

January Section Meeting: Uranium, The Other Green Energy

After the Three Mile Island incident in 1979, plans for additional nuclear power generation in the United States were shelved. The Chernobyl disaster in 1986 further alienated the public's perception about the safety of nuclear power. And, then, there is the question of how to safely transport and store the highly radioactive wastes from this country's nuclear plants. Because of these, no new nuclear power plants have been built in the United States since the 70s.

However, with the concerns about global warming and the role played by carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel power plants, additional nuclear power capacity is once again being seriously considered to meet this country's and the world's increasing electrical power needs. New power plants are on the drawing board or in construction throughout the world.

This increased demand for uranium to fuel the current and planned facilities has created a modern uranium boon throughout the world, with old mines and mills being reactivated and new developments underway.

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January Section Meeting

Topic: Uranium, The Other Green Energy

Speaker: Dennis Gertenbach
Senior Vice-President
Hazen Research, Inc.
Golden, CO

Date: Tuesday, January 20th

Time: 6:00 Social Time
6:45 Dinner
7:45 Presentation

Location: Golden Hotel
800 11th Avenue, Golden

Cost: Members: \$20
(w/RSVP)* Non-Members: \$25
Students & Unemployed: \$10

Please RSVP by Friday, January 16th (early RSVPs are greatly appreciated!) indicating your name, phone number, and number of attendees. Please RSVP to Martin Vorum by phone at 303-384-7414 or email at rockyaiche@yahoo.com.

*Add \$5 for attending meeting without RSVP

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Correspondingly, the price of U_3O_8 has skyrocketed from about \$10/lb through the 90s and the first half of this decade to peaking at \$136/lb last year. Although prices have dropped since that time, current prices are still attractive at about \$55/lb.

Hazen Research is actively involved with a number of companies, helping them to develop processes for extracting uranium from their ore deposits and producing yellow cake (purified U_3O_8) as the feed for uranium enrichment. Our speaker will provide an historical prospective about the uranium industry and an overview of current production and planned development, both in this country and throughout the world. Different process options for extracting uranium, utilizing both mined ore and in-situ leaching, will be discussed, along with current process options for producing yellow cake.

Dennis Gertenbach received his BS, MS, and PhD in Chemical and Petroleum Refining Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. He has spent over 20 years working at Hazen Research, plus 8 years at Hauser Chemical, developing chemical processes for the mining, foods, pharmaceutical, inorganic chemical, and energy industries. He holds several patents and patent applications involving processes for extracting and purifying tar sands, phytochemicals, and metals. Currently, Dennis is the Senior Vice President at Hazen Research and is actively involved with developing processes for recovering a wide range of metals and producing alternative fuels various feedstocks.

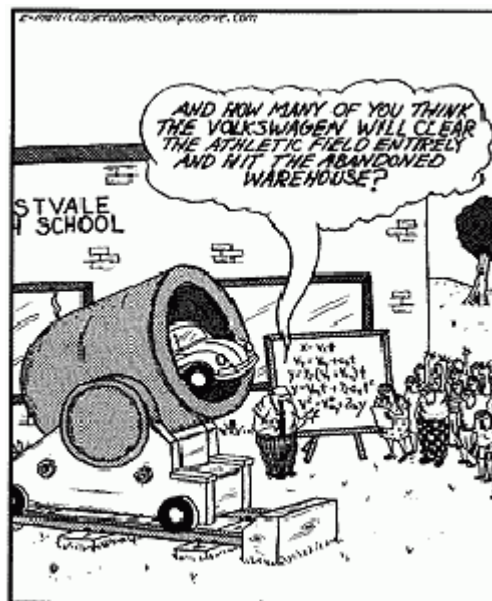
NEW MEXICO CORNER

If you'd like to volunteer to speak at a future meeting or if you have any meeting/activity ideas, please let me know! Participation in the Albuquerque area has increased over the last year and I'd like to keep this trend going! Again, a warm "Thank You" to all of the AIChE-NM members for making our little sub-section a great one! See you soon!

Kerrie Greenfelder, New Mexico Liaison
GreenfelderKL@cdm.com

New Executive Director Named for National AIChE

June Wispelwey, currently executive director of the Society for Biological Engineering (SBE) has been named the new executive director of the national AIChE. She will replace John Sofranko who is retiring in Jan 2009 after 8 years in that position.



Thanks to the innovative labs of teacher Herb Krenley, physics quickly became Westvale High's most popular course.

AIChE Meetings

2009	
Jan 18-21	SBE 2 nd Int'l Conf. on Biomolecular Engineering Santa Barbara, CA
Feb 22-24	Joint AIChE/SPE Workshop Sonoma, CA
Mar 9-12	SBE Accelerating Biopharmaceutical Development Coronado Isl., CA
Apr 26-30	2009 Spring Nat'l Tampa, FL
June 12-14	2009 Leadership Development Conference Augusta, GMA
Sept 13-19	2009 Ammonia Conference Calgary, Alberta
Nov 8-13	Annual Meeting Nashville, TN

For further information, contact National AIChE.

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The objectives of AIChE are to advance chemical engineering in theory and practice, to maintain a high professional standard among its members, and to serve society, particularly where chemical, engineering can contribute to the public interest.

Rocky Mountain AIChE News Publication Schedule

February 2009 issue
Articles due Wednesday, February 4th
Publish on Friday, February 6th
Meeting on Tuesday, February 17th

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Rocky Mountain District of AIChE generally meets the third Tuesday of every month, September through November and January through May.

Rocky Mountain AIChE News
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DIRECTIONS:

From I-70, take Route 58 (exit 265) west towards Golden. Take the Washington St exit and turn left at the stoplight. You will see Golden Hotel on the right side at the corner of 11th and Washington Av.

From I-25, take US 6 west towards Golden. Turn right onto 19th St. Drive though one stop light, then turn left onto Washington Av. You will see Golden Hotel on the left side at the corner of 11th and Washington Av.