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April 7, 1998

Mr. Charles Haughney
Acting Director
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS
Mail Stop O-6F18
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Subject: Holtec Letter Document 5014156 dated March 30, 1998, from K.P. Singh, Holtec, to Mr. Charles Haughney, USNRC

Dear Mr. Haughney:

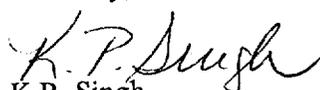
We thank you and your colleagues for your perseverance in explaining to us your efforts to provide a fair and equitable attention to all meritorious cask certification submittals. Our telephone discussions with NMSS management on the matter of the HI-STAR/HI-STORM licensing schedule, which was the subject of our March 30, 1998 letter to you, makes a formal response from your office unnecessary.

We fully recognize and acknowledge that the chronologically advanced age of our HI-STAR (ca. 1994) and HI-STORM (ca. 1995) submittals is principally due to setbacks in our own program, such as the delay in the conclusion of our impact limiter test program. The NRC's staff, while clearly burdened with mountnains of technical data, has done an admirable job of providing informed, thoughtful, and comprehensive RAIs to us. We will continue to strive to be equally competent in our responses to your queries.

We continue to hope for a speedier SFPO response, but also realize that quality technical work and analyses, as well as review of analyses, take time.

Our letter of March 30, as you surely recognized, arose from the rapidly escalating concern among several of our utility clients, for whom HI-STAR/HI-STORM certifications are a crucial matter. We are fully persuaded that the SFPO is exercising the utmost fairness and rectitude in the allocation of its resources and as such, a written response to our March 30 letter is not necessary or expected.

Sincerely,


K.P. Singh

President and Chief Executive Officer

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