



AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY OPERATIONS & POWER DIVISION

SPRING 2002

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Richard St Onge

Looking forward. This continues to be an exciting time for the power generation segment of the nuclear industry. Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) are turning in excellent capacity factors, nuclear safety remains a top priority, and operational excellence is becoming the norm. Owners are looking at license extension instead of decommissioning. There continues to be discussions on licensing new facilities. Regulators are preparing themselves to support license extensions and new licenses. The green folks are slowly recognizing that NPPs really don't pollute. Electricity demand continues to grow. If nothing else California demonstrated the need for diversity in the electrical supply mix. The federal government has given thumbs up on Yucca Mountain. The public opinion on nuclear power is near all time highs. I can even return to telling people sitting next to me on an airplane what kind of work I do, without fear of being tossed out a port hole. Things are looking up.

The Operation and Power Division (OPD) continues to be the largest of the technical divisions in the ANS. The hard work of our program committee, our technical presenters, our standards writers, and our public position writers continues to add helpful, useful information to support our fundamental goal of sharing technical and scientific information about nuclear power. I encourage each of you to also get involved to add to the vibrant fabric of our division. There is always a need for extra eyes, ears, and brains to help out with technical session organization, this newsletter, the web site, our position papers, etc. The professional developmental opportunities also abound. ANS is a place where a staff engineer can sit next to a utility executive and a NRC deputy director working on a common project, developing a life long working relationship.

So with this increased interest in nuclear power and the expanding opportunities for nuclear professionals, I strongly encourage you to become active in the national committees and to invite your non-ANS colleagues to join us as we ride the next crest of this industry.

IN MEMORIAM -- PETER L. REAGAN

Strength. As we look back at the past 12 months it seems that the many terrible things that have occurred both nationally and to our close friends & neighbors have given us cause to reflect and to resolve. We are stronger as a

nation, as a society, and as individuals. On February 16, 2002, OPD lost one of its officers in a fatal accident. Peter Reagan was a colleague, a dedicated professional and a dear friend. We will miss his hard work, his keen insight, and his wit. We will miss him.

Please join us in remembering and celebrating the life of one who gave so much.

The OPD Executive Committee

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ANS STANDARDS

By Mike Wright

ANS Standards are developed through a consensus process to ensure that the standards address current needs and represent Industry Best Practices. Each standard has a Working Group assigned to develop a new standard, or revise or reaffirm an existing standard. The Working Group must maintain a balance of utility, governmental, vendor, consultant, and regulatory participation to provide standards that meet Industry needs. The new, revised, or reaffirmed standards are

approved through one of four consensus committees, the Standards Steering Committee, and then certified by ANSI. To maintain ANSI certification, existing standards must be revised or reaffirmed every 5 years.

The working groups are the engines that keep the standards program moving forward. There are current needs for volunteers for the following standards:

- ANS-3.4, Medical Certification and Monitoring of Personnel Requiring Operator Licenses
- ANS-4.5, Criteria for Accident Monitoring Functions in Light-Water-Cooled Reactors
- ANS-58.9, Single Failure Criteria for LWR Safety-Related Fluid Systems
- ANS-58.11, Design Criteria for Safe Shutdown Following Selected Design Basis Events

Volunteers should contact Mike Wright at 601-368-5883 or email: mwright1@entergy.com

For more information on the ANS Standards program, please visit <http://www.ans.org/standards/>

**INVITATION
06/2002 MEETINGS IN HOLLYWOOD FL**

Join us at our summer meetings in Hollywood, FL:

- Executive Committee meeting, Sunday, 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Conference Room # 204
- Program Committee meeting, Sunday, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Conference Room # 204
- UWC 2002 Planning Committee meeting, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Conference Room # 205
- Special Committee on New Construction, Monday, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Conference Room # 202
- Special Committee on Utility Outreach, Sunday, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Conference Room # 206

**THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER LICENSE EXAM IS IN DANGER!
By Larry Foulke**

Larry Foulke, Chair of the ANS Professional Engineering Examination Committee (PEEC), attended the meeting of the Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers (EPE) in Atlanta on March 1 and 2, 2002. The EPE committee functions under the auspices of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveyors (NCEES) and supervises examination development and scoring.

