

# ENERGY MATTERS

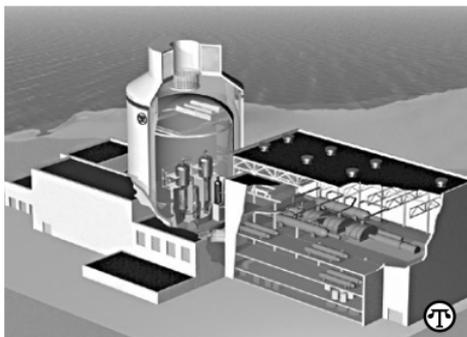
## Nuclear Power Offers Practical Solutions

(NAPSA)—In the United States today, there is an increased realization that expansion of nuclear power is an essential element in the delicate balance between economic progress and environmental responsibility. Two elements fueling this realization are new, cost-effective plant designs and public opinion that has shifted in favor of this environmentally responsible energy source.

In terms of plant design and construction, Westinghouse has worked to simplify and modularize the process. The result is the AP1000 plant, which offers significantly reduced components and bulk materials. In addition, compared to other forms of energy, this new nuclear plant runs on fuel that costs about one-seventh as much as natural gas, and one-third as much as coal—with lower generation costs.

The AP1000 features advanced passive safety systems that actually eliminate the need for human intervention in the highly unlikely event of an accident. It also features a modular design that will reduce construction times to as little as 36 months from first concrete pour to the time that fuel is loaded into the core. This shortened construction time greatly reduces capital investment and interest costs.

According to a national survey conducted by Bisconti Research Inc., two-thirds of U.S. adults favor the use of nuclear energy. Although public support for building more



**With lower costs for both plant construction and power production, nuclear power is gaining in popularity.**

nuclear power plants is not as high as it was during regional electricity shortages in 2001, 80 percent continue to support renewal of operating license for nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards.

While much of the increase in public support can be tied to concerns about national power supplies, the environmental benefits of nuclear energy cannot be overlooked. The nuclear industry provides added value by producing large amounts of electricity while avoiding greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants. As a result, nuclear energy is playing a major role in helping states and regions meet the federal government's Clean Air Act requirements for sulfur dioxide, smog-causing nitrogen dioxide and mercury.

To learn more about nuclear energy and the AP1000 plant, visit the Web site at [www.ap1000.westinghouse.com](http://www.ap1000.westinghouse.com).