**Tuesday, March 5, 2019**

# Clint Miller Receives Prestigious Hodes Award,

# Discusses Progress in Low and Intermediate Level Waste

# Management at Operating Nuclear Power Plants in the United States

“Low and intermediate level waste disposal costs are high based on the public desire to limit commercial disposal sites. Increased discharge activity from nuclear power plants will result in increased insurance costs,” said Clint Miller, Principle Radwaste Engineer at the Pacific Gas & Electric’s Diablo Canyon Power Plant. “High disposal costs have been translated into waste minimization practices, significant advances in waste conditioning technologies, and increased competition in waste management. These in turn have reduced disposal volumes. Thus, the invisible hand of self-interest in a mature market strives to eliminate waste of all sorts, including low and intermediate level waste, providing a public good.”

Mr. Miller received the 2019 Richard S. Hodes, M.D. Honor Lecture Award yesterday in recognition of the significant role he has played in solving low-level radioactive waste management challenges in the United States. He has successfully pioneered and championed innovative waste management techniques that resulted in reduced generation of waste and improved management of liquid effluents in nuclear power plants. Additionally, he has widely shared his innovations with the industry to further enable other plants to adopt these best-in-the-industry radwaste management practices.

“Over the years, Clint has worked to educate and share innovative low level waste processing and management technologies. His active participation in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Radwaste committee, his support and contributions to Waste Management Symposia (WMS) and the Electric Power Research Institute have made him a go-to-professional in radioactive waste management,” said Jack Storton, a Southeast Compact Commissioner from VA, who presented the Award. “He is a leader, visionary, and mentor in the field of waste management. He has been steadfastly working for decades to solve some of the most complex waste processing and management issues. His creative work clearly exemplifies the spirit and commitment that the Hodes Award is intended to recognize.”

Mr. Miller has 38 years of experience in the radwaste industry and has spent the last 34 years with Pacific Gas & Electric. He is Chair of the radwaste operation subcommittee of the ASME, a WMS Fellow, and a registered Professional Engineer. He holds a BS in Nuclear Engineering from University of Illinois and a MS in Energy Systems from the University of Arizona.

The Commission established the Richard S. Hodes, M.D. Honor Lecture Award to honor the memory of Dr. Richard S. Hodes, who served as chair of the Southeast Compact Commission from its inception in 1983 until his death in 2002.

Nominations for the 2020 Hodes Honor Lecture Award are now being accepted. The deadline for submittal of nominations is August 31, 2019. Details are on the Commission website at [*www.secompact.org*](http://www.secompact.org) or you may contact Ted Buckner at tedb@secompact.org.

# # # #

 Moving directly to extensive use of launderable items and eliminating the use of needless disposable contamination control items can save substantial amounts of labor and cost.

-The use of segregated beds and selective ion exchange media resulted in increased throughput, decreased spent treatment media and decreased discharge activity- a triple play!

-The invisible hand of self-interest in a mature market strives to eliminate waste of all sorts, including LLW, providing a public good.

38 years in low level RADWASTE industry beginning with with Burns & Roe, Sargent & Lundy and 34 years with PG&E Diablo Canyon. Chair of ASME Radwaste operation subcommittee. WMS Fellow and a registered Professional Engineer.