

out the shortcomings and limitations of the technology as to its advantages. This is rare in many books today.

I feel that one of the best features of this book is the extensive use of checklists and worksheets included. With these, any competent engineer or regulator should be able to arrive at a well informed decision concerning the validity of using a S/S technology for a particular site, even if he/she has not worked extensively with the technology before. This book should be in the library of anyone dealing with hazardous waste management issues.

PAUL L. BISHOP

*Nuclear Communications: A Handbook for Guiding Good Communications Practices at Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities*, International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, 1994, 280 Austrian Shillings, 72 pages, ISBN: 92-0-103794-5

The purpose of this book according to the authors is "... to serve as a guideline in applying good communications practices at nuclear fuel cycle facilities". The book is intended to be "... a compact source of information for people involved in plant operation and management" as well as identifying questions that members of the public may have about different aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle.

The book has four chapters entitled:

1. Energy, Society and the Environment
2. Public Communication and Participation
3. The Nuclear Fuel Cycle and the Environment
4. Specific Issues, Questions and Responses

Although nuclear power yields many societal benefits, the negative public perception of the risk posed by nuclear facilities often clouds the issue of their benefit. Thus, this book that addresses the advantages of nuclear power (in terms of secondary waste production), the safeguards built into the nuclear power industry, and the advantages of fuel reprocessing is a welcoming publication.

Having personally been through a public meeting on on-site (nuclear power plant) storage of spent fuel rods, I appreciate the tough (and often antagonistic questions) that can be asked of the industry. To this end, the nuclear industry spokesperson should, I think, appreciate the "Boxed Questions" in the book – nine separate pages of questions that could be asked of the industrial spokesperson, i.e., "Questions About Nuclear Power Plant Operation" or "Questions About Spent Fuel Disposal".

The material in the four chapters takes the reader all the way from mining of radioactive ore through to disposal of vitrified wastes in geologic deposits.

The technical material will certainly not be new to industrial spokespersons, but the packaging and explanation of it may be. From my perspective, the approach to answering public questions was well done.

GARY F. BENNETT