NOTICIAS DESTACADAS

<u>Reunión de lanzamiento del grupo SMR</u> El 30 de mayo ha tenido lugar en la sede del Ciemat una reunión de lanzamiento del grupo de reactores modulares SMR de CEIDEN [...].LEER MÁS [+]



➢ El Consejero del Consejo de Seguridad Nuclear y presidente de CEIDEN, Javier Dies, visita la central nuclear de Almaraz en Cáceres. El pasado 8 de junio J.Dies procedió a visitar C.N.Almaraz. Durante la visita se han podido ver varias de las mejoras de seguridad nuclear realizadas durante los últimos años en la central nuclear Almaraz [...]. LEER MÁS[+]



AGENDA

- 6 de julio: Jornada Técnica SNE: «Estrategia y gestión de grandes componentes radiactivos de las CCNN para su tratamiento como residuos». LEER MÁS [+]
- 17-22 de julio: International School on Energy Global challenges for energy sustainability. LEER MÁS [+]
- 2-6 de octubre: 48ª Reunión anual de la SNE. LEER MÁS [+]

STEVE SWILLEY



VICEPRESIDENTE EPRI R&D NUCLEAR

At EPRI (Electric Power Research Institute), our focus on R&D supporting the current and future fleets places us in a unique position to convene and collaborate with nuclear owner-operators and developers around the world. Along with a keen focus on risk reduction associated with developing and deploying the next generation of reactors at scale, we are currently seeing our members and industry stakeholders addressing several key issues that will remain at the forefront of industry efforts in coming decades:

Plant life extension: Globally, 328 reactors have been operating for 20 or more years, including dozens that have been operating for 40-plus years¹. As a result, utilities are increasingly implementing modernization strategies with potential to lower costs and evolve operations to remain financially viable in the face of change while maintaining nuclear safety. Utilities, operators, research centers, and regulators must be proactive and collaborative in tackling issues related to aging management.

Flexibility: Plants must be agile in meeting market demand and consumer needs. To do this, they are dedicating resources to exploring and developing potential uses for nuclear beyond delivery of baseload power, often in partnership with government or private funders. Applications include hydrogen production, the integration of nuclear into process industries, and microreactors in district energy systems. Power uprates, introduced in the 1970s to increase a nuclear power plant's output, are attracting interest as a means of efficiently and flexibly accommodating demand. Owner-operators are also watching behind the meter adoption, usage and legislation closely for the implications and opportunities they pose for the industry.

<u>Materials and supply chain</u>: How will new and different ways of operating plants and equipment impact materials and components? Ensuring that supply, including fuel, and services remain uninterrupted will become a source of increased focus.

<u>Knowledge transfer and workforce development:</u> Nuclear utilities have historically demanded and trained a highly-skilled, well-paid workforce. There is now a widening gap between employer need and worker skills. Compounded by pending retirements, the industry is facing an urgent need to attract the next generation. Utilities are becoming more creative in recruiting and training strategies to "meet learners where they are" and retain them as employees.

Although the strategies and solutions for each will surely evolve, these areas will remain the nuclear industry's focus for considerable effort and investment through the first half of this century. The keys to successfully addressing them will be resilience, preparation, collaboration, and innovation as the global energy transition continues.