

ADMRegs-Holtec-CISFEISCEm Resource

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Holtec International HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility Project

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Holtec International HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility Project

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General Comment

There are very few people living near the proposed SNF CISF in Carlsbad NM or along the rail line to transport the SNF from the rest of the US through Clovis, NM to Carlsbad, NM.

New Mexico has a population of 2 million people and a land mass of 122,000 square miles. Of that, only ~90,000 are living along the BNSF rail line from Gallup (22,670) on the west state line to Clovis (39,373) on the east state line. In between are ~12 towns, 9 are less than 1,000 residents and the other 3 are less than 10,000. From Clovis to Carlsbad (28,914) there are 5 towns; Portales (11,989), Roswell (48,184), Dexter (1,264), Hagerman (1,244) and Artesia (12,232). That is another ~104,000 living along the BNSF rail line from Clovis to Carlsbad. New Mexico has ~194,000 or less than 10% of the population living along the BNSF railroad line that will carry SNF and the three major metro areas; Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Los Cruces are not anywhere near the BNSF railroad line.

Lea and Eddy counties have a combined population of 118,556 or 6% of the state population and 7% of the land mass and a ~30% plus portion of the tax revenue to the state budget. Both counties vote 70% Republican, while the western and northern parts of the state vote Democrat. It appears this state is divide over the issue of Holtec storing SNF in Eddy-Lea counties and at the same time, okay with plutonium manufacturing at Los Alamos Nation Labs and the development of a nuclear reactor call 'kilopower' using highly enriched uranium at Sandia Labs. That sounds a bit hypocritical. Furthermore, there are some 20,000 existing plutonium pits stored at the Pantex Plant near Amarillo, Texas that were/are transported through Kirtland Air Base at the Albuquerque International Sunport.

I would prefer the Holtec Hi-Store CIS in New Mexico over the competitive site at WCS in West Texas.