Dear Dear Colleagues and Friends,

“The only thing certain is change.”—Certainly we in the nuclear industry can vouch for the accuracy of this old adage. When 2011 began, who could have predicted the events which have transpired through the year? The Great Eastern Japan Earthquake, flood level waters early this summer in Nebraska, the Mineral, Virginia earthquake, recent floods in the Eastern U.S., and continued economic uncertainty. Given these developments, it would be easy to lapse into negativity or passivity. I urge you not to succumb to those urges!

As a member of this division, you are more than likely involved either directly or indirectly with the safety of nuclear power plants. I believe each of us, by our dedication to our daily responsibilities and our commitment to our profession (as demonstrated by your involvement in this division), recognizes our solemn responsibility to ensure safe operation of nuclear plants. We recognize that these plants play a vital role in generating clean, secure and economical electricity—an essential underpinning of our economic security, and are proud of our supporting role. Our commitment to understanding the events of the year, including an objective assessment of the lessons learned and formulation of the appropriate response, is critical. And we should not neglect to recognize the ongoing successes of the nuclear industry in our own country and worldwide. While some countries are wavering in their support of nuclear power, many projects are moving forward. New nuclear construction continues in countries such as France, China, and Finland. Other countries, while proceeding cautiously in light of the events at Fukushima, continue to pursue new nuclear to secure a safe, reliable, and environmentally sustainable source of electricity. As I write, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is conducting the first mandatory hearing under the Part 52 process, for the Vogtle 3 and 4 units, with COL issuance expected within the next few months. This is truly a milestone--the first such Commission hearing on a new nuclear power plant license application in more than 30 years.

Now a final word--Many of us continue to be involved in the assessment of and response to the events of this year. How we react in these circumstances may be a
defining moment for us personally and for our industry and profession. As they say, our character is best judged not by how we respond in good times, but rather how we respond in times of trial. This is a moment for our industry to demonstrate again its commitment to safety and our recognition of the important role of nuclear energy in the U.S. economy.

1st Embedded Topical Meeting on Small Modular Reactors
ANS Winter Meeting 2011
November 1-3, 2011

Deputy Program Chair – Vince Gilbert

OPD is sponsoring the 1st Embedded Topical Meeting on Small Modular Reactors during the ANS Winter Meeting November 1-3, 2011 in Washington, DC. Dr. Thomas L. Sanders, Associate Laboratory Director, Savannah River National Laboratory and ANS Past President, is serving as General Chair and Donald R. Hoffman, CEO, EXCEL Services Corporation is serving as the Technical Chair. The meeting is being conducted in response to the high levels of interest that have been associated with SMRs since 2009, stimulated in part by ANS efforts in generic licensing issue resolution. The meeting features 16 sessions in two tracks over the three-day period. The majority of the sessions are structured as panels but there are also several papers sessions.

On Tuesday, the first plenary session will feature opening remarks by Sanders and Hoffman followed by NRC Commissioner Bill Magwood, DOE Deputy Undersecretary John Kelly, Financial Analysts Glenn George, (Bates White) and Edward Kee (NERA) as well as Philip Moor, Chair of the ANS Presidents SMR Special Committee. Following the plenary the sessions will be held on Nonproliferation I and II, Emergency Planning, and Research and Development I. On Wednesday, a second plenary session will be held concerning SMR Deployment Barriers led by Mark Campagna (Worley Parsons) and Ben Cross (DOE) and featuring speakers from current and former staff from the department of defense, national labs and the department of energy. The plenary will be followed by sessions about iPWR SMR Licensing Updates, Codes and Standards and Research and Development II. On Thursday the final sessions will concern Achieving Breakthroughs in SMR Development, SMR Design Licensing Issues and Risk Management, International SMR Development and SMR Simulators, Staffing and Human Factors.

Overall the SMR meeting is expected to provide attendees with a very complete and informative update as well as to create a high energy and collaborative working environment to solve issues confronting SMRs today. We are also hoping for ANS to firmly establish supporting SMR strategies and actions well into 2012 and beyond.