The nuclear engineering examination is given once a year in October. The good news is that the pass rate for those taking the nuclear engineering PE examination for the first time in 2001 was 84%. The bad news is that the number of persons taking the examination has been going down. The number of examinees was 83 in 1992 and 23 in 2001. This trend has major implications for continuation of the nuclear engineering examination.

The EPE plans to recommend to NCEES that small society examinations must maintain 50 (first time) examination candidates over two consecutive examinations. If this threshold were not met, NCEES would put the society in a probationary status. While this “trigger” of less than 50 for two consecutive examinations may not shut down the examination, the society will have to take corrective action during their probationary period. This trigger for probationary status is motivated by psychometric (statistics to support examination validity) and resource (cost) reasons.

The ANS PEEC plans to take a number of promotion and survey actions to try to increase the number of people taking the examination. Foulke (Larry.R.Foulke@verizon.net) would like to hear from you if you have some constructive suggestions as to how to stimulate interest in the PE examination and improve the numbers of first time takers.

For example, the nuclear engineering examination is not given in all states. Perhaps some of the non-participating states can be persuaded to give the examination in their state if they were asked by candidates to give the examination. In addition, many people are discouraged from taking the PE examination because they have not had the required Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) examination, normally taken at the time the baccalaureate degree is received. Some states may have special provisions to waive the FE examination if a certain level of experience has been achieved. The PEEC intends to get the contact information for each State Board so the ANS could do a survey of these two issues.

Charlie Sparrow, a member of the PEEC, reports that California requires that their nuclear plants have a nuclear engineer, by licensure, on their staff. California licenses its engineers by discipline, so there could be a small legal problem if the nuclear examination were no longer offered.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE
By Bruce Guilbeault**

As I am sure most of you have heard, ANS lost a valued member in February. Peter Reagan died in a tragic accident. Peter was a great friend and a prolific member of the ANS and OPD. In any time of need though others come forward to keep the stability of the functions. Several people have already stepped to pick up the work that Peter started.

The program committee has been successful in developing several strong tracks for the recent and upcoming ANS meetings. The UWC 2002 program is well along the way and from my perspective looks worth the effort to attend. You can find the list of upcoming sessions for the Winter meeting in Washington on the OPD web

site. The Annual meeting in Hollywood, FL in June will have the program published soon. The work of the program committee is reflected in these programs. Please feed back to me any directions you feel the program should be following to stay on top of the industry.

Hollywood, FL -- <http://www.ans.org/meetings/annual/>
The OPD sessions are:

1. Research reactors: the next generation used for industrial and medical applications
2. Engineering the next generation of reactors
3. Opportunities in the nuclear workforce 2002
4. Risk-informed regulation
5. Nuclear Energy Research Initiative: waste management projects
6. A collaboration of resources in the nuclear industry
7. Early site permits
8. Management of spent nuclear fuel
9. Public outreach and interactions
10. Generation IV advanced nuclear energy systems: US DOE Roadmap

Washington, DC (Call for Papers) --
<http://www.ans.org/meetings/pdfs/2002/wm2002-cfp.pdf>
UWC – <http://opd.ans.org/uwc02.html>

The Program Committee is a very rewarding experience because it gives one the freedom to take an idea from start to finish in a different environment than our normal work function. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee or just exploring the idea of membership please feel free to contact me.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nuclear Energy Assembly, May 1-3, 2002, Naples, FL
- 2002 ANS Summer Meeting, June 9-13, 2002, Hollywood, FL "The Revival of the Nuclear Power Option"
- SPECTRUM 2002, August 4-8, 2002, Reno, NV
- Utility Working Conference, August 11-15, 2002, Amelia Island, FL
- 5th Topical Meeting on Spent Fuel and Fissile Material, September 16-19, 2002, Charleston, SC
- International Topical Meeting on Probabilistic Safety Assessment, October 6-10, 2002, Detroit, MI
- PHYSOR 2002, International Conference on the New Frontiers of Nuclear Technology: Reactor Physics, Safety, and High Performance Computing, October 7-10, 2002, Seoul, Korea
- 2002 ANS Winter Meeting, November 17-21, 2002, Washington, DC.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By now, you have all heard about the "Revival" of the Nuclear Industry. It is time to see this same revival in ANS membership and especially OPD membership.

