



## Pacific Nuclear Council

Aomori, JAPAN  
October 13, 2008

### Draft Minutes

Attendees (with E-Mail addresses): See Attachment A.

#### 1. Call to Order.

President Clarence J. Hardy called the meeting to order at 0910 hours.

President Hardy chaired the meeting. Representatives from 12 of the 15 PNC organizations (14 member organizations and one commercial and industrial member organization) attended the meeting. The President expressed appreciation to PNC Member Organizations for this excellent attendance.

##### a. Introductions.

President Hardy invited each participant to introduce him or herself, stating his or her affiliation. President Hardy welcomed meeting participants and thanked Vice President Chang-Sun Kang for his attendance and contributions. Vice President Kang noted that after his recent retirement from Seoul National University, he is now Professor Emeritus. He also said that during the 2008 International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference, he was elected President of the World Council for Isotopes.

During the introductions, Dr. Kazuaki Matsui informed the PNC that he would represent the Atomic Energy Society of Japan (AESJ) and the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum. Note: AESJ President Yoshiaki Oka joined the meeting later in the morning.

Similarly, Dr. V.S. (Krish) Krishnan advised the Council that he will represent the Canadian Nuclear Society, and Mr. James D. Harvie said that he would represent the Canadian Nuclear Association. Also, Dr. Gustavo Alonso stated that he is representing the Sociedad Nuclear Mexicana and that incoming PNC Vice President/President-Elect Juan Luis Francois regrets that he is unable to attend today's Council meeting.

Further, President Hardy reminded the Council that it unanimously approved EXCEL Services Corporation as the first PNC Commercial Membership Organization at the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2006 meeting and that Mr. Donald R. Hoffman was designated as the company's representative to PNC. He said that unfortunately, Mr. Hoffman regrets that he is unable to attend today's meeting.

##### b. Opening Remarks.

President Clarence J. Hardy began his remarks by asking for a moment of silence to reflect on the recent death of PNC Past President Byong-Whi Lee. The President then summarized Professor Lee's important leadership contributions to the Council, saying that he was sincerely sorry to report the death of Professor Lee.

Next, President Hardy asked Dr. Kazuaki Matsui to convey the Council's congratulations to the JAIF (Japan Atomic Industrial Forum) and the Atomic Energy Society of Japan (AESJ) on their very successful organization of the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PBNC). He further requested that Dr. Matsui thank JAIF and AESJ for their excellent support in hosting this PNC business meeting and luncheon, as well as for hosting the PNC WANPS (Workshop on Advanced Nuclear Power Systems) III meeting later in the day.

The President noted that good progress had occurred since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 Council meeting in Seoul, Republic of Korea. He continued by announcing that these PNC Officers will assume their responsibilities at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC: incoming President, Dr. Chang-Sun Kang (Korea Atomic Industrial Forum) and incoming Vice President/President-Elect, Professor Juan Luis Francois. He further explained that today's meeting is his final opportunity to preside as the President of the Council.

c. Approval of Pacific Nuclear Council Meeting Agenda – President Clarence J. Hardy.

The meeting attendees concurred with the preliminary agenda as originally proposed by President Hardy and distributed via E-Mail on October 6, 2008. See Attachment B for the final meeting agenda.

2. Administrative Business.

a. Approval of Pacific Nuclear Council Draft Meeting Minutes – President Clarence J. Hardy.

The President asked if there were any comments on the DRAFT minutes of the PNC meeting of April 18, 2008 (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008) in Seoul, Republic of Korea. These Draft minutes were made available to the PNC at this meeting.

After taking several minutes to review the Draft minutes, meeting attendees offered no comments. As a result, the Council unanimously approved the DRAFT minutes as distributed. See Attachment C and **PNC-08-October-AI#1 and PNC-08-April-AI#2\***. The approved minutes are already posted on the PNC Website, courtesy of Webmaster John Graham.

**\*PNC Action Item #1 and Action Item #2 – October 2008 Meeting**

b. Discussion of Actions – President Clarence J. Hardy.

President Hardy next asked Executive Director Mike Diekman to review the open action items from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 meeting. See Attachment D for details, including an updated list of actions from this meeting and from prior meetings.

These specific action items were discussed:

- Final Task Group Report. President Clarence J. Hardy will send the executive director a revised copy of the approved PNC publication, Task Group Report on Information and Education in Nuclear Science and Technology in PNC

Member Countries – for posting on the PNC Website (**PNC-08-October-AI#3**). He will also be making a presentation about this report during the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference.