Program Committee

Program Chair – Sasan Etemadi
(Sasan.Etemadi@sce.com)

The OPD Program Committee is responsible for coordinating the technical sessions that OPD sponsors at the various ANS meetings.

The first step in this process is planning and organizing the meetings. Over a year in advance of a meeting, the OPD Program Committee starts to think about what kind of sessions would be of interest to our members. The Program Committee member (or anyone else) prepares a 100 word summary of the proposed session. Sessions can either consist of presentations of papers, or be a panel of speakers.

These proposed sessions are then submitted to the Technical Program Chair (TPC) of the meeting, who organizes all of the proposed sessions from all the divisions into the “Call For Papers,” which is issued around a year in advance of the meeting.

By five months before the meeting, the papers are written and submitted, and the speaker panel sessions are planned (with speaker commitments). About four months before the meeting, representatives from all of the divisions meet at ANS headquarters. At this gathering, the final meeting schedule is planned by
assigning the various sessions to specific meeting rooms on a specific day.

One opportunity for OPD members to participate in ANS is by coming up with an idea for a session and organizing it. As a session organizer, you are responsible for making sure the session happens by convincing others to submit papers or serve as panel members.

Another opportunity to participate is by serving as a speaker for a panel session. Speakers generally are either individuals who are deeply knowledgeable about the session topic, or are strongly impacted by the topic. In a typical presentation, each speaker gets around 25 minutes to give their presentation (usually using a presentation program like Power Point) and answer questions from the audience.

If you are more interested in developing a paper, the requirement for a national meeting is only a 450-900 word summary of the topic. Each paper author gets around 25 minutes to present their paper, with most authors similarly using a program like Power Point to display the pertinent points from their paper.

As you can see from the preceding two paragraphs, the only real difference between a panel speaker and paper author is that the author took the time to summarize their Power Point presentation into a brief paper. By taking the time to do this, the author gets to have their words and ideas immortalized in the ANS Transaction book/CD-ROM that is prepared for the meeting and given to each attendee. A speaker’s words and presentation are captured only in the memories of those people in the room at the time.

If you would like to get involved but do not want to present a paper, you can be a paper reviewer. Each paper that is presented has to be reviewed by at least two people. The review is done though the internet, so anyone can do it from their home or work computer. All you do is read the paper, make any comments or suggestions you have, and make your recommendation as to whether the paper is of high enough quality to include in the meeting. Reviewing papers is a great way to start getting involved with national ANS, as it literally can take as little as an hour of your time.

Quality technical programs of interest to our members are of utmost importance. With planning starting a year in advance of each national meeting, timing is paramount in the selection of a topic. These topics must reflect current interests in the nuclear industry and provide a balance between research, planning, and day-to-day operations. The perfect topic must balance fresh ideas with meaningful experience.

WINTER MEETING, October 31 - November 3, 2011, Washington D.C.

The following OPD sessions will be offered at the ANS Winter Meeting from October 31 to November 3, 2011 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington D.C.

MONDAY, October 31, 2011, 2:30 PM

Operations and Power: General—I
- Effects of Inner Axial Blanket and MA on Extension of Core Life-time of Large-scale FBR
- A Conceptual Framework for Reconstructing Japan’s Nuclear Energy Policy
- Conceptual Design of Nuclear-Geothermal Energy Storage Systems for Variable Electricity Production

MONDAY, October 31, 2011, 4:00 PM

Developing Environmentally Safe and Secure Nuclear Power Programs in South/Central America and the Caribbean: (Panel Session)
Countries in South/Central America that have existing programs include Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil. Some 30 countries worldwide, including Chile, Ecuador, and Venezuela, are actively considering nuclear power programs. As nuclear power is an environmentally clean and non-greenhouse gas emitting energy source, it is timely to give consideration to its safe and nonproliferating use in South/Central America and the Caribbean as a replacement for fossil fuels. This panel will consider the (1) education, training, and work force development issues; (2) environmental issues; (3) security; and (4) financial and regulatory issues.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 8:30 AM