"Invite a Colleague to Join [ANS]" couldn't be easier. Just log on to the Members section of the ANS website (www.ans.org). You can invite a colleague to join by sending a brief, pre-written email about ANS benefits. You can also refer your colleagues to the web site or pass along the brochure. When you do, ask them to print your name on the "Sponsor Name" line of their membership application if they choose to join. The membership application and brochure are available online or by contacting ANS' Membership Department, phone 800/323-3044; fax 708/579-8295; email sbraland@ans.org. Remember, each time you recruit a new member, your name will be entered in a drawing to win one of many prizes, including the grand prize of a laptop computer. All prizes will be awarded via a random drawing. The more members you recruit, the greater your chances of winning (e.g., recruit 10 members and your name will be entered 10 times in the drawing).

PRESENTING A LOCAL SECTION

Oak Ridge/Knoxville Local Section

Oak Ridge/Knoxville Local Section would like to point you to their website: <http://www.engr.utk.edu/org/ans/> for information.

FINANCE COMMITTEE & HIGHLIGHTS FROM TREASURER'S REPORT

By Loyd Wright

The Operations and Power Division had revenues of 19,381 in 2001 and expenses of \$7,617. This results in funds available to the Division of \$39,284 at the end of the year.

At the November 2001 meeting, the OPD Executive Committee approved a budget for 2002 of \$11,929 in revenue and \$8,500 in expenses. This includes the following expenses in 2002:

- Newsletters: \$1000 (for a second 8-page newsletter)
- Awards/Plaques: \$500
- National Meeting Costs: \$1,000
- Student Support: \$4,000 (\$1,000 for Student Conference, \$1,000 for the student mini conference at the November meeting, and \$1,000 for each national meeting)
- Scholarship/NEED funding: \$2,000 for NEED

HONORS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

<http://opd.ans.org/chonors.html>

OPD is pleased to announce the winner of the 2002 Walter H. Zinn Award, Mr. Henry E. Stone. A detailed biography of Mr. Stone is available at <http://opd.ans.org/Stone2002Zinn.html>

Join us as we honor Mr. Stone during the OPD Luncheon on Monday, June 10 in Hollywood, Florida, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., in Regency Ballroom 1.

BEST SESSION – BEST PAPER – EXCELLENT PRESENTATION

YOU determined the following awards! OPD tallied the submitted evaluation forms that were available in the meeting rooms during each presentation. Your assessment was used to determine the award winners. At the next conference, use the evaluation forms (available at <http://opd.ans.org/cprog.html>) to rate the sessions, formal papers, and presentations in which you participate.

A. Grimsley Award (Best Session)

The Grimsley Award was named in honor of Mona I. Grimsley. It is given to the organizer of the best-rated session at each ANS National Meeting. In November 2001, **Donna Skay** (NRC) was awarded this prestigious award for her session entitled “Recent Developments in the Economic Deregulation of Nuclear Power.” Congratulate Donna at the OPD Luncheon Monday, June 10 in Hollywood, Florida, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., in Regency Ballroom 1.

B. Best Paper Award

There were no nominees for the Best Paper Award at the November ANS Meeting in Reno. We look forward to your selections for nominees at the June ANS Meeting in Hollywood!

C. Excellent Presentation Award

Marc Potkin (Entergy Nuclear Northeast) won the Excellent Presentation Award in recognition of his top-rated presentations at the ANS Annual Meeting in November 2001. He will receive his award certificate at the OPD Luncheon Monday, June 10 in Hollywood, Florida, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., in Regency Ballroom 1.

MERITORIOUS PERFORMANCE IN OPERATIONS AWARD

If you know someone deserving this prestigious OPD award, contact the OPD Honors & Awards Committee Chair as soon as possible. OPD needs your assistance in identifying future award recipients.

