

# Nuclear News

April 2014

Volume 57, Number 4



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## Coming up ...

**Mid-April**—45th Annual Buyers Guide

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

**June**—Special Feature on Construction and Supply Chain

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John Garrity: Consistency and communication

INTERVIEW BY MICHAEL MCQUEEN 38

Scotland's Torness-1 tackles biggest-ever outage BY DICK KOVAN 43

## SPECIAL REPORT: FY 2014 AND 2015 DOE AND NRC BUDGETS 50

DOE's nuclear budget up in FY 2014; FY 2015 request down slightly. NRC's FY 2015 budget request of \$1,059.5 million is small increase over FY 2014 appropriation.

## POWER 24

Vogtle-3 auxiliary building module placed onto nuclear island. NRC issues final plan for retrospective analysis of its regulations. NRC issues plant performance assessments for 2013. NRC publishes draft generic letter on neutron-absorbing materials in spent fuel pools. Environmental organizations petition NRC regarding expedited transfer of spent fuel from pools to dry storage. NRC mulls enforcement action at FitzPatrick. Some progress made on early site permit application for Hope Creek/Salem site. NRC releases draft environmental impact statement for Davis-Besse license renewal; Callaway review delayed. FENOC: Davis-Besse shield building gap not safety related. Renaissance Watch: An update on developments that may lead to new power reactors. Final safety evaluation report for Watts Bar-2 to be issued in May; other licensing developments. (See also Call for Papers, pp. 79–82, for the 2014 ANS Winter Meeting and Nuclear Technology Expo, November 9–13, 2014, Anaheim, Calif.)

## SECURITY 34

DOE's FY 2015 budget request would put Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility on hold; other NNSA news. Colombia ratifies Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

## INTERNATIONAL 55

Finland signs new nuclear cooperation agreement with Russia. Chubu Electric applies to restart Hamaoka-4. Electricité de France presents nuclear fleet life extension program to lawmakers. U.S. company AdSTM to support licensing of Jordan research reactor. China seeks to participate in nuclear power projects in South Africa.



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## WASTE MANAGEMENT 59

DOE begins recovery work at WIPP. Hanford Site cleanup costs to top \$113 billion. URS dismisses whistle-blower at Hanford Site. Waste vault removed from Hanford Site's 300 Area. DOE submits plan to empty leaking Hanford waste tank. Ontario Power Generation completes decommissioning of heavy-water plant.

## INDUSTRY 63

Babcock & Wilcox to support development of TerraPower's traveling wave reactor; other business developments. B&W receives \$1.6 billion in Navy awards; other contracts. 10 CFR Part 21 product reports submitted on pressure regulator, circuit breaker replacement cradles.

## RESEARCH 66

By one definition, the National Ignition Facility exceeded breakeven. ITER Council approves recommendations of third biennial management assessment report.

## FUEL 73

Final supplemental environmental impact statement issued for Strata Energy's Ross project. Accident causes spill of uranium oxide concentrate from Kayelekera mine in Malawi. Powertech Uranium to acquire Azarga Resources; Quattera to sell its uranium assets. USEC's planned bankruptcy goes ahead, operations continue. ASLB's initial decision denies three contentions in MFFF licensing proceeding.

## STANDARDS & DOCUMENTATION 75

NRC proposes new regulatory guide; other NRC releases. Comments requested on two ANS standards.

### Editorial Staff

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GENERAL NUMBER

708/352-6611

Fax 708/352-0499

www.ans.org

NUCLEAR NEWS EDITORIAL

708/579-8245

Fax 708/579-8204

nucnews@ans.org

NUCLEAR NEWS ADVERTISING

708/579-8226

800/NUC-NEWS

Fax 708/352-6464

www.ans.org/advertising

advertising@ans.org

INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

(DICK KOVAN)

902/455-3575

dkovan@ans.org

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