

News from Around the Complex

October 2007

October 31, 2007

Bush Plan May Cut Nuke Jobs, *The Albuquerque Journal*

The Bush administration is readying a plan that could cut 6,000 to 9,000 jobs from the U.S. nuclear weapons complex over the next decade. The cuts, along with a reduction of one-third in the complex's square footage, would be spread across the eight U.S. sites that design, build and maintain U.S. nuclear weapons— including Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico. Specifics, including details of the proposed changes at individual sites, remain under wraps. But officials have begun talking publicly about the process in recent weeks. The plan would upgrade the labs and factories, creating a smaller and more modern complex. In the process, the government would replace buildings that in some cases are half a century old, said David Campbell, director of congressional, intergovernmental and public affairs for the National Nuclear Security Administration. None of the eight sites would be closed, Campbell said. The cost of maintaining the aging Cold War complex continues to rise, but the federal budget for the work is not keeping pace, Campbell said.

<http://www.abqjournal.com/news/state/606721nm10-31-07.htm>

October 31, 2007

Study Rejects Bush's Plan to Recycle Nuclear Fuel Internationally, *The Washington Post*

A new National Academy of Sciences study has dealt a blow to the Bush administration's plan for an international nuclear fuel recycling program, declaring that the program was not ready for commercial development and that it needed additional research. A 17-member National Academy group, with two dissenters, supported the idea of recycling spent fuel from nuclear power plants. But that majority wrote that the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership "should not go forward and that it should be replaced by a less aggressive research program." Deputy Energy Secretary Clay Sell criticized the report's authors, distinguished scientists and consultants. "I think the authors of this report are actually quite comfortable with the status quo research-and-development agenda, and this administration is not," he said.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/10/30/AR2007103002133.html>

Report available at: <http://www.nationalacademies.org/morenews/20071029.html>

October 31, 2007

Tri-Party agencies mum on meetings, *Tri-City Herald Online*

The Tri-Party agencies are saying little about a top-level negotiating session last week in the Tri-Cities on Hanford's Tri-Party Agreement. At the table were James Rispoli, Department of Energy assistant secretary of environmental management; Jay Manning, director of the Washington State Department of Ecology, and Elin Miller, Region 10 administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency. The meeting had been scheduled to follow discussions with the public and interested parties, such as the tribes and the Hanford Advisory Board, about major changes in the legally binding Tri-Party Agreement. The parties received good input and "listened carefully" to public comment, according to a brief joint statement DOE, EPA and the state given to the Herald on Monday.

<http://www.hanfordnews.com/news/2007/story/9419977p-9332657c.html>

October 29, 2007

U.S. Energy Department lags in meeting deadlines for securing nuclear sites, *International Herald-Tribune*

WASHINGTON: More than a year after the U.S. Congress told the Energy Department to harden U.S. nuclear bomb factories and laboratories against terrorist raids, 5 of the 11 sites are certain to miss their deadlines, some by many years, the Government Accountability Office has found. The Energy Department has put off security improvements at some sites that store plutonium because it plans to consolidate the material at central locations, but the GAO said in a Senate briefing that that project is also likely to lag. A copy of the briefing materials was provided to The New York Times by a private group, the Project on Government Oversight, which has long been pushing for better security at the weapons sites.***One site that will miss its deadline by years is the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, which holds a large stock of weapons-usable uranium. The laboratory plans to dilute the uranium, but that will take until 2015, the auditors found.

<http://www.iht.com/articles/2007/10/29/america/security.php>

October 27, 2007

Waste Control gets draft license to store radioactive byproducts, *Midland Reporter-Telegram*

Waste Control Specialists based in Andrews County has gotten the green light from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to store byproduct material from uranium mining and milling. This is one of two low-level radioactive waste licenses the company has pending with the Austin-based agency. The other, expected in the next couple of weeks, would allow Waste Control to dispose of low-level radioactive waste. With the draft byproduct license, Vice President of Community Relations Tom Jones said plans are to build an additional landfill just north of the existing facility. The new facility will store waste from the Fernald, Ohio, nuclear production facility. Waste Control has 3,776 containers from Fernald, stored in half-inch thick steel tanks that are 6 1/2 feet high and 6 feet in diameter and weigh 20,000 pounds each.