UTILITY WORKING CONFERENCE AWARDS

It is again time to send in your nominations for OPD’s UWC Awards: the Utility Leadership Award and the Utility Achievement Award. Look around you and think of your colleagues and/or an organization which deserve to be recognized for their accomplishments. The deadline is April 30th, 2002! Or if the deadline is past when you read this newsletter, remember to think about it early for 2003. Contact Larry Curfman (larry_curfman@dom.com) for more information. The selection criteria can be found at <http://opd.ans.org/uwc.html>

In addition, when you attend this year’s UWC, you can submit your entry for the UWC Implementation Award. You will find it easy to identify practical ideas that will add

value to your business. Once you have implemented this idea in your organization, describe what you did and how it improved your business and you or your team could be the 2002 winner(s).

The winners will be announced on the OPD website and in the Fall newsletter.

OPD-RELATED SCHOLARSHIPS

OPD supports three Undergraduate scholarships: The OPD, Robert Lacy, and Angelo Bisesti scholarships. Anyone can contribute to these funds by sending a check to the ANS Outreach Department. Contact Sharon Kerrick (outreach@ans.org, 708.579.8251) for further information.

In addition, many other scholarships are sponsored by other ANS divisions and groups. Your assistance is needed to inform the students around you that are undertaking studies in nuclear science & technology of these scholarship opportunities. The deadline to apply for any of the ANS scholarships is February 1st, every year. <http://www.ans.org/honors/scholarships/>

STUDENT CONFERENCE “BACK TO THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY”

The ANS Student Sections will hold their next Conference April 10-13, 2002 in State College, PA, hosted by Penn State University. The Conference Chair is **Frank Buschman** (2002ans@psu.edu, 814-865-6351). OPD professionals and nuclear industry participants are encouraged to take part in the technical sessions as judges and mentors. Participation in the Career Fair is also desired. These students are the Nuclear Workers of Tomorrow and they request your support. Additional information is available at <http://ans.mne.psu.edu/conference.html>

OPD MANUAL

During the past few months, significant progress was made in developing the new OPD Manual. The purpose of this Division Manual is to document information useful for OPD governance in a concise and user-friendly form. The objective is to help ensure OPD activities are appropriately completed in a timely and efficient manner. The OPD Manual primarily contains “how to” information for OPD Officers, committee members, and other interested in OPD governance. In some instances, excerpts from either the OPD Bylaws or other ANS Manuals were included for convenience and clarity of communication. In general, the OPD Manual references rather than duplicates information that is available in other ANS documents.

Your involvement in creating the new OPD Manual would be most welcome. Contact any one of the Officers if you

would like to provide your input, especially if you have any past experience in OPD governance: the Manual will capture any "lessons learned" from the past.

CNC UPDATE

By Ted Quinn and Kyle Turner

There is very good news on the new construction front. Three major nuclear plant operating companies have announced their intent to file an Early Site Permit (ESP) to qualify a nuclear power plant site for future development of a certified standard plant design. cNc is sponsoring a series of directly related ESP sessions at ANS national meetings, beginning with an overview of the scope and objectives of industry ESP programs at the Reno meeting in November 2001. A panel session at the Annual Meeting in Hollywood, Florida will examine technical studies (e.g., seismology, geology, meteorology, hydrology, demography, ecology) that are required to prepare an ESP application. Future cNc sponsored sessions will focus on government programs related to demonstrating the ESP process (Washington, D.C., November 2002), development and use of surrogate plant design information in ESP applications, issues identified in NRC review of ESP applications, ESP technical issues, public communications in the ESP process, and melding ESP and design certifications in a Combined Operating License application. cNc may identify additional session topics as these exciting developments unfold.

The Department of Energy FY 2003 Congressional Budget Request, which was submitted in February, includes \$38.5 million for the Nuclear Power 2010 Initiative. The request relies heavily on the recommendations of the Nuclear Energy Research Advisory Committee (NERAC), an independent advisory committee from industry, national laboratories, and universities. In October 2001, NERAC published their recommendations in the report, Roadmap to Deploy New Nuclear Power Plants in the United States.