Power Uprates: Status and Lessons Learned (Panel Session)

One of the prominent current activities for the operating fleet of nuclear power reactors in the United States has been the technical development and regulatory approval of uprates in power levels. Uprates have ranged from a few percent to Extended Power Uprates (EPU) in excess of 15% enhancements compared to original licensed power levels. This panel session will address specific uprating actions, key success factors as well as lessons learned.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 1:00 PM

Licensing a Digital Upgrade (Panel Session)
Interim Staff Guidance 6, ISG-06, Rev 1 was approved in January 2011 and is available to help guide a licensee
through the License Amendment Request process for a
digital upgrade.
Diablo Canyon is a pilot plant for this process and is
submitting a License Amendment Request to replace
the Process Protection System. This session will provide
an update on experience with ISG-06 both from an
industry and the NRC staff perspective. This session will
also discuss the lessons learned with generating and
submitting the Phase 1 documents required by ISG-06.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 4:00 P.M.**

Fukushima—Evaluation and Impact (Panel Session)
Numerous regulatory bodies and plant owners are
evaluating the events at Fukushima and assessing
changes in regulatory requirements and features
needed for beyond design basis events due to the
events at Fukushima. Regulatory bodies such as the
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the U.K.
Nuclear Installations Inspectorate are preparing
evaluations.
The EU plant owners are evaluating plant susceptibilities
using a stress test process. This session will explore the
results from these and other evaluations.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 8:30 AM**

Nuclear Energy Growth in Emerging Markets (Panel
Session)
This session will provide an overview of progress and
planning for utilization of nuclear energy in emerging
markets and mature markets that are adding capacity
after many years of operating nuclear plants. Speakers
will be from the IAEA, energy companies, regulators,
and industry consortiums that are supporting the growth
of nuclear energy around the world.
IAEA has been approached by 61 countries asking for
help in developing nuclear energy in their own countries.
These countries are at all levels of experience in nuclear
technologies from nuclear medicine, research, and test
reactor experience. This session will focus on a broad
spectrum of these countries looking at both countries
with high levels and low levels of experience in nuclear
science and technology.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 1:00 P.M.**

Domestic Perspectives on Nuclear Energy Growth in the
U.S. and Around the World (Panel Session)
This session will provide an overview of progress and
planning for utilization of nuclear energy in the U.S and
emerging markets around the world. Speakers from the
Administration, DOE, Department of State, NRC, and
international representatives will address the growth of
nuclear energy around the world, particularly after the
events surrounding Fukushima.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 8:30 AM**

Operations and Power: General—II (Paper Session)
- Cost-Based Optimization of Supercritical Carbon
  Dioxide Brayton Cycle Equipment
- The Application of Gas Turbine Generator as an
  Emergency Power Source in a US-APWR
- Phased On-Line Maintenance Strategies for Non-US
  Utilities
- Insights of the Risk Significance of the Maintenance
  Rule Using Delphi Assessment
- Run-Ahead Predictive Simulator Implementation in
  Nuclear Power Plant Control Rooms
- A Comprehensive Analysis of ATWS Accident for
  OPR-1000 Using VISA code
- A Comparative Evaluation of SBO and SBLOCA using
  MAAP4 and MARS Code
- Impact of Initial Basin Temperatures and Fan
  Availability on Wet Bulb Temperature Limits for
  Ultimate Heat Sink Operability

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 1:00 PM**

Advanced / Gen-IV Reactors (Paper Session)
- Safety Issues Affecting the Feasibility of an Early
  High-Flux LFR Technology Demonstrator
- Development of a Comprehensive Model of a Lead-
  Cooled Fast Reactor Using the FAST Code System
- Determination of Interaction Parameters for EDEM
  Based Simulations of Pebble Bed Test Reactor
- Catalytic Kinetics of Fe2O3 in Sulfuric Trioxide
  Decomposition of SI cycle
- Pebble Bed Reactor as Static Packed Bed
- Discrete Element Method Based Simulation of Pebble
  Bed Test Reactor
- Development of Modeling Techniques for a Gen IV
  GFR

