

ated power, it is entitled to backup power. Purpa, it said, covers both production and consumption functions, regardless of whether they have the same owner. The previous ruling is not consistent with the purpose of the law.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 may be re-examined, and possibly amended by the 100th Congress. DOE elected to "indefinitely postpone" work on a second repository last spring; this announcement probably made friends in the East, where this repository would have been sited, but it outraged Westerners, who will host the first repository. In January, the department announced that it will be at least five years late in completing that first storage site. Instead of the 1998 deadline imposed by the legislation, DOE says it won't be ready to accept waste until 2003.

Some members of Congress see these two moves as an attempt by DOE to alter illegally the act's intent, and they may move to reopen debate in order to force the administration to follow the guidelines of the legislation. DOE says that such action will effectively kill the repository program.

DOE has maintained its schedule for building a monitored retrievable storage (MRS) system. This facility will receive spent fuel from reactors and consolidate and package it for shipment to the repository. DOE has selected the old breeder-reactor site in Clinch River (Tenn) for the facility, and plans operation by 1998. Congress must approve DOE's plan, which may prove difficult in light of the entire waste pro-

gram's loss of credibility. Furthermore, some members believe that DOE will eventually propose that the MRS facility become the nation's permanent repository.

Developers of resource-recovery facilities in the Southeast will have to install scrubbers in order to meet strict new EPA particulate-emissions standards. A proposed facility in Broward County, Fla, will be the first to fall under the limit of 0.0015 gr/dscf, plus 90% elimination of all acid gas, including sulfuric acid and SO₂.

The Broward County facility will have two units—at present only the project's southern incinerator, 3300-ton/day, 96.1-MW capacity, is subject to the standard. But project developers have elected to install scrubbers on both units. The northern one has a 3300-ton/day, 85.3-MW capacity. County officials estimate that scrubber operating costs will be about \$7-million/yr, raising tipping fees from \$45/ton to between \$55 and \$70/ton.

In addition, EPA is considering classifying ash from incineration as a hazardous waste. This would require Broward County to ship and bury the ash in Emelle, Ala—making the plant's tipping fee prohibitive. As a result, the county's two largest cities, Ft Lauderdale and Hollywood, are considering dropping out of the project and building a composting plant. If this is the case, the county may only build one incinerator. It will likely be the northern unit, the one presently free from EPA's limits.