The DOE budget request for the 2010 Initiative reflects the Near-Term Deployment section of the roadmap report. That section identified regulatory and institutional gaps that are barriers to plant orders in the near term. The report calls for demonstration of the regulatory licensing processes of 10 CFR Part 52 for Early Site Permit (ESP), Design Certification (DC), and combined construction-Operating License (COL). The report also calls for completion of the detailed design and engineering for at least one advanced light water reactor and at least one advanced gas-cooled reactor.

The Nuclear Power 2010 Initiative consists of two phases. Phase 1 is aimed at eliminating licensing uncertainties and obtaining Design Certification for two advanced nuclear power plant designs. Phase 2 will be aimed at completing the detailed design and engineering work for two advanced-design nuclear power plants by 2005. The Phase 1 effort is described in detail in the beginning of this article.

In Phase 2, DOE will seek joint venture teams to participate in the Nuclear Power 2010 program. According to the FY 2003 budget document: "The purpose of these joint venture teams is to develop innovative business arrangements, such as consortia among designers, constructors, reactor equipments suppliers, and plant owner/operators with strong and common incentives to successfully build and operate new plants in the United States. These activities will be cost-shared with industry contributing at least 50 percent of the costs. For the engineering and design activities, the Department will recover its investments through royalty payments on future reactor sales," according to Shane Johnson of DOE.

There are many challenges in bringing new nuclear generating plants into the energy mix for the future. The Operations and Power Division cNc is looking forward to your input to support this effort in any way you can. If you are interested in additional information or providing support, please contact the Co-Chairs of cNc: Kyle Turner at (303) 670-8797 or kyleturn@att.net Ted Quinn at (949) 632-1369 or tedquinn@cox.net

UTILITY/POWER GENERATOR OUTREACH

By Rich St Onge

ANS Vice President/President Elect **Harold Ray** is heading up a special committee on Utility/Power Generator Outreach. This group is chartered with understanding the dynamics of participation of this industry segment and developing viable means of increasing that participation in the national ANS programs.

OPD has been requested by Harold Ray to identify potential initiatives which would help achieve the goal of increased participation. A subcommittee consisting of seven OPD Officers and executives was formed at the November Reno NV meeting to address this issue. Participants are Richard St Onge (Chair), Harold Stiles, Bruce Guilbeault, Larry Curfman, Loyd Wright, Pedro Perez, and Sophie Gutner.

The OPD Utility/Power Generator Outreach subcommittee has met or teleconferenced four times since November and is currently exploring areas for potential initiatives. If you have any thoughts on increasing ANS participation by

this segment of the industry, please contact the Chair Richard St Onge.

UWC 2002

By Harold Stiles

On August 11-14, 2002, industry leaders will meet at Amelia Island, Florida, for the 9th annual Utility Working Conference. Executive Vice President & Chief Nuclear Officer **Roy Anderson** (Nuclear Management Company) will serve as the General Chair. **Harold Stiles** (Progress Energy) will serve as the Technical Program Chair, with **Dave Lockwood** (FirstEnergy Corporation) serving as the Assistant Technical Program Chair. The theme of the conference is “*Sustaining the Nuclear Revival*” and is the subject of a Plenary that starts the conference. The theme recurs in the technical program, which is organized into six tracks: Business, Regulatory Relations, Operations, Supply Chain, Engineering and Maintenance. The format of the conference is to present an adequate introduction of the subject but to reserve plenty of time for discussion from the attendees.