- Future PNC Meetings. Scheduling options were considered for future PNC meetings when held in conjunction with American Nuclear Society Annual or Winter Meetings. President Hardy reminded meeting attendees that per recent Council discussions, PNC should try to avoid meeting on Saturday and also should try to avoid overlap with meetings of the ANS International Committee and the International Nuclear Societies Council (INSC). He explained that the number one priority is to avoid a conflict with the ANS International Committee, which meets during ANS National Meetings from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Continuing, Dr. Hardy said that during 2008 ANS National Meetings, the INSC had also met on Sunday afternoon, just after the conclusion of the ANS International Committee meeting. Since both INSC and PNC want to meet on Sundays at ANS National Meetings, a compromise with INSC is needed.

American Nuclear Society Representative Gail H. Marcus agreed with President Hardy, saying that allocation of a Sunday afternoon time slot for INSC is not a forgone conclusion, as both organizations have equal standing to conduct their business at ANS National Meetings. She suggested that perhaps INSC and PNC consider alternating their meetings in the Sunday afternoon time slot, as appropriate, and that negotiations with the INSC will be required.

After a brief discussion, meeting participants agreed that a negotiation with the INSC was the best course of action, with the principle of rotation for the Sunday time slot between organizations to be addressed in the negotiations. Also, negotiations should most likely be conducted annually. President Hardy asked Vice President Chang-Sun Kang to handle the negotiation with INSC, and on behalf of INSC, First Vice Chairman Gustavo Alonso said that he and the INSC are willing to cooperate (**PNC-08-October-AI#4**).

- c. Report of the PNC Ad Hoc Nominating Committee for Election of the Next PNC Vice President/President-Elect – President Clarence J. Hardy for Ad Hoc Nominating Committee Chair Paul J. Fehrenbach.

On behalf of PNC Ad Hoc Nominating Committee Chair Fehrenbach, the

President confirmed the 2008 election results for the next PNC Vice President/President-Elect. He stated that Dr. Juan Luis Francois was chosen as the next Council Vice President/President-Elect by a ballot of PNC Member Organizations, and he then extended congratulations to Dr. Francois.

He noted that since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 PNC meeting, the election proceeded per the schedule approved at this meeting. He detailed how implementation of the election schedule and procedures was accomplished.

President Hardy reminded the Council that two distinguished individuals were nominated for the position of PNC Vice President/President-Elect: Dr. Francois (Mexican Nuclear Society) and Dr. Gail H. Marcus (American Nuclear Society).

He thanked both Dr. Francois and Dr. Marcus for their willingness to serve as PNC Vice President/President-Elect.

Finally, President Hardy announced that Dr. Francois' term as Vice President begins at the conclusion of the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference later this week. Also at that time, Vice President Chang-Sun Kang becomes PNC President. Dr. Hardy again thanked Ad Hoc Nominating Committee Chair Fehrenbach, as well as these committee members: Vice President Chang-Sun Kang, Advanced Nuclear Power Systems Working Group Co-Chair Kune Y. Suh, and Executive Director W. Michael Diekman.

3. PNC Secretariat Reports.

a. Executive Director's Report – Executive Director W. Michael Diekman

Executive Director Diekman reviewed each item of the PNC Executive Director's Report of Activities, April 2008 to October 2008 (see Attachment E). The Council moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that this report of the PNC Executive Director be accepted.

President Clarence J. Hardy referred meeting attendees to Item #7 of the executive director's report -- follow up communications with the Malaysian Nuclear Society, the Nuclear Society of Thailand, and the Vietnam Atomic Energy Society (VAES). He advised the Council that consideration of the VAES' application to join PNC Member Organization would be considered later in the meeting (see Item #4a of these minutes).

In addition, 17<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PBNC) International Technical Program Committee (ITPC) Chair Gustavo Alonso commented that he will work with the executive director on organizing a 17<sup>th</sup> PBNC ITPC meeting in Reno, Nevada, USA, in conjunction with the 2008 American Nuclear Society Winter Meeting (executive director's report, Item #10).

Further, Atomic Energy Society of Japan/Japan Atomic Industrial Forum Representative Kazuaki Matsui confirmed that PNC Information & Outreach Co-Chair Junko Ogawa was planning a dinner meeting with he and the PNC Officers during the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC.

b. Treasurer's Report -- Executive Director W. Michael Diekman.

