needing to rely on fossil fuels longer than expected and attendant delays to the transition to emissions-free energy, upsetting a major part of President Biden's climate change agenda. Fossil fuels still supplied 60 percent of the nation's energy in 2023.

Committee chairman Sen. Joe Manchin (D., W. Va.) said, "you can't take something off [the grid] before you have something equally as good, if not better, to replace it with."

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In other news...

The recent tornado in Iowa caused significant damage to wind turbines, which was unexpected since they are designed to withstand severe weather. [The New York Times](#)

Radiant Industries and Amsted Graphite Materials signed a memorandum of understanding to secure the domestic advanced nuclear power supply chain, particularly supplies of nuclear-grade graphite. [Morningstar](#)

Britain is aiming to build a large-scale nuclear power plant in Wales as part of a plan to increase nuclear capacity by 2050. The country has named a site on the island of Anglesey and entered into talks with international companies to begin the project. [Reuters](#)

At this week's IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security, DOE and European Commission leaders made a joint statement on enhancing radioactive source security. [U.S. Department of Energy](#)

Australian national science agency CSIRO included large-scale nuclear power for the first time ever in its annual cost report, which has included small modular reactors since 2018, as a result of increased stakeholder interest in nuclear power. [World Nuclear News](#)

Gas power plants operating during peak demand release more air pollutants per unit of generated electricity than baseload plants according to a new GAO report. [E&E News](#)

A group of downwinders, individuals who lived near nuclear testing sites, visited Capitol Hill to raise awareness about the human cost of the U.S. nuclear weapons program. [The New York Times Opinion](#)

PLUG INTO NUCLEAR CAREERS

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ORP, Bechtel collaborate on plan for completing Hanford's HLW Facility

The Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management announced that its Office of River Protection (ORP) recently created a plan with contractor Bechtel National for completing the High-Level Waste Facility at the Hanford Site's Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant, also known as the Vit Plant.

What's next: According to DOE-EM, the ORP and Bechtel have laid out a strategy for completing the design and construction of the partially built HLW Facility, which is intended to immobilize in glass millions of gallons of radioactive and chemical waste currently being stored in large underground tanks at the Hanford Site in Washington state.

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OPENING PLENARY SPEAKERS

Peter Freed
Clean Energy Buyers Alliance

Dr. Adam Stein
Breakthrough Institute

Briana Kobor
Google

ANS Annual 24

June 16-19 Conference
Las Vegas, NV

ALL IN ON NUCLEAR DEPLOYMENT

The Stakes Have Never Been Higher

A better search: Improving public access to the NRC's ADAMS document database

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission hosted a [public meeting](#) yesterday to gather comments on its [web-based ADAMS](#) (WBA) system—a public document search tool introduced in 2010. It's a tool that novice users find daunting and frequent users find frustrating, whether they're searching for a single document or for thousands of documents on a single topic.

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Upcoming conferences: TOFE 2024 and Plutonium Futures

Mark your calendar and get your name in the books for two exciting conferences coming up in the second half of the year: the 26th Technology of Fusion Energy Meeting (TOFE 2024) and Plutonium Futures—The Science 2024.

TOFE 2024: Recent advances in fusion energy research and technology development will be discussed at the 26th Technology of Fusion Energy Meeting. The conference will focus on the public-private pivot to fusion energy and feature talks on industry facility needs, pilot plant studies, and more.

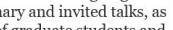
Plutonium Futures—The Science 2024: This conference will delve into the scientific aspects of plutonium and showcase cutting-edge research in the field. Attendees can expect plenary and invited talks, as well as a poster session highlighting the work of graduate students and postdocs.

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