

Ian McRae Award of Merit – Dr. Gary Kugler



Dr. Kugler has been a key contributor to AECL's successful international commercial CANDU reactor activities for more than 20 years. In over three decades at AECL, he worked in a variety of technical, project management, marketing, commercial, and senior management areas. Gary became Vice President, Commercial Operations in 1995 and was appointed Senior Vice President, Nuclear Products and Services in 2001. He retired in 2004 and was appointed to the OPG Board of Directors.

Dr. Kugler was manager of Canadian operations for AECL's Embalse CANDU project in Argentina, and later led AECL's team that secured the Wolsong 2, 3, and 4 CANDU sales in South Korea. These multi-party contracts involved simultaneous negotiation and interface with several Korean entities – the client, the government, research institutes, the nuclear regulatory agency – as well as Korean and Canadian engineering companies and equipment suppliers.

More recently, Dr. Kugler held executive responsibility for the negotiations with Chinese agencies for the Qinshan CANDU project and with Romania for completion of Cernavoda 2.

Gary Kugler's skill, determination, and tenacity have played a major role in the offshore success of the CANDU product, with benefits that extend to the entire Canadian nuclear industry through multi-million-dollar supplier and engineering contracts, and support for advanced R&D of the technology.

Purpose of the Award

To honour an individual for outstanding contributions, other than scientific, to nuclear energy in Canada.