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### LEGISLATIVE:

Walden to head powerful Energy and Commerce Committee

### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2017

*The Hill*

December 1, 2016

Republicans have elected Rep. Greg Walden (R-Ore.) the next chairman of the powerful House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Walden defeated Reps. John Shimkus (R-Ill.) and Joe Barton (R-Texas), the former committee chairman, in the race for the gavel. Current chairman Fred Upton (R-Mich.) is stepping down from the position due to term limits.

"Look, this was tough," Walden said after the vote. "John Shimkus and Joe Barton are both good friends and they are excellent legislators. They both have roles where they will continue to be leaders."

When asked about his top legislative priorities, Walden declined to name any specifics as he walked into his basement office, where he was greeted by robust applause and cheers from inside. [>>Continue reading](#)

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## **TREATMENT & TRANSPORTATION:**

### **NRC seeks public input to revise rules on transporting radioactive material**

*Daily Energy Insider*

November 29, 2016

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requests public input in order to revise its regulations for packaging and transporting radioactive material.

Current transportation regulations are partially based on standards developed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The IAEA revises standards periodically to reflect newly acquired expertise and knowledge on the topic. The NRC staff plans to use comments received from the public to update its own regulations to match IAEA compatibility standards.

The NRC has published an issue paper that outlines topics under consideration for possible revision, which is available as a guide for public input. The topics for possible revision include the requirements for small amounts of fissile material, external

# 23-24

**ECA Annual Meeting  
Washington, DC**

***"Meeting the New  
Administration:  
Addressing Energy  
Priorities and Securing  
Progress"***

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**March 2017**

# 5-9

**Waste Management  
Conference  
Phoenix, AZ**

**[More info here](#)**

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**May/June 2017**

# 31-1

**INVITATION ONLY**

**ECA Peer Exchange  
Richland, WA**

***"Formalizing Host  
Communities' Role in***

package pressure, solar heat, shipping large solid contaminated objects and shipping low activity waste.

The NRC will hold meetings on Dec. 5-6 at its headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, to answer questions on the issues paper. [>>Continue reading](#)

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## **ADVANCED NUCLEAR: DOE and NRC Sign MOU to Benefit Advanced Reactors**

*Lexology*

November 23, 2016

As part of the DOE's Gateway for Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear ("GAIN") initiative, this month the DOE and NRC published a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that sets forth a process by which the two agencies will work together to help non-light water ("advanced") nuclear reactors work through the nuclear licensing process.

The MOU establishes contacts at each agency and a process by which the NRC will keep the DOE closely informed about its licensing process for advanced reactors, as well as any changes that occur. But perhaps most of interest, the MOU establishes a framework by which the DOE can answer basic regulatory questions that future advanced reactor applicants may have, concerning the "NRC's regulatory requirements and activities." Moreover, if DOE cannot answer the question, in certain cases it can e-mail the NRC and expect an answer back within two weeks. Questions that are asked and answered will be compiled on a DOE-hosted "FAQ" website. [>>Continue reading](#)

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## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY: GAO Cites Management Weaknesses at Energy**

*FED Week*

November 29, 2016

The Energy Department and its National Nuclear Security Administration lack policies addressing internal control standards and leading practices related to program management, GAO has said, adding that DoE has never established a department-

*the Manhattan Project  
National Historical  
Park"*

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wide program and NNSA cancelled its own policy in 2013 without establishing a new one.

While there are no federal government-wide standards specifically addressing program management, federal internal control standards include principles relevant to program managers, and the Project Management Institute has established a standard on program management generally recognized as a leading practice, it said.

GAO noted that a report it issued earlier this year found that the department had not clarified whether a planned plutonium analysis facility would satisfy the mission needs of other NNSA and DoE programs, an issue that such a policy might have been able to address. [>>Continue reading](#)

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## **COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR:**

### **Two milestones for Vogtle new build**

*World Nuclear News*

December 1, 2016

The first reactor pressure vessel (RPV) has been lifted into place at Georgia Power's Vogtle nuclear construction project in Georgia. Vogtle 3's RPV was lifted into place two days after the placement of the CA01 module was completed at Vogtle 4.

The 278 tonne RPV was lifted into its permanent location in Vogtle 3's nuclear island on 23 November, Georgia Power announced today. The vessel was fabricated in South Korea by Doosan Heavy Industries, shipped to the Port of Savannah and transported to the construction site on a specialised rail car. The operation to lift it into place was carried out by construction contractors Westinghouse and Fluor, using one of the largest cranes in the world. [>>Continue reading](#)

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## **CONTRACTING & ACQUISITION:**

### **DOE Releases Draft Request for Proposal for Moab UMTRA Technical Assistance Contract (TAC) Procurement**

*DOE-EMThe Oregonian*

December 1, 2016

Cincinnati -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management Consolidated Business Center (EMCBC) today issued a Draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for Moab UMTRA Technical Assistance Contract (TAC). An Indefinite-Delivery Indefinite-Quantity (IDIQ) contract, utilizing Firm-Fixed Price (FFP) and Time-and-Material task orders, is anticipated. The Draft RFP is established as a total U.S. Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development Program set-aside with a five year ordering period. The current Moab UMTRA TAC is held by S&K Logistics Services, LLC and will expire on June 19, 2017.

The purpose of the Draft RFP is to solicit input from interested parties to assist DOE in developing a Final RFP for this procurement. DOE invites all interested parties to thoroughly examine the Draft RFP and the accompanying procurement website in their entirety and to submit comments to DOE. [>>Continue reading](#)