The presentations in the **Business Track** reinforce the concept that no nuclear revival is possible without financial success. The Business Track was organized by **Marc Goettel** (Southern California Edison) and **Vince Gilbert** (Nuclear Energy Institute), with **Joe Donahue** (Progress Energy) serving as the Business Track Leader, to encourage a discussion of emerging opportunities for promoting financial success. **Mitch Baughman** (Duke Energy) has co-organized a session on “*The Value of Nuclear Asset Management*” to examine both a fleet management model and a risk-informed approach to nuclear asset management. **Chris Vlahoplus** (Scott, Madden & Associates) will chair a session on “*Change Management Practices For Continuing Improvement*” to examine the different approaches successful operators are using to focus the organization and drive ongoing performance improvement. The session on “*Business Values Of Discrete Engineering Processes*” bridges the gap between the engineering and business perspectives of managing nuclear plant assets, including the cost of equipment unavailability, the relationship between aging management and life cycle management and how optimizing plant preventive maintenance can lead to substantial cost savings. The session on “*Business Opportunities In The United States Nuclear Generation Market*,” which was organized by **John Valentino** (International Access Corporation), provides an opportunity to gain rare insight on the direction of U.S. electric utility industry and the corresponding impact on the international nuclear industry from the perception and opinions of some major international companies.

The presentations in the **Regulatory Relations Track** also emphasize that no nuclear revival is possible without

satisfactorily addressing regulatory requirements. The Regulatory Relations Track was organized by **Alan Hackerott** (Omaha Public Power District) and **Mark Reinhart** (US Nuclear Regulatory Commission), with **Samuel Collins** (US Nuclear Regulatory Commission) serving as the Regulatory Relations Track Leader. **Jack R. Strosnider, Jr.** (U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission) will chair a session on “*NSSS Aging and Degradation—Regulatory Aspects*” to consider significant examples of NSSS age related degradation that were not previously anticipated, including root causes, mitigating and compensatory measures, risk-informed decision-making, and appropriate regulatory direction. These considerations include license renewal age experience, implications of age related degradation, and associated decision-making processes. **Duncan Brewer** (Duke Power Company) will chair a session on “*Risk-Informed Environment—Do We Think the Language?*” to discuss the progress and potential applications in moving to more risk-informed methods to operate and regulate nuclear power plants. The session on “*Risk-Information—Relationships Within and Among a Broad and Progressively Increasing Spectrum of Applications*” will discuss the growing integration of risk information in the decision-making process about maintenance, plant configuration, power changes, overall plant operation, including the role of plant operators in this risk-informed management environment. **Robert E. Grazio** (Sequoia Consulting Group) will chair a session on “*Future Nuclear Power Plants*” to provide an interactive forum to focus on a spectrum of additional nuclear power reactors ranging from completing partially completed units, to building advanced design light water reactors, to building reactors of innovative designs.

The presentations in the **Operations Track** provide information and stimulate thought-provoking discussions on several key questions necessary to sustain the nuclear revival. The Operations Track was organized by **Fred Cayia** (Point Beach Nuclear Plant) and **Bill Corcoran** (Nuclear Safety Review Concepts), with **Sudesh Gambhir** (Omaha Public Power District) serving as the Operations Track Leader. **Mike Wilson** (Dominion Nuclear Connecticut) will chair a session on “*Training for Sustaining*” to address questions like: What does the Operations Training function need to do to keep the momentum? How can the pipeline issues be attacked? What makes a great operator, and how does training accomplish that? The session on “*The Operations Focus’ as a Key to Sustaining the Nuclear Revival*” chaired by **Sudesh Gambhir** (OPPD) will discuss varying understandings and aspects of “the Operations Focus” and how it is needed to sustain the nuclear revival. Is the Operations function the chief customer of the entire facility staff? What does this mean in day-to-day interfaces? What responsibilities does this concept bring to the members of the Operations function? **Steve Ketcham** (Institute of Nuclear Power Operations) will chair a session

on the “*Rising Standards of Operations Excellence for a Sustained Revival*” to address questions like: How do we prevent success from becoming the enemy? How do we avoid competence becoming complacency? How do we keep the eye on the ball?” **Neil Midkiff** (Accenture) and **Sophie Gutner** (Dominion) will chair a session on “*The Infrastructure for Sustaining the Nuclear Revival in Operations*” to examine how the infrastructure is changing to sustain the nuclear revival, including the use of new information and communications technology.

