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Idaho Samizdat: Nuke Notes

This blog covers political and economic news about nuclear energy and nonproliferation issues.

March 30, 2009

[International Isotopes Chooses Hobbs, NM](#)

\$55M Facility will recover high quality fluorine via uranium de-conversion

International Isotopes ([OTC:INIS](#)), a small firm located in Idaho Falls, ID, has big plans to recover fluorine for industrial use via [uranium deconversion](#) from depleted UF₆. Steve Laflin, CEO, [announced](#) this week he has chosen a site in [Hobbs, NM](#), for a \$55 million plant. It will eventually employ 150 people.

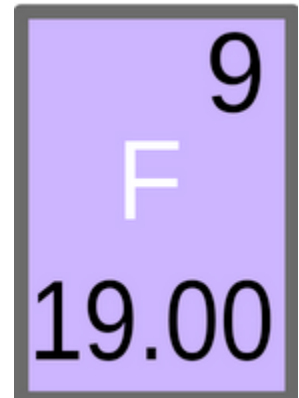
The new facility will consist of both depleted uranium de-conversion and fluorine gas extraction processes. INIS holds patents that give it exclusive rights to the Fluorine Extraction Process (FEP), which produces high value, high purity gases in conjunction with uranium de-conversion and provides a key commercial advantage to the de-conversion project.

The plant is expected to have an initial de-conversion capacity equivalent to processing approximately 575 depleted UF₆ tails cylinders per year. Those cylinders are expected to come from one or more enrichment companies in the U.S. and INIS will charge for this de-conversion service. The end products of the de-conversion process will be high purity, anhydrous hydrofluoric acid (HF) and silicon tetrafluoride gas. Both of those products are in demand for a wide range of industrial manufacturing applications.

Lea County Offered Advantages

Laflin said the economic development advantages of the location outweighed other choices. He said the Lea County site, which is west of Hobbs, has good access to disposal facilities and utilities needed for the project.

Hobbs is just 25 miles north of Eunice, NM, where Louisiana Energy



About Me



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Missouri Senate bill would allow PUC to decide if Ameren can charge for new nuclear plant while it is being built <http://bit.ly/4En80m>
[about an hour ago](#)

Reuters: Two Japanese utilities have taken stakes (5%) in Areva's Georges Besse II uranium enrichment plant <http://bit.ly/m9OOC>
[about 22 hours ago](#)

WSJ Environmental Capital Blog cites Idaho Samizdat piece on nonproliferation issues and nuclear energy WSJ <http://bit.ly/jOpr> [1 day ago](#)

Rod Adams: South Africa and China join forces in commercialisation of pebble bed technology <http://bit.ly/oM00k> [1 day ago](#)

Just added myself to the <http://wefollow.com> twitter directory under: #nuclear #uranium #atomic [1 day ago](#)

[@TheJohnWheeler](#) Developing the future nuclear workforce is a great topic for the ANS annual meeting in Atlanta [2 days ago](#)

[@M2harding](#) is correct US nuclear firms are not 110% US owned. [3 days ago](#)

Meet me in Atlanta June 14-18; American Nuclear Society annual meeting. I'm on the program