http://www.mywesttexas.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=18962725&BRD=2288&PAG=461&dept_id=475626&rfi=6

October 25, 2007

100 million gallons of water pumped at Moab cleanup site, *The Daily Sentinel (Grand Junction, CO)*

An effort to clean up a 16 million ton pile of uranium mill tailings along the Colorado River near Moab, Utah, hit a milestone Wednesday with the removal of 100 million gallons of contaminated groundwater. The groundwater-removal project is an interim step in the cleanup, which will remove the tailings pile and haul it north to Crescent Junction. In the meantime, the U.S. Energy Department is pumping contaminated groundwater out of the pile at the rate of 250 million gallons a year. Up with that groundwater came 450,000 pound of ammonia and 1,900 pounds of uranium. That ammonia and uranium were prevented from reaching the river, a major step in protecting it and downstream consumers, said Don Metzler, project director for the Energy Department.

http://www.gjsentinel.com/hp/content/news/stories/2007/10/25/102507_3A_Moab_cleanup.html

October 24, 2007

Proposed south KC nuclear weapons plant moves forward, *The Kansas City Star*

Plans to build a \$500 million nuclear weapons parts plant in south Kansas City — and preserve at least 2,000 jobs in the area — on Wednesday won a pivotal endorsement. The federal Office of Management and Budget has accepted the plan to build a new plant near the former Richards-Gebaur Memorial Airport and sent it to Congress for final review, said Brad Scott, regional administrator for the General Services Administration. "This is a significant hurdle having the OMB sign off on the package," Scott said. "It's an important step, but we believe we have all the support we need ... We're elated." The local congressional delegation and GSA officials have been working since early last year on a plan to keep the nuclear weapons facility in Kansas City. The plant is currently housed in a sprawling complex at the Bannister Federal Complex originally built in 1943 to manufacture engines for fighter aircraft. After World War II, the facility evolved to become a major facility where non-nuclear parts for nuclear weapons were manufactured. At the height of the Cold War in the 1980s, more than 8,000 people worked there. In recent years, however, that work force has dwindled to 2,600 people and there had been active consideration to close the plant and relocate its work to other weapons facilities around the nation.

<http://www.kansascity.com/business/story/331754.html>

October 24, 2007

Utah lawmakers seek faster tailings cleanup, *Salt Lake Tribune*

Utah lawmakers continue to push in Congress for speedy cleanup of the Atlas uranium tailings pile outside of Moab. On Monday, the U.S. Senate passed the defense authorization bill that contains a provision to develop plans for removing the massive waste pile from the edge of the Colorado River by 2019. "I have said all along it is entirely unacceptable for the cleanup of these tailings to take over 20 years," said U.S. Sen. Bob Bennett, a Utah Republican and sponsor of the provision. "I believe it is completely doable and logical to have it completed by 2019." Elected leaders at the state, local and federal levels have been prodding the federal government for years to get the contaminated pile off the riverbank. They grew concerned last spring when the U.S. Energy Secretary said the job might not be done until 2028. "That's just unacceptable," said Joette Langianese, a Grand County Council member. Similar expedited cleanup directions were included in the House-passed version of the defense bill at the request of U.S. Rep. Jim Matheson, D-Utah. That means it is more likely that some form of cleanup instructions will be part of the final bill.

http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_7264704

October 22, 2007

Bulk vitrification tests show some progress, *Tri-City Herald*

The final full-scale test has been completed on bulk vitrification technology proposed to treat Hanford radioactive waste before a decision is made on construction of a pilot plant. "The results look good" as far as performance of the equipment planned for the pilot plant, said Ben Harp, Department of Energy project director. However, tests must be completed on the quality of the glass blocks that incorporate the radioactive waste. Those results are not expected until December. If DOE decides to go forward with a pilot plant, purchasing of materials and construction could start in fiscal year 2009. The pilot plant could begin operating in fiscal year 2011 and test runs could be completed in fiscal year 2012. Then a decision would be made on construction of a production bulk vit treatment system. DOE is considering using bulk vitrification to supplement the \$12.2 billion vitrification plant being built at Hanford to treat radioactive waste now in underground tanks beginning in 2019. The main

plant was not designed to treat all of Hanford's 53 million gallons of radioactive waste left from the past production of plutonium for the nation's nuclear weapons program.