The Executive Director informed meeting attendees of the financial report for the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008 (Attachment F). He explained that prior to this PNC meeting, a detailed variance report for 2007/2008 was prepared and reviewed with President Clarence J. Hardy. This report shows a deficit in the net from operations, and includes a small increase in the PNC Webmaster's annual fee, which was approved by the PNC Officers in early 2008.

The President explained that the PNC operating budget is modest, and good progress has been made in trying to balance revenue and expense. Further progress is anticipated, and one good way to achieve a balanced operating budget is to attract new members.

4. PNC Current Business.

a. New Member Organization Promotion Status – President Clarence J. Hardy.

The President summarized the progress since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 PNC meeting with respect to Council consideration of a ballot regarding the issue of accepting the Vietnam Atomic Energy Society (VAES) as a new PNC Member Organization. He noted that this ballot had been prepared and was distributed to PNC Member Organizations.

The result: PNC Member Organizations approved the application of the VAES to join the Council. While the VAES was informed of the ballot result, a representative from this organization is not able to attend today's meeting.

The Council then moved, seconded, and unanimously confirmed the formal acceptance of the Vietnam Atomic Energy Society as a new PNC Member Organization (**PNC-08-October-AI#5**).

b. Update on PNC Website Management – President Clarence J. Hardy.

The President confirmed that Mr. John Graham continues as PNC Webmaster. He noted the continued good progress and improved website content since the last PNC meeting, detailing new items that were added – including a “hit” counter as requested at a prior meeting.

President Hardy thanked PNC Webmaster John Graham for his good response and effort in enhancing the content of the Council Website, and stated that the Council Officers approved an increase in the PNC Webmaster's annual fee in early 2008. Meeting attendees confirmed that Webmaster Graham was doing a good job.

As an action item, President Hardy asked the Executive Director to update the website after the conclusion of the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PBNC), working cooperatively with Webmaster Graham. Items to be inserted include the new officer slate and a revised PBNC schedule (**PNC-08-October-AI#6**).

c. PNC Participation at the 2008 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference (GC) – President Clarence J. Hardy/Vice President Chang-Sun Kang.

President Hardy reminded meeting attendees that PNC is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) of the IAEA, and therefore eligible to send observers to each General Conference. The 2008 General Conference was held on September 29 to October 4 in Vienna, Austria. PNC President Hardy then introduced PNC Vice President Chang-Sun Kang, the Council's Observer at the 2008 GC, thanking him for representing the Council.

Vice President Kang stated that he was pleased to represent the PNC in Vienna, along with his additional function as an official delegate of the Republic of Korea. Further, he attended the Opening Session of the 2008 GC, which was primarily devoted to a presentation by Director General Mohamed ElBaradei called: “20/20 IAEA Vision for the Future.” Dr. Kang advised that the Commission of Eminent Persons prepared this presentation.

Dr. Kang’s other activities on behalf of PNC included:

- Attendance at the IGO (Intergovernmental Organizations)-NGO Briefing Session, where PNC items on the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference and the upcoming IAEA/KHNP/PNC Joint International Workshop of Application of Effective Management Systems were presented;
- Participation at the Scientific Forum, The Future Role of the IAEA; and
- Contribution to the INSAG Forum roundtable discussion via an address on the Role and Activities of the PNC, in conjunction with strengthening the global nuclear safety infrastructure.

As previously noted, Dr. Kang was also elected President of the World Council for Isotopes during the 2008 GC. He concluded that the 2008 GC was a good opportunity for PNC, as he was able to inform IAEA member country delegations of the PNC’s work and its contributions with respect to strengthening the nuclear safety infrastructure for the Pacific-rim countries, especially those Southeast Asian nations that are interested in embarking on new nuclear power programs.

See Attachment G for Vice President Kang’s complete report. President Hardy again expressed appreciation to Dr. Kang on behalf of the Council, noting the good presence he achieved at the General Conference and that it was important for PNC to communicate with a wider audience such as IAEA member countries.

d. Follow Report on PNC/PBNC Archival Systems – President Clarence J. Hardy.

The President informed meeting participants of the on-going effort to archive appropriate documents relating to various Council and Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference activities. He asked that Atomic Energy Society of Japan/Japan Atomic Industrial Forum Representative Kazuaki Matsui provide copies of 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference publications to Executive Director Mike Diekman for the PNC archives file drawer at American Nuclear Society Headquarters.