The following addition sessions, sponsored by other
divisions, may be of interest to OPD members.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2011, 1:00 PM**
- Adjudication in the Licensing Process - Fact or Fiction
- General Safety
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2011, 4:00 P.M.
- Model Adaptation and Data Assimilation for Reactor Core Calculations

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 8:30 AM
- Planning and Preparedness for Long Term Recovery Operations Following Radiological and Nuclear Events
- Future of Nuclear fuel Cycle and Waste Management
- Fukushima Daiichi – Event Consequences, Does to Public, current Status, and Proposed Decommissioning Path

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 1:00 PM
- On-Line Monitoring to Prognostics for Light Water Reactors
- Path Forward for Spent Fuel Management Blue Ribbon Commission and the Next Step

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 8:30 AM
- Understanding Subsurface Radionuclide Contamination at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants
- Kent Hamlin Memorial Session on Training, Human Performance, and Work Force Development

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 8:30 AM
- Human Factors, Instrumentation, and Controls: General—I

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 1:00 PM
- Human Factors, Instrumentation, and Controls: General—II

EMBEDDED TOPICAL: SMR 2011

OPD is sponsoring the embedded topical on Small Modular Reactors (SMR 2011) at the Washington meeting. The topical starts on Tuesday, November 1. The sessions for this topical are:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 10:00-11:30 A.M.
- ANS President's Special SMR Committee

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 1:00-3:00 P.M.
- SMR Nonproliferation
- SMR Emergency Planning-Long-Term Success Path

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 3:15-5:00 P.M.
- Nonproliferation Papers
- SMR R&D—I: DOE R&D

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 8:00-9:45 A.M.
- SMR Development Challenges

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 10:00-11:30 A.M.
- Early SMR Deployment Barriers and the DOE Asset Revitalization Initiative
- iPWR SMR Design and Licensing Update

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 1:00-3:00 P.M.
- Codes and Standards

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 1:00-5:00 P.M.
- SMR R&D—II: Advanced Technologies

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011, 3:00-5:00 P.M.
- SMR Site Selection and Environmental Papers

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 8:00-10:00 A.M.
- SMR R&D—III: Innovative Concepts

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 10:15-11:30 A.M.
- International SMR Development (Panel)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 1:00-4:00 P.M.
- International SMR Development (Papers)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011, 1:00-5:00 P.M.
- SMR Simulators, Staffing/Human Factors

ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 24 - 28, 2012, CHICAGO, IL

The following sessions are planned for the 2012 Annual Meeting, which will take place at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago, IL from June 24-28. The deadline for submitting papers is June 10. If you are interested in submitting a paper to one of the OPD sessions, or any other session at the meeting, see http://epsr.ans.org/.

If you have a suggestion for a panel session, or want to suggest a speaker, please contact the session organizer or the OPD Program Chair. If you would like to organize an additional panel session, please contact the OPD Program Chair or attend the Program Committee meeting on Sunday October 30, from 2:30-4:00 PM in the Hampton Ballroom.
2011 Utility Working Conference
“It’s Not Easy Being Green: Innovations for Continued Safe, Secure, and Competitive Nuclear Operation”
August 14-17, 2011
Westin Diplomat, Hollywood, FL

Program Chair – Chris Wiegand (christopher.wiegand@invensys.com)

The 2011 Utility Working Conference (UWC) was held August 14th thru the 17th in Hollywood, Florida. This was a new venue for the UWC and by a vast majority the attendees favor this property. As a result of the new location, 4 new tracks were added to the traditional tracks covered in the UWC (New Reactors, Long Term Operation, Maintenance, and Cyber Security/Digital I&C).

By all accounts the conference was a resounding success. From the amazing Key Note speakers (John Rowe, James Ellis, and Dr. Charles Camarda) to the superb technical tracks and Fukushima panel finale the attendee response was overwhelmingly positive. Never before has so many of the Industry’s top leaders played such a significant role in the conference. Much of the credit goes to Amir Shahkarami CEO of Exelon Nuclear Partners, who tirelessly recruited and promoted the event. The entire ANS staff and the track leaders and organizers also deserve credit for an outstanding conference.