<http://www.tri-cityherald.com/tch/local/story/9398714p-9312122c.html>

October 20, 2007

Bill proposes cleanup for Piketon plant, *Chillicothe Gazette (Ohio)*

WASHINGTON - Continuing the cleanup of the Piketon uranium enrichment plant is the goal of a bill introduced Thursday by Sen. Sherrod Brown. Under the legislation proposed by Brown, a Democrat, funding for the cleanup program would continue for another 10 years. The current funding source is set to expire this year. "The D&D fund is a critical first step in the redevelopment of the lower Scioto Valley," said Brown. "Piketon and the region surrounding the old DOE reservation have been neglected too long. The people of this community helped America win the Cold War and then supplied the nuclear power industry for decades. The legislation would also raise the cap on the maximum amount the fund can collect in a year and require the Energy Department to study the best way to handle the remaining depleted uranium at the Piketon site.

<http://www.chillicothegazette.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071020/NEWS01/710200319/1002>

October 19, 2007

Utilities unsure about nuclear waste canisters: Interest in casks hinges on Yucca Mountain's fate, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*

WASHINGTON -- Utilities "have a healthy level of skepticism" about multipurpose canisters the Energy Department is proposing to ship nuclear waste to a planned Yucca Mountain repository, in part because they are unsure about the project's future, an industry official said Thursday. Executives are worried about incorporating the canisters into their nuclear waste handling on the chance the Nevada site ends up scrapped by Congress or the next president, according to Kristopher W. Cummings, a manager for Holtec International, a nuclear equipment manufacturer. Energy Department officials have said they plan to negotiate "incentives" for utilities to accept the "transportation, aging and disposal," or TAD, containers that could be adapted for shipping highly radioactive spent fuel and eventually burying it in the repository planned for 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

<http://www.lvrj.com/news/10666256.html>

October 18, 2007

Work levels 300 Area at Hanford, *Tri-City Herald*

Washington Closure Hanford has reduced 100 Hanford buildings to rubble along the Columbia River. More than half were in Hanford's 300 Area, just north of Richland, changing the view for drivers along Stevens Drive. The north end of the 300 Area has been flattened, except for the power plant. The work is being done much faster than expected. When Washington Closure took over work to clean up the 300 Area and the reactor areas along the river in August 2005, its contract called for demolition of 31 buildings by the start of this month. The project has benefited from experience at Hanford and other Department of Energy sites, said Stacy Charboneau, DOE project director for the Hanford river corridor. Washington Closure also has sequenced work to make it more efficient, such as removing rubble for several buildings at once, she said. Workers have come up against anticipated hazards, such as buildings contaminated with radioactive materials, asbestos and other hazardous chemicals.

<http://www.tri-cityherald.com/tch/local/story/9387904p-9301086c.html>

October 17, 2007

Uranium mine faces mounting pressure, *The Fort Collins Coloradoan*

A proposal to mine uranium east of Wellington is facing mounting political pressure, including opposition from U.S. Rep. Marilyn Musgrave and potential legislation that would add more state regulation. State Reps. Randy Fischer and John Kefalas, both Fort Collins Democrats, are working on legislation that would require a mining company to prove its operations will not contaminate groundwater resources. The bill also would "lift the veil of secrecy" that state law allows around mineral prospecting so affected landowners can get a better sense of what's happening on neighboring properties. The intent of the bill would not be to stop the mining operation, Fischer said, but to ensure the state has adequate environmental standards to protect residents as well as air and water quality.

<http://www.coloradoan.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071017/NEWS01/710170330/1002>

October 15, 2007

Nuclear waste piling up at Oconee power plant: Solution to spent fuel not solved as talks grow for new reactors in state, *The Greenville News (South Carolina)*

An armed security guard walked alongside a forklift hauling new fuel rods to a reactor unit at Oconee Nuclear Station one recent morning. The protected delivery was part of the preparations underway for a routine refueling and maintenance outage at Oconee's Unit 3 that starts this month. Reporters on a media tour weren't allowed pictures of the guard with a big gun slung from his shoulder, a woman with a clipboard beside him or the cargo itself -- a long gray container not more than a couple feet high balanced on the prongs of the forklift. Heightened security around the delivery at the Duke Energy facility was obvious. Less obvious was a growing graveyard of nuclear waste elsewhere on the site that is filling up with material many in the nuclear industry expected would be at Yucca Mountain or some other national repository by now. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 called for the federal government to provide a permanent deep geological repository. A 1987 amendment called for the Department of Energy to locate, build and operate a repository by 1998. At a time when one company has applied to build the first new nuclear plant in nearly three decades in the U.S., and several others, including Duke Energy, plan to do so in coming months, the pile of waste is growing.