5. PNC Working/Task Group Reports.

a. Working/Task Group Activity Reports – President Clarence J. Hardy.

President Hardy reminded the Council that activity reports are prepared and updated for all Pacific Nuclear Council (PNC) Working and Task Groups. He explained that the purpose of these reports is to highlight what the Council is doing and also to provide a clear definition of all of the working and task group organization and activities -- in particular the scope, objective(s), deliverables, list of participants, and schedule information.

b. Report of the PNC Task Group on Advanced Reactor Systems – Working/Task Group Participant V.S. (Krish) Krishnan for Working Group Co-Chairs Jerry Hopwood and Kune Y. Suh.

President Clarence J. Hardy asked Working/Task Group Participant Krishnan for a progress report. In response, Dr. Krishnan provided an update (Attachment H).

On behalf of the working/task group, Dr. Krishnan first reminded the Council that:

- Advanced nuclear power systems encompass both nuclear reactors and associated fuel cycles (both the front end and back end);
- The task group on WANPS (Workshop on Advanced Nuclear Power Systems) is a follow up activity to a successful prior series of workshops PNC conducted on advanced reactors; and
- The task group's intention is to continue coordinating with the Working Group on Radioactive Waste Management Chair Kazuaki Matsui, since the scope of this working/task group overlaps with the PNC Working Group on Radioactive Waste Management.

Next, Dr. Krishnan confirmed that implementation of WANPS is underway, and that the initial meeting of the new Task Group on WANPS was conducted in Seoul on April 16, 2008. This WANPS event was held to begin an exchange of ideas on advanced nuclear power system options and on the development status in the respective PNC Member Organization countries. He thanked the Korea Atomic Industrial Forum, the Korean Nuclear Society, the Canadian Nuclear Society, and the American Nuclear Society for their contributions to WANPS and also expressed appreciation to KAIF/KNS for hosting this event.

After the WANPS in Seoul, the task group compiled the presentations, which were posted on the PNC Website. Dr. Krishnan demonstrated the availability of this information on the PNC Website, including hyperlinks to the presentations.

In addition, following the WANPS event in Seoul, another information exchange (WANPS II) was organized and conducted during the 2008 American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting on June 8. Again, all of the content from WANPS II is on the website, as confirmed by Dr. Krishnan.

Subsequent to WANPS II, coordination was also initiated with the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference Technical Program Chair, Professor Yoshiaki Oka, and Atomic Energy Society of Japan/Japan Atomic Industrial Forum Representative

Kazuaki Matsui regarding the organization of WANPS III during the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC. After several iterations, arrangements for WANPS III were resolved, and it will be held immediately after today's PNC meeting/luncheon – Monday afternoon, October 13, 2008, Aomori, Japan.

Dr. Krishnan said that WANPS III is an opportunity to discuss and consider options for the task group to move ahead. Proposals will be offered for PNC Member Organization discussion and feedback. On behalf of the PNC, President

Hardy encouraged the continuation of these cooperative efforts, asking that as many PNC Member Organizations as possible attend and actively contribute to WANPS III.

For those PNC Member Organizations who are not able to attend WANPS III and/or could not attend the prior WANPS workshops, Dr. Krishnan explained that the task group still needs perspectives and feedback from these organizations. It is important that the task group's work reflect the views of all PNC Member Organizations.

To stimulate a greater response, Dr. Krishnan agreed to work with Co-Chairs Hopwood and Suh to initiate a follow up communication to the PNC Representatives of those member organizations that had not yet responded (**PNC-08-October-AI#7**). Along with this feedback request, the task group will request nominees for WANPS from PNC Member Organizations. President Hardy asked that Dr. Krishnan and his colleagues inform prospective nominees that they can participate by correspondence (E-Mail) only, with meeting attendance not necessary.

American Nuclear Society (ANS) Representative Gail H. Marcus encouraged Dr. Krishnan and his colleagues to make these additional contacts. As appropriate, she requested that in these communications, the name(s) of any existing task group members or participants be included. Dr. Krishnan thanked Dr. Marcus for her suggestion, noting that she had been very helpful in obtaining volunteer working/task group contributors from the ANS.

c. Report of the PNC Working Group on Radioactive Waste Management – Working Group Chair Kazuaki Matsui.

