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**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

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ADD= Antoinette Walker-Smith,  
Jill Caverly (JSC1)

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## Submitter Information

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## General Comment

As a Navajo woman who lives on and near the Navajo reservation, which Interstate 40 runs close too, I am in great opposition to the transportation of highly radioactive materials from the East Coast to New Mexico. I am devastated this was considered. This is a concern not only to me but to my family that still live on the reservation. I do not want these chemicals being transported near my family or my People. The BNSF rail line is a railway that runs through the city of Gallup, NM which is very near and close to the Navajo reservation. It is a border town and a lot of Navajo people go to town here for groceries and other necessities. For the Native Americans mostly Navajos who will be impacted when there is a transportation failure, it was another indication of the Donald Trump administration to sacrifice anyone that would stand in the way of corporate interests and place others in harms way. Holtec International did not elaborate on the potential for an accident along the route and the question of whether there is a contingency plan for the containment of a radioactive spill or mishap near or in the city. There is no local HAZMAT resources or personnel that can be dispatched immediately to the scene if high-level radioactive material is involved. Train derailments occur frequently here. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration, Office of Safety Analysis, there were 448 railway accidents/incidents with 41 fatalities and 275 injuries in New Mexico in a five-year period from 2008 to 2012. The Navajo Nation is not prepared to deal with the potential liability of a catastrophic event that would threaten the lives of Navajo citizens for generations to come. This is the same mindset that allowed the devastation of lives, animals, property and land, not only on the Navajo Nation, but in other places where the minority population is left with no recourse. The U.S. governments trust responsibility to the 573 federally recognized tribes in America has been abandoned by the dishonorable Donald Trump White House administration, however, for the concern of an indigenous group of people I am pleading that you do not allow this to take place.