1. Political situation in nuclear in your country

- 11/6/15 – U.S. Department of Energy announced $2 million under the GAIN (Gateway for Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear) initiative, to give small businesses greater access to the resources and capabilities of the DOE national laboratory complex.
- 11/12/15 – bilateral nuclear trade and cooperation agreement (“123 agreement”) between USA & China entered into force
- 12/11/15 – U.S. Department of Energy started collecting feedback on its approach to consent-based siting of consolidated interim storage facilities for used nuclear fuel
- 12/31/15 – U.S. nuclear power plants in 2015 operated at a median capability factor of 92.2 percent (WANO data) which is the highest capability factor achieved by the industry to date
- 2/9/16 – U.S. Supreme Court put the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Power Plan (CPP) on hold; however, numerous states continues developing plans for compliance
- 3/31/16 - 4/1/16 – Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, DC, USA the heads of state from more than 50 countries met to discuss the most significant issues in global nuclear security
- 4/6/16 – state of Wisconsin lifted its ban on new nuclear power plants
- 5/19/16 – U.S. Department of Energy hold summit meeting to discuss actions to avoid premature nuclear power plant shutdowns
- 8/31/16 – A U.S. Federal Appeals Court rules that government can count carbon reduction as a benefit when it decides on energy efficiency standards
- 9/31/16 – U.S. and China both ratify the Paris Agreement from COP 21

2. News on nuclear facilities (NPP's, WSF's etc.) in your country (power upgrades, lifetime extensions, new build etc.)

100 NPP units (66 PWRs & 34 BWRs) operating
- 1 new NPP unit [Watts Bar Unit 2 (PWRs)] delivered first power to the grid on June 3
- Fort Calhoun PWR scheduled to be shutdown by end of 2016

License Renewals and Power Uprates
- 82 20-year license renewals approved (2 units shutdown after license renewals approved)
- 12 20-year license renewal applications under review
- 5 future 20-year license renewal application reviews scheduled
- 157 power uprates approved adding 7,346 Mwe
- 3 pending power uprate applications which will add 1,482 Mwe
- 10 anticipated power uprate applications for 190 Mwe

4 NPPs under construction
- Southern Nuclear 2 W AP-1000s at Vogtle completion scheduled 2019 & 2020
- SCANA 2 W AP-1000s at V. C. Summer completion scheduled 2019 & 2020

18 COLAs for 28 new NPPs have been submitted to NRC for review
- 4 COLAs for 7 new NPPs have been approved by NRC
- 4 COLAs for 7 units are under NRC review
- 4 COLAs for 7 units have been suspended
- 6 COLAs for 7 units have been withdrawn
3. News on companies (projects, financial results, production etc)

- Westinghouse signed agreement with CB&I to acquire CB&I Stone & Webster in October, 2015
- Entergy announced Pilgrim NPP will be refueled in 2017 and operated until May 31, 2019
- The Portsmouth gaseous diffusion uranium enrichment plant in Ohio, USA was shutdown in April
- Waste Control Specialists (WCS) applied to NRC for a license to operate a consolidated used fuel interim storage facility in Andrews, TX on April 29, 2016
- U.S. and India Presidents signed agreement on June 7 for Westinghouse to supply six AP-1000 reactors to India
- Presidents of USA, Canada, & Mexico agreed to 50% clean power generation by 2025 on June 30
- The New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) approved a Clean Energy Standard (CES) that explicitly recognizes the zero-carbon contribution of NPPs on August 2
- Exelon will purchase the Fitzpatrick NPP because of the NY PSC CES (see above)
- Idaho National Lab was chosen as the preferred site for construction of the NuScale SMR

4. Public opinion towards nuclear (results latest PO polls)

- Bisconti Research survey in April 2016 (September survey currently underway)
  - 67% favor use of nuclear energy (up from 64% September 2015)
  - 29% oppose use of nuclear energy (down from 33% September 2015)
  - 82% support license renewal of operating NPPs (same as September 2015)
  - 86% think nuclear energy is important for electricity in the future (up from 76% September 15)
  - 73% believe utilities should prepare to build new NPPs in next decade (up from 70% Sept 15)
  - 69% believe NPPs operating in U.S. are safe and secure (down from 75% September 2015)
  - 76% agree U.S. should play a leading role in global nuclear markets (down from 81% September 2015)

5. Stakeholder dialogue (Attitudes of NGOs, media, local communities towards nuclear)

Local media articles favorable to nuclear power are found at:

- **The Columbian** (Vancouver, Wash.) benefits of SMRs in the U.S. Pacific Northwest
- **The Wall Street Journal** (tiered subscription model) regulators should recognize value of nuclear power
- **The Denver Post** climate change fight requires nuclear energy
- **The Post-Standard** (Syracuse, N.Y.) nuclear energy is key to clean power transition
- **The Sacramento Bee** (Calif.) (tiered subscription model) California needs nuclear energy
- **Esquire.com** renewables cannot supplant nuclear energy
- **Seeking Alpha** (free registration) nuclear energy is the only way to meet world’s future electricity needs
- **DailyCaller.com** climate scientists issue letter to CA governor supporting Diablo Canyon NPP
- **Forbes** nuclear power’s excellent safety record should inspire others
- **Environmental Leader** nuclear energy is a vital to protect the environment and to improve the economy
- **Forbes** nuclear power is a sustainable energy source
- **Columbia Daily Tribune** (Mo.) nuclear energy is too important to be ignored
- **The Jewish Chronicle** (Pittsburgh) U.S. should not give up nuclear energy leadership role
- **The New York Times** (free-article access for SmartBrief readers) renewable energy focus harms nuclear
- **Vox** New York proves nuclear and renewables can co-exist
- **High Country News** (Paonia, Colo.) (tiered subscription model) environmentalists urge Sierra Club to reconsider stance on nuclear energy