Total attendance increased approximately 18.5% over the previous year and utility participation increased approximately 22% so there was a net gain in utility personnel at the meeting.

The OPD sponsored 5 students to the conference and a report on their activities will be included in a separate write-up.

For any questions or comments please contact christopher.wiegand@invensys.com.

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2012 Utility Working Conference
NUCLEAR!
STILL THE ONE!
THE RIGHT BUSINESS
THE RIGHT RESULTS
THE RIGHT WAY FORWARD
2012 Utility Working Conference
August 5-8, 2012
Westin Diplomat, Hollywood, FL

Program Chair – L.E. (T-Bow) Thibault

Benchmarking in a bottle - that’s how I think of a Utility Working Conference. A good friend of mine commented that his crews always knew when he had been to a UWC because, all of a sudden, he had a bunch of new ideas for his crews to implement.

This year at the 2011 UWC, we had nearly 800 nuclear professionals meet in Hollywood, Florida. We were a great mix of utility personnel, regulators, suppliers, oversight, and vendors all interested in finding out what the other guy or girl was doing - and how well they were doing it. Nuclear is still the one technology that is carbon free and reliable, and it takes our collective effort to keep that technology a viable source of electricity. The UWC is the one forum where a horizontal and vertical cross-section of industry personnel can meet informally, build relationships, and get the inside track on what is working and what isn’t.

We’re trying something a bit different in 2012. I’ve asked the track leaders and organizers to identify their target audience before they start building their track presentations, problem-solving sessions, and facilitated sessions. After they figure out their audience, the track leaders and organizers have been asked to build a track that provides information specific to the audience and is unique to the UWC. We’re also considering a new supply chain track. From there, we’ll send specific invitations to the target audience.
By focusing on our audience, we intend to increase the number of utility participants and crack the 200 attendee level. Our audience should also be our plant site designated or natural leaders. That is, the individuals who can take their benchmarking from the UWC and influence positive change at their plant using the unique information they’ve garnered from the 2012 UWC.

As members of the Operations and Power Division, now is the time for you to get the word out. Nuclear is still the one and the 2012 UWC is the preeminent benchmarking opportunity in 2012.

L. E. (T-Bow) Thibault
2012 UWC Technical Program Chair
Tennessee Valley Authority

NUCLEAR!
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THE RIGHT WAY FORWARD
2012 Utility Working Conference

OPD Nuclear Construction Working Group, 2011 – 2012

Co-Chair – Kyle Turner
(kyleturn@worldnet.att.net)
Co-Chair – Ted Quinn
(tedquinn@cox.net)

The ANS Operations and Power Division (OPD) Committee on New Construction (CNC) has been operating since the early 1990’s to provide forums for discussion and information exchange relative to new reactor deployment in the U.S. and around the world.

During the upcoming ANS Winter Meeting, October 30 – November 3, in Washington, D.C., we are sponsoring multiple sessions including the “Nuclear Construction Working Group Session”, Sunday PM in the Hampton Ballroom. There are other sessions related to this important subject in the winter meeting – including “Developing Environmentally Safe and Secure Nuclear Power Programs in South/Central America and the Caribbean”, “Nuclear Energy Growth in Emerging Markets” and “Domestic Perspectives on Nuclear Energy Growth in the U.S. and Around the World”. Added to this is the Embedded Topical on Small Modular Reactors. Clearly the winter meeting offers much in the area of new construction. We hope to see you there.

Wanted: OPD Members for Division and National Committees

Several national committees and OPD committees are looking for willing volunteers. A complete listing of the committees, with descriptions and requirements, is available on the ANS and OPD website: http://www.ans.org/about/committees/

Interested OPD members may volunteer directly through the website, or may contact the OPD Chair for a recommendation from the Division. If you can help, please let us know.