The presentations in the **Supply Chain Track** will review real life experiences in how nuclear utilities have reduced cost through industry supply chain initiatives and helped to sustain the nuclear option by improving spare parts availability. The Supply Chain Track was organized by **Dan Oliver** (Tennessee Valley Authority), with **Scott Simerly** (Progress Energy) serving as the Supply Chain Track Leader. **Marietta Williams** (Southern Company) will chair a session on “*Surplus Inventory - A Unique Opportunity*” to explore the barriers and complications that inhibit the use of one nuclear utility’s surplus inventory as the preferred source for another nuclear utility, along with alternative strategies for achieving the common objective of inventory optimization through mutually beneficial initiatives. **Danny Einbund** (New York Nuclear Corporation) will chair a session on “*What Is New in E-Commerce and How Has it Benefited Nuclear?*” to discuss what specifically has been achieved in developing web-based tools within the nuclear industry, what it took to get there, and what the future may bring for e-commerce in the nuclear industry. The session on “*The Role of the Integrator in Support of the Supply Chain Process*” will examine the use of a single supplier to manage all designated chemical programs as a strategy to reduce costs and increase environmental compliance. **George Shampy** (NOVA Machine Products) will chair a session on “*Process and Paradigm Changes That Enable Sustaining of Nuclear Parts Availability*” to focus on the innovative approaches utilities are undertaking to optimize part availability in an economic and regulatory sound manner.

The presentations in the **Engineering Track** cover the top emerging issues that are currently challenging engineering efforts to sustain the nuclear revival. The Engineering Track was organized by **Bob Hess** (Pacific Gas & Electric) and **Don Eggett** (Automated Engineering Services), with **Paul Harden** (Nuclear Management Company) serving as the Engineering Track Leader. **Donna Skay** (US Nuclear Regulatory Commission) will chair a session on “*NSSS Aging and Degradation—Engineering Aspects*” to complement a Regulatory Relations session on the same topic and in preparation for a later Engineering session on license renewal and power uprate. The focus will be on vessel head cracking along with similar or related issues such as CRDM nozzle cracking, loop cracking, and BWR recirculation pump

mounts. **Tom Snow** (Dominion) will co-chair the session on “*Engineering’s Role In Power Uprate And License Renewal - An Integral Approach*” to examine the integration of these strategic initiatives and the application of industry and NRC experience to implement both of these initiatives more efficiently and cost-effectively. Special focus will be on NSSS aging management and the criteria that flow from 10CFR54. **Greg Gibson** (Southern California Edison) will chair a session on the “*New Technical Approach To Safety System Unavailability Performance Indicators: An NRC And NEI Underway Pilot Program*” to review the issues associated with the development and integration of the new performance indicators / metrics based on the evaluation of the safety system unavailability and unreliability of six risk-significant reactor systems and how they relate to the Maintenance Rule, plant-specific Probabilistic Risk Assessment, and Engineering. The session on “*Managing the Engineering Workload*” will compare innovative management responses by various organizations to deal with shrinking staffs while still trying to meet emerging and continuing issues that require resources. This will include outsourcing of work, improved workload management, and efficiency improvement via process improvements or use of new technology.

The presentations in the **Maintenance Track** emphasize that no nuclear revival is possible without financial success within the Maintenance organization. The Maintenance Track was organized by **John Messina** (FirstEnergy Corporation) and **Sophie Gutner** (Dominion), with **Tom Palmisano** (Nuclear Management Company) serving as the Maintenance Track Leader. **Peter J. Arthur** (FirstEnergy Corporation) will chair a session on “*Work Control*” and provide insight to some of the best work control initiatives and process changes that are being undertaken in the industry to enhance productivity by streamlining potentially burdensome processes in the maintenance area. **Richard N. Swanson** (Performance Management Initiatives) will chair a session on “*Maintenance Organizations and Programs: Managing and Responding to Change*” to address two questions that are central to successful maintenance transition: (1) What are the key indicators for managing *intentional* maintenance organization and program change?; (2) What are the key indicators that identify unintentional or unwanted change? **Russ Kearney** (FirstEnergy Corporation) will chair a session on “*Managing Maintenance Resources For Efficient and Effective Operations*” to review the broad spectrum of maintenance resource management options including the alignment of the skills and knowledge of the craftsman with the task demands to do the right work at the right time, coupled with the right mix of vendor support. **John M. Jenco** (JJENCO, Inc.) will chair a session on “*Improving Maintenance Task Efficiency Using Wearable Technologies*” to address adaptation of such new or emerging technologies at commercial nuclear power

stations to increase the efficiency and expand the capabilities of maintenance workers.