<http://greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071015/NEWS01/710150321&template=printart>

October 15, 2007

Nuclear landfill capacity concerns officials, *Knoxville News-Sentinel*

OAK RIDGE — About 570,000 tons of waste have been trucked to the government's nuclear landfill since it opened in May 2002. That's a lot, of course, but there's much more to come. At least double that amount is expected between now and 2016, when the facility is tentatively scheduled for closure. A key question raised during the landfill's early planning stages has yet to be answered: Will it be big enough to accommodate the waste generated by Oak Ridge cleanup projects? Another question may be just as important: Will it stay open long enough to receive all those wastes?***Known formally as the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility, the landfill was built to safely house the massive volume of toxic and radioactive waste generated by post-Cold War cleanup activities at the U.S. Department of Energy operations. It's located on a 120-acre site west of the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant in Bear Creek Valley. The facility has been expanded a couple

of times already under terms of the agreement DOE signed with environmental regulators, and another upgrade is planned for 2009-10, which would bring the total capacity to 1.7 million cubic yards of waste.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2007/oct/15/nuclear-landfill-cap-concerns-officials/>

October 13, 2007

Uranium tailings may take to roads: Floods, faster timetable could scrap plan to use rail, councilwoman says, *Salt Lake Tribune*

Plans to move 16 million tons of uranium tailings and contaminated waste from the old Atlas Mill site near Moab might be sent back to the drawing board before they get rolling. The Energy Department awarded a contract in June to EnergySolutions to load the mountain of Cold War-era uranium residue onto rail cars and move it from the banks of the Colorado River to a disposal site 30 miles north near Crescent Junction. But Joette Langianese, a Grand County councilwoman who heads a local steering committee tracking the tailings project, says she told her committee this week "to be prepared" for changes to the rail shipment plan. "I think then we're going to see a little change in direction," she said. Two factors are driving the issue, she said: Flash flooding near where the tailings are expected to be loaded onto the rail cars that has raised safety concerns, and a legislative provision that substantially speeds up the timetable for the cleanup project. For now, the Energy Department is focused on the original plan to move the material by rail. Talk of changing that plan is premature, said Don Metzler, the department's project manager for the cleanup.

http://www.sltrib.com/ci_7166719

October 11, 2007

DOE looking to lease acreage for uranium, *The Daily Sentinel (Grand Junction, CO)*

The U.S. Energy Department is beginning the process of leasing as many as 21,000 acres in western Colorado for uranium mining. The department is investigating 25 tracts and is asking potential bidders to identify themselves so they can be sent information as the department moves ahead with the leasing process, said Steve Schiesswohl, project manager for the Energy Department. The lands in what is known as the Uravan Mineral Belt were set aside under the old Atomic Energy Commission, now the Energy Department, to ensure a domestic uranium mining program. The tracts are now being evaluated, and the department has "quite a bit of work" to do before sending out solicitations to bid, Schiesswohl said. Lessees now hold 13 leases in Mesa, Montrose and San Miguel counties, and the department concluded after an environmental study it will extend those leases for 10 years.

http://www.gjsentinel.com/hp/content/news/stories/2007/10/11/101107_1b_uranium_leases.html

October 10, 2007

Y-12: uranium warhead parts should be good for decades, *Knoxville News-Sentinel*

The National Nuclear Security Administration last week announced that the first W88 warhead with a replacement plutonium pit had been certified for use in the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile. The W88 warheads are deployed on the Navy's Trident II missiles. The announcement was a big deal in the weapons complex because it showed the United States had reestablished the capability for producing plutonium parts for the primary stage of nuclear warheads. Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico took over the job that once belonged to the Rocky Flats Plant in Colorado, which stopped production in 1989 and has since been closed and cleaned

up. The bottom line is the government wants to make sure the weapons will work as originally designed if indeed they should ever be used.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2007/oct/10/y-12-uranium-warhead-parts-should-be-good-for/>

