

Westinghouse lands \$80B pact

U.S. government commits funds for construction of new nuclear reactors

By Anya Litvak
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Westinghouse Electric Co., the Cranberry-based nuclear firm jointly owned by two Canadian companies, Cameco and Brookfield, announced Tuesday an \$80 billion commitment from the U.S. government to build new nuclear reactors in the United States. Cameco, a nuclear fuel supplier, said it has entered into a binding term sheet with the U.S. Department of Commerce whereby the U.S. government will

“arrange financing and facilitate the permitting and approvals for new Westinghouse nuclear reactors to be built in the U.S., with an aggregate investment value of at least U.S. \$80 billion, including near-term financing of long lead time items.”

Once Westinghouse has secured orders of at least \$80 billion, the U.S. government will get 20% of all profits after Westinghouse collects the first \$17.5 billion.

The agreement also says that if Westinghouse’s valuation as a stand-alone company reaches \$30 billion or more by 2029, the U.S. government can require it to be spun off as its own publicly traded company and would be entitled to acquire stock representing up to 20% of the company’s value, minus \$17.5 billion.

On its website, Westinghouse

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HURRICANE MELISSA
POWERFUL STORM RIPS INTO JAMAICA

Catastrophic winds, flooding ravage island

By John Myers Jr. and Dánica Coto
Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica — Heavy floodwaters swept across southwestern Jamaica, winds tore roofs off buildings and boulders tumbled onto roads Tuesday as Hurricane Melissa came ashore as a catastrophic Category 5 storm, one of the strongest Atlantic hurricanes on record.

Landslides, fallen trees and numerous power outages were reported as Melissa hit with 185 mph winds near New Hope, with officials cautioning that the cleanup and damage assessment could be slow.

“There is no infrastructure in the region that can withstand a Category 5,” Prime Minister Andrew Holness said. “The question now is the speed of recovery. That’s the challenge.”

Floodwaters trapped at least three families in their homes in the community of Black River in western Jamaica, and crews were unable to help them because of dangerous conditions, said Desmond McKenzie, deputy chairman of Jamaica’s Disaster Risk Management Council.

“Roofs were flying off,” he said. “We are hoping and praying that the situation will ease so that some attempt can be made to get to those persons.”

He noted that extensive damage was reported in the southwestern parish of St. Elizabeth, which he said “is underwater.”

Rohan Brown, with Jamaica’s Meteorological Service, warned that as Melissa



Justin Guido/Post-Gazette

Oakmont police Chief Mike Ford, center, bows his head Tuesday at the gravesite for 3-year-old Bella Seachrist. Chief Ford was among the first responders hit hard by Bella's case after she died from abuse at the hands of her caregivers in 2020.

‘SETTING HER FREE’

Mourners hold funeral for Oakmont toddler who was murdered

By Megan Guza
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The sun warmed away the mid-morning chill for Bella on Tuesday.

More than five years after Bella Seachrist died — murdered by her guardians through months of torture and abuse inside their nondescript Oakmont home — dozens gathered at Plum Creek Cemetery to say goodbye to the girl few there ever knew in life.

Allegheny County police Detective Nicole DePaoli placed a can of Coke at the base of the headstone; it was Bella’s favorite drink.

Tuesday’s somber funeral service marked the epilogue in Bella’s horrific story: The final six months of her life were filled with methodical abuse spearheaded by her stepmother, Laura Ramriez, and perpetuated by Ramriez’s sister, Alexis Herrera. Both women are serving life sentences. Bella’s father, Jose Salazar-Ortiz, knew his live-in girlfriend was abusing Bella. He’s serving 33 to 66 years in prison.

SEE BELLA, PAGE A-5

City divisions exceeding OT budgets

Public safety millions of dollars over projections

By Benjamin Kail
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

In yet another blow to Pittsburgh’s precarious finances, some of the city’s key departments have already exceeded their allotted overtime and premium pay by millions of dollars, with months still to go before the year ends.

Driven by critical staffing shortages in public safety — police and emergency medical services in particular — the city spent at least \$5.5 million more in overtime through the end of September than officials had predicted for all of 2025, according to a report from City Controller Rachael Heisler.

If that pace continues, the city is on track to spend almost \$20 million more than it had planned for employees in the Public Safety and Public Works departments, the report warns.

The millions in excess spending comes

SEE OVERTIME, PAGE A-2

Pa. Senate Democrats push food relief plan

By Ford Turner
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

HARRISBURG — Calling the imminent stoppage of federal SNAP benefits a food emergency, state Senate Democrats on Tuesday introduced a plan to pull \$62 million in interest from the state’s Rainy Day Fund to quickly boost supplies at food banks.

Allegheny County Sens. Lindsey Williams and Jay Costa were among senators in the Capitol who announced the proposed legislation

INSIDE

Shapiro joins lawsuit to keep SNAP food benefits going amid shutdown, A-9

and called on Republicans who control the chamber to move the bill rapidly. Effective Saturday, federal SNAP benefits accessed by 2 million Pennsylvania residents are scheduled to end and new SNAP

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Ford Turner/Post-Gazette

State Sen. Jay Costa, of Allegheny County, speaks Tuesday in the Capitol in Harrisburg about the need for a new Democratic plan to stock food banks across the state in anticipation of the end of SNAP benefits.



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