

As of: 6/11/18 9:47 AM
Received: June 08, 2018
Status: Pending_Post
Tracking No. 1k2-93lu-b1ma
Comments Due: July 30, 2018
Submission Type: Web

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: NRC-2018-0052

Holtec International HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility Project

Comment On: NRC-2018-0052-0058

Holtec International HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility Project

Document: NRC-2018-0052-DRAFT-0131

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-10418

Submitter Information

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General Comment

I oppose this project. It is both short sighted and dangerous. While the community will experience a benefit of 150 well paying jobs, it will be off set by the risk of serious, long term consequences.

Yucca Mountain, NV was designed for long term nuclear waste disposal. It has yet to open ... if ever. This would leave Carlsbad/ Hobbs 'holding the bag' so to speak. It would set the stage for "mission creep" in which New Mexico could very well devolve into the default long term storage site.

Additionally, I have reservations about the transport of canisters across the country to this site. This issue raises myriad concerns. I also question the wisdom of compiling and keeping all spent nuclear material at one site. This would concentrate their threat and make them a target for terrorism. Moreover, many opponents of this venture accuse it of nuclear colonialism. They have a point. Is it right to impose this unfair burden of becoming a dumping ground to a state that is so economically and socially disadvantaged? New Mexico is already hosting the WIPP site. Other states need to step up and do their part.

Furthermore, the geologic stability of this site is questionable. Factors to consider within a geologic time frame are tectonic forces, climatic change, continental drift, and accompanying risks of hydraulic fracturing nearby in the region. This is important to keep in mind because of the lengthy half lives of these spent nuclear materials. These time periods far exceed the life span of civilizations here on earth.

Finally, I question whether any private company is up to the job of safeguarding these materials. It would be best if the public sector to take on this important task.

SUNSI Review Complete

Template = ADM-013

E-RIDS=ADM-03

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COMMENT (#140)

PUBLICATION DATE: 3/30/2018

CITATION: 83 FR 13802