October 8, 2007

ORNL reactor poses conversion challenge, *Knoxville News-Sentinel*

OAK RIDGE — Three times within the past year, the Bush administration trumpeted projects that had successfully converted U.S. research reactors to use low-enriched uranium fuel — instead of material that could be used in nuclear bombs***Bigger tasks lie ahead as U.S. officials try to convert the fuel packages in five high-performance research reactors, and the biggest challenge of all will come in Oak Ridge. The High Flux Isotope Reactor at Oak Ridge National Laboratory currently operates with fuel plates that contain weapons-grade uranium — 93 percent U-235, the fissionable isotope of uranium. Anything above 20 percent is considered of potential use in weapons. Because of unique technical difficulties associated with its fuel plates, the ORNL reactor apparently will be the last civilian reactor in the United States to operate with highly enriched uranium.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2007/oct/08/ornl-reactor-posesconversion-challenge/>

October 5, 2007

INL cleanup moves ahead, *Times-News (Twin Falls, Idaho)*

Officials at the U.S. Department of Energy and a firm hired to clean up nuclear waste at the Idaho National Laboratory say a proposal for the next phase of the decades-long project could be ready for public comment later this month. Crews are slated to focus their efforts on buried waste in the next phase, which will include removal of thousands of barrels of underground nuclear sludge. Depending on the nature of the waste, it will be shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, N.M., or stored in pits at the INL site, said Robert Iotti, president and chief executive officer of CH2M-WG Idaho, the company contracted to remove the waste. The cleanup effort has been ongoing for nearly 20 years, when the INL site was declared a Superfund location by the federal government in the late 1980s. In 1996, the state reached an agreement with the DOE that required the feds to remove liquid waste from the site.

http://www.magicvalley.com/articles/2007/10/05/news/local_state/121947.txt

October 4, 2007

NRC Receives First Application In Nearly Two Decades for New Uranium Recovery Operation, *NRC Press Release*

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has received an application from Energy Metals Corp. US to construct and operate an in-situ uranium recovery facility at Moore Ranch in Campbell County, Wyo. It is the first application for a new uranium recovery facility submitted to the NRC since 1988. The application, submitted Oct. 3, will soon be available on the NRC Web site at this address: <http://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/materials/uranium/>. The NRC staff is currently reviewing the application to determine whether it contains sufficient information to begin detailed environmental and safety reviews. If the application is deemed acceptable, the agency will formally docket it and publish a notice of opportunity to request an adjudicatory hearing.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2007/07-129.html>

October 4, 2007

DOE to issue fine over vit plant, *Tri-City Herald*

The Department of Energy plans to fine Bechtel National \$165,000 for violating

nuclear safety requirements as it designs and builds Hanford's \$12.2 billion vitrification plant. The fine is for a series of violations between October 2001 and February 2006. They include failures in processes to control design changes and to ensure that equipment it bought met nuclear safety specifications, according to DOE. If left uncorrected, the violations could have hampered safe and efficient operations of the vitrification plant when it begins turning radioactive waste into a stable glass form in 2019, according to DOE.

<http://www.tri-cityherald.com/tch/local/breaking/story/9353949p-9268088c.html>

October 3, 2007

Munger: Incinerator due for rehab after heavy load in 2007, *Knoxville News-Sentinel*

The government's toxic-waste incinerator in Oak Ridge burned about 1.4 million pounds of waste in fiscal 2007, which concluded Sept. 30. The incinerator will be shut down soon for its annual maintenance period. Dennis Hill of Bechtel Jacobs Co., the Department of Energy's cleanup manager, said the plan is to shut down the incinerator until early January to reline the kiln and perform other checks and repairs. "It's mostly preventive maintenance," Hill said. Bechtel Jacobs operates the federal facility that burns so-called mixed waste, which contains both radioactive elements and hazardous chemicals - such as polychlorinated biphenyls. Hill said the waste treated in 2007 was the highest total since 1999. DOE has indicated it plans to shut down the incinerator at the end of 2009, but that date isn't firm. The federal agency previously extended the Oak Ridge incinerator's lifetime to provide a treatment option for other cleanup sites around the country.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2007/oct/03/incinerator-due-for-rehab-after-heavy-load-in/>