Working Group Chair Matsui advised the Council that not much progress had occurred since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 PNC meeting.

On behalf of Dr. Hiroyuki Umeki, PNC Waste Management Task Group Chair, Dr. Matsui presented Dr. Umeki's recent thinking on waste management, highlighting an improved integrated approach to waste management. See Attachment I for details. Meeting attendees thanked Dr. Matsui for his update.

He continued by noting that there is a need to collaborate among PNC Member Organizations to determine the next steps for the Task Group on the International Cooperative Research and Development for Management and Disposal of Nuclear Wastes (including High-Level Nuclear Waste (HLW) and Spent Nuclear Fuel), chaired by Dr. Umeki. Also, expansion of this task group's membership is needed to move this effort forward.

President Clarence J. Hardy emphasized that within the next six months, the number one priority for the task group is to obtain additional nominations from PNC Member Organizations. Like other PNC Working/Task Group activities, nominees would work primarily via correspondence. In addition, a near-term plan of action is required (**PNC-08-October-AI#8**).

The President also asked that Korean Nuclear Society Representative, Dr. Jong-In Lee, follow up on this prior action: Dr. Nam-Zin Cho agreed to consider submitting task group nomination(s) from the KNS. **(PNC-08-April-AI#13)**

- d. Report of the Public Information and Outreach Working Group – President Clarence J. Hardy for Working Group Co-Chairs Mimi Limbach and Junko Ogawa.

On behalf of Working Group Co-Chairs Limbach and Ogawa, President Hardy briefly explained that the co-chairs are working to develop a near-term action plan. He again thanked Co-Chairs Limbach and Ogawa for their willingness to lead this working group. Vice President Chang-Sun Kang will correspond with the new working group co-chairs **(PNC-08-October-AI#9)**.

- d. (1) Report from the PNC Task Group on Information and Education in Nuclear Science and Technology – Task Group Leader Clarence J. Hardy.

Task Group Leader Hardy reminded meeting attendees that the Council unanimously approved the 14 March 2008 Final Report of the PNC Task Group on Information and Education in Nuclear Science and Technology in Pacific Nuclear Council Member Countries during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 meeting. He will make an editorial revision to the final report and the send it to the executive director to post it on the Council Website.

Dr. Hardy next informed meeting participants that the work of this task group is complete. He recommended that the task group be formally disbanded and that task group members receive a thank you communication **(PNC-08-October-AI#10)**. The Council then moved, seconded, and unanimously approved the dissolution of this task group and the distribution of thank you communications to its members.

Dr. Hardy noted that while now disbanded, the task group could be reactivated in the future to develop periodic supplements of relevant public information surveys.

- e. Report of the PNC Working Group on Nuclear Standards – Working/Task Group Chair Shami S. Dua.

Working/Task Group Chair Dua reviewed with the Council a detailed update on PNC Codes and Standards activities (see Attachment J). He initially informed the Council of continuing work in the key area of harmonization of codes and standards. Participating international code writing organizations are performing a detailed comparison between the technical and administrative requirements for pressure boundary and structural integrity related to materials, design, fabrication, inspections, examination, testing, etc.

This group will identify the similarities and differences, and then rank the differences and the approaches to address them. Completion of the comparison of the pressure boundary standards is expected in the spring of 2009. Dr. Dua noted that this work is related to results of an early 2008 MDEP (Multinational Design Evaluation Group Program) meeting, which was organized by the OECD/NEA.

Next, Dr. Dua presented a progress report on the joint international workshop on IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) Management System Requirements Standard GS-R-3. This joint event had been discussed at recent Council meetings, and Dr. Dua informed attendees that organization of the workshop has proceeded consistent with the PNC's direction.

Based on prior interest by KHNP of the Republic of Korea, the IAEA has now confirmed the arrangements for a joint IAEA/KHNP/PNC Workshop, October 21-24, Busan, Republic of Korea. Vice President Chang-Sun Kang advised the Council that he appointed Dr. Dua to represent the PNC at this workshop next week, as Dr. Kang is unable to attend. Continuing, Dr. Dua confirmed that primary support of this workshop is to be provided by KHNP.

In addition, a Revised Draft of a proposed program (Attachment K) was recently received from IAEA for consideration by PNC. The document is an updated prospectus for an IAEA/KHNP/PNC International Workshop on Application of Effective Management Systems, October 21 to 24, 2008, in Busan, Republic of Korea. Dr. Dua explained that President Hardy and he had provided feedback on an earlier version of the prospectus.

