

# FOREWORD

## SPECIAL ISSUE ON TOUGH SYMPOSIUM 2012

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This special issue of *Nuclear Technology* features seven papers that relate to or utilize the TOUGH2 codes. Over the years, the original TOUGH (Transport Of Unsaturated Groundwater and Heat) code has expanded into a family of multidimensional, multicomponent models that simulate coupled transport of fluids and heat in porous and/or fractured geologic media.

Researchers use the TOUGH family of codes to study a wide spectrum of problems, such as geothermal reservoir engineering, nuclear waste disposal in geologic formations, geologic carbon sequestration, gas hydrate research, environmental remediation, oil and gas reservoir engineering, and others.

Of particular importance is the use of the TOUGH family of codes in the study of the geologic disposal of nuclear waste, and this is where this special issue of *Nuclear Technology* fits. It is hoped that these seven papers will prove to be useful references to researchers in the field of radioactive waste disposal.