October 3, 2007

Blast site drilling debate continues, *The Daily Sentinel (Grand Junction, CO)*

Until the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission can unearth better data about the Project Rulison nuclear blast site, it should ban all drilling within a three-mile radius of the site, Robert Moran, a Golden-based hydrogeologist and geochemist, told the panel Tuesday. "Rulison is essentially a hazardous waste site, except with nuclear materials," Moran said. The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission hosted a day-long informational meeting in Grand Junction on the Project Rulison site at the old Mesa County courthouse. The commission made no decisions on the matter, but drilling opponents and energy-industry advocates turned out in force to respectively argue for more stringent and more relaxed regulation of drilling near the blast site. The Project Rulison site was created in 1969 when the Energy Department detonated a nuclear bomb underground in an attempt to harvest natural gas. The explosion, however, created a underground glass cavity filled with radioactive materials. In an attempt to keep local residents safe from radioactive waste, the commission has forbidden natural gas drilling within a half mile of the site and required a public hearing on any drilling permits requested within three miles of the site.

http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/content/news/stories/2007/10/03/100307_1B_COGCC_meeting.html

October 3, 2007

Senate OKs deadline for Moab cleanup, *Deseret Morning News*

WASHINGTON — The Senate agreed to a firm 2019 deadline for the Energy Department to clean up the Moab uranium mill tailings, in a Defense authorization bill passed late Monday. Sen. Bob Bennett, R-Utah, had pushed for the firm deadline

after Energy Department officials earlier this year said the cleanup project, which was initially planned to last seven to 10 years, would require 21 years to complete. "I have said all along it is entirely unacceptable for the cleanup of these tailings to take over 20 years," Bennett said in a statement Tuesday. "I believe it is completely doable and logical to have it completed by 2019, and my amendment requires the secretary of energy to put forward a plan to do just that." Bennett sits on the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations subcommittee and has secured nearly \$70 million in federal dollars since 2000 for the remediation of the site, according to his office. He also has requested \$29.3 million for the project in the Senate version of the energy and water spending bill, which is waiting for a Senate floor vote. The House approved roughly \$24 million for the project.

<http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,695215323,00.html>

October 2, 2007

US DOE turns down \$9.5 billion offer to clean uranium facilities, *Platts Energy News*

The US Department of Energy has rejected an Energy Solutions and USEC proposal for a \$9.5 billion sole-source contract to decontaminate and decommission DOE's Portsmouth, Ohio, and Paducah, Kentucky, uranium enrichment plants, two lawmakers said Tuesday. The proposal also called for Energy Solutions to acquire USEC and invest in a \$2 billion uranium enrichment plant at the Paducah site. "I commend the DOE general counsel and his legal staff for scrubbing and ultimately rejecting a proposal which is so plainly at odds with the public interest," House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman John Dingell said in a statement with Representative Bart Stupak, chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. Earlier this year, Dingell and Stupak -- both Michigan Democrats -- challenged the proposal, saying DOE should obtain the D&D work through an open solicitation for contract proposals. Dingell and Stupak also questioned whether the arrangement would constitute an indirect subsidy to Energy Solutions to finance its acquisition of USEC's stock.

<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/6502360.xml?p=Nuclear/News&sub=Nuclear>

October 1, 2007

Department of Energy Awards More Than \$16 Million for GNEP Technology Development Plans: Areva, EnergySolutions, GE-Hitachi Nuclear Americas, and General Atomics to Develop Conceptual Design, *DOE Press Release*

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) completed cooperative agreements on Friday with four industry consortia to receive \$16.3 million for technical and conceptual design studies to further the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP). Today's announcement follows the selections for negotiation of terms under a Funding Opportunity Announcement in July to AREVA; Energy Solutions; GE-Hitachi Nuclear Americas, LLC; and General Atomics to develop studies for a GNEP nuclear fuel recycling center and advanced recycling reactor. Funding under the cooperative agreements awarded last week is as follows: \$5.6 million to AREVA; \$4.3 million to EnergySolutions, LLC; \$4.8 million to GE-Hitachi Nuclear Americas, LLC; and \$1.6 million to General Atomics. DOE will evaluate the information and recommendations provided by the teams, as well as other data and analyses, to explore the technical and business parameters that could support the development and deployment of GNEP technology.

<http://energy.gov/news/5535.htm>