Due to the regional scope of this workshop, IAEA has invited a number of candidates from the Pacific-rim countries and Asia. IAEA is supporting attendance of selected participants from developing countries, invited lecturers, and local presenters. In response to a recent indication of space limitations for the workshop from KHNP, IAEA is working with KHNP to confirm the participant list.

The workshop program will cover these key issues:

- Integration of safety, health, environmental, security, quality and economic areas;
- Leadership and safety culture; and
- Assessment and improvement of management systems.

Purpose of this workshop is to provide a forum for exchange of experiences and information related to integration of the key management system elements. Dr. Dua then answered Council questions on the workshop.

In addition, Dr. Dua confirmed that he had submitted abstracts for the presentation of four papers to the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PBNC) organizing committee, including one paper on PNC Nuclear Standards Working/Task Group Activities. These papers have been accepted for presentation at the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC this week.

Continuing, Dr. Dua explained that the task group has made limited progress since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 Council meeting, as no additional information on the listing of nuclear codes and standards have been received from PNC Member Organizations. An additional concern, per Dr. Dua, is for more active participation by working/task group members. He has identified a few

prospective working/task group nominees and will work with the executive director to invite these individuals to join **(PNC-08-October-AI#11)**.

6. Update on the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) PACT Program (Program of Action for Cancer Therapy) – President Clarence J. Hardy.

The President presented an update on PACT activities of September 30, 2008, informing meeting attendees that during the 2008 International Atomic Agency General Conference, the Republic of Korea, through its Korea Nuclear International Cooperation Foundation, made a \$20,000 (U.S. Dollars) donation to PACT. See Attachment L for an update. President Hardy explained that PNC Member Organization countries may contribute to PACT by making financial, equipment, or other in-kind donations.

7. 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PBNC), October 13-17, 2008, Aomori, Japan – Atomic Energy Society of Japan (AESJ) /Japan Atomic Industrial Forum (JAIF) Representative Kazuaki Matsui.

AESJ/JAIF Representative Matsui explained that the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC welcomed meeting participants to the Aomori City Cultural Hall, Aomori, Japan for the Council meeting and for the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC. He expected a very successful 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC, with registration of 650 to 700.

Continuing, Dr. Matsui highlighted the opening plenary session speakers, as well as local government participants. These evening events were then described: the opening reception (October 13); a local communications and entertainment exchange program (October 14); and the conference banquet (October 15). In reply to an inquiry from President Hardy, Dr. Matsui clarified the timing and content of the PNC President's participation in the opening plenary.

In addition, Dr. Matsui highlighted these technical tours:

- Nuclear fuel cycle facilities operated by Japan Nuclear Fuel Limited (JNFL Rokkasho site);
- Higashidori Nuclear Power Station, which is operated by Tohoku Electric Power Company; and
- Construction site of the Ohma Nuclear Power Station, operated by Japan Power. This station is the first full-MOX ABWR reactor that will use mixed-oxide fuel in its core.

He further explained that many tour options were available and answered attendee questions.

Reporting on the status of the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC program, Dr. Matsui said that nearly 400 presentations are anticipated. Due to the size of the program, sessions are to be conducted at both the Aomori Cultural Center and the Aomori Hotel.

Finally, Dr. Matsui noted that the following Council participation is planned for the Closing Ceremony on Friday:

- President Hardy and incoming President Chang-Sun Kang will make brief presentations;
- Dr. Kang will present Dr. Hardy with a plaque recognizing his accomplishments as PNC President; and
- A representative from the 17<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference, Dr. Gustavo Alonso, will provide a progress report/video on plans for the 17<sup>th</sup> PBNC.

8. Report on the 17<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PBNC) – Sociedad Nuclear Mexicana Representative Gustavo Alonso.

SNM Representative/17<sup>th</sup> PBNC International Technical Program Chair Alonso informed meeting participants that the dates for the 17<sup>th</sup> PBNC are October 24-30, 2010, which is the bicentennial anniversary of Mexican Independence. The proposed theme is: Nuclear Energy – An Environmentally Sound Option.

Further, rooms are now reserved at the conference venue: the Hilton Cancun Golf & Spa Resort, Cancun, Mexico.

