

71-9261



Holtec Center, 555 Lincoln Drive West, Marlton, NJ 08053

Telephone (856) 797-0900

Fax (856) 797-0909

September 16, 2003

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: USNRC Docket No. 71-9261
HI-STAR 100 Certificate of Compliance 9261
HI-STAR License Amendment Request 9261-3
Response to Burnup Credit Request for Additional Information

References: 1. Holtec Project 5014
2. Holtec Letter, B. Gutherman, "Response to Request for Additional Information – Holtec HI-STAR 100 Amendment – Certificate of Compliance No. 9261", to USNRC Document Control Desk, dated May 23, 2003.

Dear Sir:

As we committed in the Reference 2 submittal we provide herewith License Amendment Request (LAR) 9261-3, which addresses the burnup credit-related issues from the NRC request for additional information (RAI) issued on February 24, 2003 pertaining to LAR 9261-2. Specifically, this LAR requests an amendment to CoC 71-9261 to add the MPC-32 to the MPC models authorized for transportation under 10 CFR 71. The following material is included as attachments to this letter:

Attachment 1: RAI responses 6-16 through 6-41 and 7-5. Please note that the responses to RAI questions 6-16 through 6-22, 6-24, 6-28, 6-29, 6-31, and 6-33 through 6-40 contain Holtec-proprietary information and are being requested to be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. The information in these responses provides valuable insight into Holtec's burnup credit methodology, which we believe to be unique and was developed at great expense to Holtec. Public disclosure of this information would provide our competitors with the advantage of learning this methodology without the commensurate cost involved to develop it. An affidavit pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790 is included as Attachment 5 to this letter.

Attachment 2: Proposed markup changes to CoC 71-9261, showing new text in italics, deleted text in strikeout format, and revision bars in the right margin.

Attachment 3: Proposed revisions to CoC 71-9261 shown with changes incorporated and revision bars in the right margin.

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Attachment 4: Proposed changes to Chapters 1, 6 and 7 of the HI-STAR SAR. These changes are indicated as "Proposed Rev. 11" in the footer. Portions of SAR Appendix 6.E contain Holtec proprietary information for the same reasons as stated above for the burnup credit-related RAI responses. The proprietary information is appropriately identified as such in the SAR document.

Attachment 5: Affidavit pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790.

In addition, in response to RAI Question 6-15, we are enclosing sample MCNP input for the MPC-32 criticality calculations on a floppy disk. These input files are considered Holtec-proprietary information because they provide valuable, unique information as to how the burnup credit methodology is manifested in the reactivity computations.

We believe that approval of MPC-32 and the burnup credit methodology is vital for the industry to enable transportation of spent nuclear fuel with the lowest possible dose to the public and workers. To facilitate the NRC's approval under 10 CFR 71, the MPC-32s being produced at this time contain the maximum achievable boron-10 loading in the fuel basket neutron absorber (more than 30 weight percent B₄C). The burnup credit curves approved by the NRC will enable our clients to package MPC-32s with full consideration of both storage (regionalized loading) and transport (reactivity) and avoid the need for re-packaging in the future. We look forward to receiving a revised review schedule from the NRC for CoC Amendment 3.

Please contact the undersigned if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Brian Gutherman, P.E.
Manager, Licensing and Technical Services

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INTERNATIONAL

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Fax (856) 797-0909

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Attachments: As Stated

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