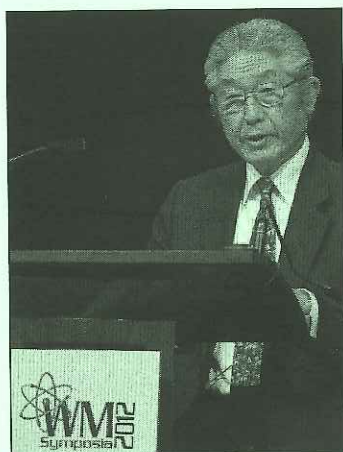


## Plenary Session Features World-wide Waste Management Challenges



*Takao Fujie, President & CEO of the Japan Nuclear Technology Institute*

The 2012 Waste Management Opening Plenary Session on Feb. 27 opened on a different note this year – one of remembrance as Takao Fujie, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Japan Nuclear Technology Institute, detailed the earthquake and tsunami that struck the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station in March 2011.

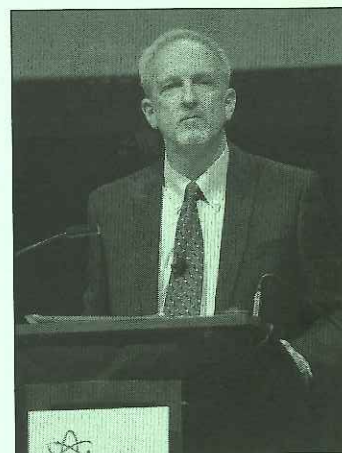
Fujie described the damage incurred to the power stations and the recovery challenges that remain. He cited the dedication of the workforce, whose heroic efforts kept the situation from worsening. He then outlined the “Roadmap to Stabilization” with the actions being taken, including the reactor building cover, debris removal and the water shielding wall, as well as mid- and long-term plans.

“We will leverage lessons learned from Fukushima to improve safety of nuclear power facilities and regain trust,” Fujie said. He gave recognition to the support being provided from the nuclear community. “I expect such cooperation will achieve decontamination of the damaged reactors,” he said.

Also featured during the plenary was George E. Dials, President of B&W Conversation Services, LLC, who urged the audience, amidst a busy conference schedule, “Let’s not

ignore the elephant in the room,” alluding to “where are we going to put all this stuff.” Dials highlighted sessions this week that will address the challenge of finding a disposal solution for the nation’s hazardous waste.

David Huzienga, Department of Energy Senior Advisor for Environmental Management, spoke to a theme of partnership and collaboration, showcasing EM progress to date and the challenges that await as cleanup continues across the DOE complex. He detailed the EM program priorities and fiscal year 2013 budget as well as program goals and achievements, including improving safety and quality performance and reducing the lifecycle cost and accelerate the cleanup of the Cold War legacy.



*David Huzienga, Senior Advisor for Environmental Management*

## Urgent Need Seen for EU Waste Management Legislation

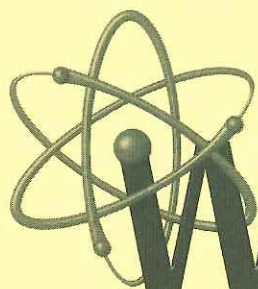


*Ute Blohm-Hieber, European Commission Directorate General for Energy*

The head of the unit for nuclear energy, transport, decommissioning and waste management in the DG ENER (Directorate General for Energy) of the European Commission (EC) says “We all have the same elephant in front of us and hopefully we can domesticate it.” Ute Blohm-Hieber was Monday’s luncheon keynote speaker, noting the European Union is facing the same nuclear waste disposal challenges as the other countries of the world and said the time to make decisions regarding disposal of nuclear waste is now.

The 27 members of the European Union are working on the Council Directive for Responsible and Safe Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste. She says this directive is an

...continued on page 4



Sunday/Monday

# WMS Insight

The official daily newsletter of the 38th Annual Waste Management Symposium – Vol. 38, No. 1

February 26 - March 1, 2012

## Welcome to the 2012 Waste Management Symposium

On the program this year you will find a strong series of presentations ranging from the challenges facing the Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima Daichi nuclear power plants following last year's earthquake and tsunami, to the installation of the largest robotic waste retrieval device ever inserted into an active radioactive waste storage tank.



*Takao Fujie is the President and CEO of the Japan Nuclear Technology Institute.*

Now in its 38<sup>th</sup> year, the symposium began in Tucson with just 20 sessions and about 200 attendees. Now, those numbers have increased ten-fold with more than 100 sessions and more than 2000 attendees. The Waste Management Symposium has become the premier international conference for the management of radioactive materials and related topics.

Three featured sessions are on tap for this year's WMS, kicking off Monday with three sessions dedicated to Japan and the Fukushima incident. It starts with the first Plenary Speaker, Takao Fujie, President and Chief Executive Officer Japan Nuclear Technology Institute and continues with panel sessions and papers on the impacts on both current operations and future plans for nuclear power.

On Tuesday the US DOE featured

site is the Oak Ridge Reservation. "Oak Ridge Day" will focus on the unique challenges and creative solutions that are associated with the cleanup of the three sites that comprise the Oak Ridge Reservation. Remediation of the Oak Ridge Reservation is critical to enable the ongoing missions of the Office of Science and the National Nuclear Security Administration and to support reindustrialization and modernization of DOE's assets. Four sessions include panel discussions and presentations that highlight some of the more innovative approaches that have been used in Oak Ridge to advance cleanup given the challenges that our country is facing today.

Wednesday afternoon the US DOE Featured site is the Portsmouth, Ohio plant and one panel session is dedicated to different aspects of this featured site.

The first session will discuss the D&D project and include presentations on the USEC transition, workforce transition, regulatory decision making and the challenges regarding onsite disposal, baseline changes, project planning and execution and asset revitalization and recycle/reuse. The second session will focus on the DUF6 Phased Restart.

In addition to the featured sites, two special sessions are scheduled.

On Thursday Afternoon WM Symposia is pleased to include presentations and discussion about the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future report

provided to Secretary of Energy Chu on January 26, 2012. At the direction of the President, the Commission was charged with reviewing policies for managing the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle and recommending a new plan for addressing this important challenge.

The US NRC will conduct a public meeting on Friday March 2 immediately following WM2012 to discuss potential changes to the agency's LLRW disposal regulations in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 61.

Whether this is your first time at the symposium or whether you're a regular attendee, you will find more than enough on this year's program to keep you interested.

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