Dr. Alonso distributed a poster about the 17<sup>th</sup> PBNC, along with the meeting's First Announcement and Call for Papers. With respect to the call for papers, suggestions were requested from meeting attendees (**PNC-08-October-AI#12**), as Dr. Alonso noted that the 17<sup>th</sup> PBNC organizers used the same list of topics as the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC.

Next, Dr. Alonso confirmed that considerable preparation already was accomplished regarding organization of the International Technical Program Committee (ITPC) and International Steering Committee (ISC). Representatives from all PNC Member Organizations are welcome to be involved on the ITPC/ISC. For the ITPC, one or two PNC Member Organization Representatives are requested, and for the ISC only one PNC Member Organization Representative is needed (**PNC-08-October-AI#13**).

Dr. Alonso then answered meeting attendee questions relating to the status of soliciting meeting sponsors; the schedule for international flights to Cancun; and the availability of the conference website in early 2009. He continued by saying that the Mexican Minister of Energy plans to participate at the 17<sup>th</sup> PBNC and that the meeting organizers will present a promotional video during the closing ceremony of the 16<sup>th</sup> PBNC. On behalf of the PNC, President Hardy wished Dr. Alonso and his SNM colleagues every success with the organization of the 17<sup>th</sup> PBNC.

9. Country Updates.

President Clarence J. Hardy asked PNC Member Organization Representatives to provide brief updates.

- A. Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA) Representative James D. Harvie reported that selection of the reactor vendor for building new nuclear

power plants in the province of Ontario is expected in March 2009. Three reactor vendors are currently in the running to build these new plants.

Also, CNA Representative Harvie said that to replace existing natural gas-fired plants that extract oil from tar sands in Alberta Province, it is anticipated that Bruce Power Alberta will consider the use of nuclear power plants. Further, the 2009 Canadian Nuclear Society Annual Conference is scheduled for Calgary, Alberta, May 31 – June 3. PNC Working Group on Nuclear Standards Chair Shami S. Dua added that NB (New Brunswick) Power is looking at the possibility of building new nuclear reactor(s).

- B. Atomic Energy Society of Japan/Japan Atomic Industrial Forum Representative Kazuaki Matsui began by informing meeting attendees of the opportunity to learn from Japanese nuclear experts who will be presenting in-depth details on the Japan nuclear program at the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference.

Next, he commented on these recent developments:

- The new reprocessing plant in Rokkasho village in Aomori Prefecture is in the final testing stages, and commercial operation is expected in early 2009;
- Restart of the prototype fast breeder reactor Monju is scheduled for the first quarter of 2009;
- The long-term share of nuclear power in electricity generation is targeted at 50%;
- The July 2008 G8 Summit in Toyako, Japan, was an opportunity for focus on an increased understanding about the use of nuclear power, recognizing in addressing the issue of climate change; and
- The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the AESJ will be celebrated on April 21, 2009.

- C. Korean Nuclear Society/Korea Atomic Industrial Forum Representative/PNC Vice President Chang-Sun Kang advised that construction permits had been received from the government for Shin Kori Units #3 and #4 – two APR (Advanced Pressurized Reactor) 1400 plants – and that construction of these units is proceeding. He informed the Council that the newly elected government understands the importance of further nuclear energy development. Long-term development plans call for more than 10 additional new plants to be constructed by 2030.

Plans for the future include development of a sodium-cooled fast reactor (SFR), with a demonstration fast reactor planned for 2028. Also, pyroprocessing research is in the initial stages, and a Korea Advanced Pyroprocessing Facility is envisioned to start after 2015.

Korean Nuclear Society (KNS) Representative Jong-In Lee informed meeting attendees of the 40<sup>th</sup> KNS Anniversary Celebration, which is

scheduled for spring of 2009. This special celebration will occur on May 20 to 22.

- D. American Nuclear Society Representative Gail H. Marcus stated that the COL (combined operating license) applications for new plants continue to be submitted. As expected, DOE submitted a license application for Yucca Mountain to NRC in early June.

GNEP is limping along, as it is not yet fully funded. On the other hand, support grants for the initial new reactors and for research and development on the NGNP are proceeding.

Further, Dr. Marcus shared her perspectives on the impacts of the 2008 national election and of the economic crisis on future nuclear power plant developments, U.S. Government Agency leadership, and the Yucca Mountain project.

