

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

As a Hispanic native New Mexican with degrees in mechanical engineering from UNM and NMTech, I fully support the Holtec project. Please ignore the scientifically illiterate folks who claim that the "white men are trying to destroy a beautiful minority state". The nuclear industry has a better safety record than most other forms of energy and produces magnitudes less waste than most other forms of energy. It is the most efficient and cleanest for of energy we have today. France gets over 70% of their energy from nuclear and have never had an accident. They also have much less waste than we do because they recycle more than 80% of their fuel. Why can't we do that here? Because the government pays too much attention to the scientifically illiterate environmentalists who oppose such reasonable ideas. The Holtec project is a major step forward towards reprocessing fuel, which will reduce the amount of spent rods America currently has. Please ignore those who claim that the Holtec facility will ruin how beautiful New Mexico is. It will not, the facility is at ground level! The things that are ruining New Mexico are the hideous wind turbines all over eastern NM. While Holtec would be accepting waste, it would not be turning NM into a wasteland either. It will be a facility bringing jobs to the state. That doesn't only impact the local area, but the state as a while. Facilities like that are constantly visited for business purposes by feds, fed contractors, and researchers all year long, just like every other DOE site. All that travel into the state will bring revenue. NM has a rich history in the nuclear field with a good safety record. Yes, mistakes do happen, but name one industry that does not. This is a great opportunity for NM to expand its portfolio of novel capabilities in the nuclear field. No engineer I have ever met opposes nuclear energy because we all understand how safe it is, especially modern designs. The people who cite Chernobyl and Fukushima have no technical or even historical understanding of those faulty facilities and the fools who built and ran them, so it baffles me when the government pays any attention to them. Decades of research has been conducted at Idaho National Lab to develop safe nuclear energy and reprocessing capabilities. This technology currently exists, but we are prevented from using it because the naturally quiet, reserved engineering and scientific community is too often overshadowed by the loud,

scientifically illiterate activists. Why the government ignores the science on nuclear issues is beyond me. This needs to stop. Approval of the Holtec project is a positive step forward for safe, clean, and reliable nuclear power and a positive step forward for New Mexico and my fellow local Hispanics who have been here for over 400 years. The nuclear industry has helped Northern New Mexico thrive. It is time for that industry to do the same in Southern NM.