Register online at
<http://www.ans.org/meetings/uwc/registration/>

NEWS FROM THE BOD

The Board met on March 4th to conduct business. Several topics were discussed including: Results of the 2001 Member Survey; Various bylaws & rules updates; Upcoming new "Benefactor" and "Patron" member sponsorship; New content added to the ANS website on transportation of radioactive material; New brochure highlighting nuclear technology's contributions to sustainable development; New Position Statements on "Licensing New Nuclear Power Plants" and "The Need for Near-Term Deployment of Nuclear Power Plants" (both endorsed by OPD).

On March 5th, Board and non-Board ANS members met with 47 different delegates and senators and their staff to discuss several key issues of importance to the Nuclear Industry, including Yucca Mountain. These meetings were organized by ANS Washington Representative, Doug Wasitis.(dwasitis@bakerd.com)

If you have any questions regarding the Board's activities, contact either Kyle Turner (ANS Treasurer) or Sophie Gutner (Board Member).

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS
OPD WEBSITE [HTTP://OPD.ANS.ORG](http://OPD.ANS.ORG)

The OPD website is constantly on the move. New sections are added regularly: Presenting a Local Section; Featured Plant (*soon*); Testimonials (*soon*); Newsletters; etc. Your ideas are welcome. The goal is to make our website useful and interesting to YOU.

The Webmaster needs your help, especially if you have any current www design skills and want to make improvements to the layout of the website. A fresh eye on things is always a source of good ideas.

ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the following OPD Executive Committee members on their election:

Chair: Ted Quinn (replacing Peter Reagan)

1st Vice Chair: Sophie Gutner

2nd Vice Chair: Pedro Perez

Secretary: Loyd Wright

Treasurer: Mark Reinhart

Welcome to our new 2002-2005 Members: Donald Eggett, Robert Hess, Peter Martin, Donna Skay, Harold Stiles, William Vernetson.

2001-2002 OFFICERS
<http://opd.ans.org/offmemb.html>

- **Chair** - Richard St. Onge (stongerj@songs.sce.com)
- **1st Vice-Chair** - Ted Quinn (equinn@mdmcorp.com)
- **2nd Vice-Chair** - Sophie Gutner (s_gutner@yahoo.com)
- **Secretary** - Pedro Pérez (Pedro.Perez@vynpc.com)
- **Treasurer** - Loyd Wright (wrightla@songs.sce.com)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- John Bernard (jbernard@mit.edu)
- Eric Blocher (eric.a.blocher@parsons.com)
- Lawrence Curfman (larry_curfman@dom.com)
- Greg Gibson (gibsongt@songs.sce.com)
- William Hannum (hannum@earthlink.net)
- Steven Malak (steven.malak@slchicago.infonet.com)
- Michael Payne (michael_a_payne@rl.gov)
- Mark Reinhart (fmr@nrc.gov)
- John Sackett (john.sackett@anlw.anl.gov)
- Tom Snow (tom_snow@dom.com)
- Harold Stiles (harold.stiles@cplc.com)
- Kyle Turner (kyleturn@att.net), Ex-Officio (Past-Chair)
- Marcus Voth (m.voth@iaea.org)
- Donna Skay, OPD Program Committee Chair (dms6@nrc.gov)
- Sharon Kerrick, ANS Staff Liaison (skerrick@ans.org)
- Don Hoffman, Professional Divisions Committee Chair (donaldh@excelservices.com)

COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS
ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER?

Contact **Sophie Gutner** - Editor
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s_gutner@yahoo.com

The next newsletter will be edited by Pedro Perez in the fall. Submit your articles early!