- E. Australian Nuclear Association Representative/PNC President Clarence J. Hardy reported on the result of the national election of November 2007. Elected was a new Prime Minister – The Honorable Kevin Rudd of the Labor Party. While the new government is strongly opposed to the development of nuclear power at this time, Dr. Hardy said that the new government would allow expansion of mining operations and export of uranium to continue under strict safeguards.

- F. Sociedad Nuclear Mexicana Representative Gustavo Alonso said that the two existing nuclear units at Laguna Verde are being updated, and that these projects will be addressed in 2009, with completion expected in 2010. Also, since Mexico needs to increase its electric generating capacity, the current projection is for electricity output to double by 2030. Hopefully, an increase in the number of nuclear reactors will be part of this additional capacity.

The assessment of technology options for new plants, including nuclear, is in progress. More information on costs is being sought, as these planning activities proceed.

- G. Nuclear Energy Society (Taipei, China, 10772) Representatives Ting Chao and Lih-Yih Liao informed the Council that after delays, two ABWRs are now under construction. Fuel loading is expected in 2009. In addition, three potential low-level wastes sites have been identified, and the site selection process was outlined.

- H. Latin American Section/American Nuclear Society Representative Othon Luiz Pinheiro da Silva reported that nuclear power plant construction has been reactivated in Latin America – specifically in Brazil and Argentina. In Brazil, preliminary work for the restart of construction on Angra 3 has begun, while in Argentina, construction of Atucha 2 is progressing well.

In addition to the completion of Angra 3 in Brazil, the National Energy Planning Council (CNPE) authorized up to eight new nuclear plants by

2030. IBN, a domestic company, supplies the fuel for all of the Brazilian nuclear units.

Finally, LAS/ANS Representative da Silva stated that Chile is starting to think about pursuing the nuclear power option. A government commission was established in 2007 to consider building nuclear plants.

- I. Chinese Nuclear Society (Beijing, China, 100822) Representative YANG Yanhua advised that there are 10 nuclear power plants currently under construction in China, in addition to the 11 existing operating units. A ambitious goal of 40 GWe of installed nuclear capacity by 2020 = 4%, was increased to 6% this year (60 operating nuclear units).

The government wants to achieve a domestic development capability for the design and construction of nuclear power plants. The preferred technology is AP1000 or larger units. The National Nuclear Technology Company is the recently established nuclear power development vendor.

10. Venues for the 2009 Council Meetings – President Clarence J. Hardy.

The President asked for proposals for hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Council meetings during 2009. He reminded participants of a previous regular rotation of PNC meetings between the East and West Basins each year, to be held in conjunction with major nuclear conferences. He also cautioned to avoid conducting PNC meeting(s) when there is an overlap between two major nuclear conferences, which had occurred in April 2008.

After a brief discussion, the consensus of the Council was that:

- The Korea Atomic Industrial Forum/Korean Nuclear Society host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2009 PNC meeting in Seoul on April 8, in conjunction with the KAIF/KNS Annual Conference (**PNC-08-October-AI#14**); and
- The American Nuclear Society host the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2009 meeting in Washington, D.C. on November 15, as part of the 2009 ANS Winter Meeting.

President Hardy thanked meeting attendees for their suggestions, including Canadian Nuclear Society Representative V.S. (Krish) Krishnan and Atomic Energy Society of Japan/Japan Atomic Industrial Forum Representative Kazuaki Matsui. On behalf of the International Nuclear Societies Council, First Vice Chairman Gustavo Alonso confirmed the willingness of INSC to cooperate.

11. Closing Remarks – President Clarence J. Hardy/Vice President Chang-Sun Kang.

Vice President Kang thanked Dr. Hardy for his excellent help during his term as PNC President. He encouraged Dr. Hardy to continue his good contributions to the Council as Immediate Past President. American Nuclear Society Representative Gail H. Marcus also congratulated Dr. Hardy on his successful term as PNC President, particularly complimenting him on the efficient conduct of the meeting.

President Hardy thanked meeting attendees for their participation and contributions. He stated that he enjoyed his presidency, and appreciates the many close connections and good relationships established during this presidential term. He further expressed sincere appreciation to Past President Paul J. Fehrenbach for the opportunity to work with him and for his outstanding contributions to PNC; he also said that he was very grateful for the continuing good help of Vice President Kang and the PNC Member Organization Representatives.

12. Adjournment – President Clarence J. Hardy.

President Hardy adjourned the meeting at 1235 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Michael Diekman  
PNC Executive Director  
March 19, 2009