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Honors and Awards Committee

OPD Vice-Chair/Honors and Awards Committee Chair – Stephanie Banker
(spbanker@gmail.com)

The OPD Honors and Awards Committee is actively seeking nominations for the following awards, to be presented in 2012.

Walter H. Zinn Award

This award was established in 1976 to recognize outstanding contributions to the advancement of nuclear power. It honors Walter H. Zinn, the Society’s first president.

This award is granted to an individual for a notable and sustained contribution to the nuclear power industry that has not been widely recognized. It may be a technical contribution, one of leadership, or other notable service to the industry.

Zinn Award recipients are selected by the Operations and Power Division Honors and Awards Committee. Nominations (candidate names and supporting information) for the Zinn Award can be submitted throughout the year by Operations and Power Division members. Nominees need not be ANS members. Nominations are due January 22 and should be sent to Stephanie P. Banker, OPD Vice Chair and OPD Honors and Awards Committee Chair, at spbanker@gmail.com. Plans are being made to present the 2012 Zinn Award at the Operations and Power Division Luncheon at the ANS Annual Meeting in June 2012.

Information about this award, including the nomination form, can be found at the following link: http://www.new.ans.org/honors/va-zinn.
Meritorious Performance in Operations Award

This award was established in 1984 to recognize and honor outstanding achievement in the field of nuclear reactor operations.

The recipient may be a team or an individual. The award is intended for licensed and unlicensed personnel who comprise an active part of the operation of a nuclear facility and who have performed these duties in an exemplary manner. Following are several activities that may qualify the candidate for outstanding performance in the operation of nuclear facilities:

- Long term, superior performance in the discharge of normal operations,
- New or novel effective solutions to problems pertaining to nuclear operations,
- Outstanding and/or innovative applications of nuclear facilities to contribute to enhanced education, research, development or training programs,
- Long-term, safe operation with a high availability factor,
- Development and implementation of novel operating, maintenance or surveillance techniques and procedures,
- Development of a new or novel application of the nuclear facility or its by-products, or
- Any significant action worthy of national attention.

Meritorious Performance in Operations Award recipients are selected by the Operations and Power Division Honors and Awards Committee. Nominations can be submitted throughout the year by Operations and Power Division members. Nominees need not be ANS members. Nominations are due March 1 and should be sent to Stephanie P. Banker, OPD Vice Chair and OPD Honors and Awards Committee Chair, at spbanker@gmail.com. Plans are being made to present the 2011 Meritorious Performance in Operations Award at the Operations and Power Division Luncheon at the ANS Annual Meeting in June 2012.

Utility Leadership Award – Utility Working Conference

This award was established in 1994 by the Operations and Power Division to recognize an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and has contributed greatly to the success of the nuclear power industry. In 2005 it officially became a national award. The award criteria are non-specific but the achievement may be either sustained outstanding performance or outstanding improvement in performance. The nomination must provide supporting details and sufficient facts for the selection committee to make an informed decision.

The award consists of an engraved plaque that is presented in August each year in conjunction with the ANS Utility Working Conference (UWC). Nominations may be submitted at any time during the year, but should be submitted by April 30 to be considered for the current year.

Information about this award, including the nomination form, can be found at the following link: http://www.new.ans.org/honors/va-utilleader.

Utility Achievement Award – Utility Working Conference

This award was established in 1994 by the Operations and Power Division to recognize the commercial nuclear power plant(s) that demonstrate outstanding achievements in performance. In 2005 the award officially became part of the national award program. The award criteria are non-specific but the achievement may be either sustained outstanding performance or outstanding improvement in performance. The nomination must provide supporting details and sufficient facts for the selection committee to make an informed decision.

The award consists of an engraved plaque that is presented in August each year in conjunction with the ANS Utility Working Conference (UWC). Nominations may be submitted at any time during the year, but should be submitted by April 30 to be considered for the current year.

Information about this award, including the nomination form, can be found at the following link: http://www.new.ans.org/honors/va-utilachieve.
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