

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF LEA  
RESOLUTION NO. 18-AUG-156R**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S EFFORT TO BUILD  
AN INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY FOR SPENT NUCLEAR  
FUEL IN SOUTHEASTERN NEW MEXICO AND ELEA'S  
BECOMING A PARTY TO THE NRC ADJUDICATORY HEARING**

**WHEREAS**, the 2013 report from the President's Blue-Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future strongly recommended that one or more consolidated interim storage facilities be established to temporarily store the spent nuclear fuel generated by America's nuclear fleet, which generates approximately twenty percent of the electricity in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Holtec International's sub-surface system, known as UMAX, is already certified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, design, construction, safety, security, financial assurance and technical control, as well as the complete process for storage, must be overseen and approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 2,000 shipments of spent fuel have occurred in America over the past thirty years without incident; and

**WHEREAS**, Lea County believes the Holtec International consolidated interim storage facility will create approximately two hundred highly paid jobs and will provide a \$2,400,000,000 capital investment in southeastern New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, southeastern New Mexico is home to the URENCO USA facility and the WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT and benefits from a positive relationship with the first enrichment facility to be built in the United States in 30 years, as well as the only licensed Nuclear Repository in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the dry, remote southeastern corner of New Mexico is ideal for such temporary storage. A pre-existing scientific and nuclear operations workforce exists in the area, and a community that is open-minded and supportive of safe, secure nuclear projects. ELEA's property, located in Lea County, is a well characterized excellent location for an interim storage facility; and

**WHEREAS**, Holtec International filed its application for a license to construct and operate the HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility in Lea County, New Mexico, on March 30, 2017. On July 16, 2018 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission published a notice of opportunity to request a hearing and petition for leave to intervene; and

**WHEREAS**, 10 C.F.R. 2.315(c) calls for the presiding officer in an adjudicatory proceeding to "afford an interested State, local governmental body (county, municipality, or other subdivision), and Federally recognized Indian Tribe that has not been admitted as a party under P 2.309, a reasonable opportunity to participate in a hearing."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Lea County, that Lea County request permission to participate in these proceedings as an interested party as the local governmental body in whose jurisdiction the proposed site sits. Lea County has expectation of a large capital expenditure to build and develop the facility, economic development that will employ its citizens, and benefit from any future nuclear development, science and research activities; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Lea County designates Jonathan B. Sena as its single representative for the hearing, and directs the Chairman on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners to execute the petition to participate as an interested local governmental body and as an interested party in the proceeding on the HI-STORE application, if one is initiated.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2018, by the Lea County Board of County Commissioners in an open meeting in Lovington, New Mexico.

**LEA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Ron R Black  
Ron R. Black, Chair  
Voted:  Yes No Abstain

Rebecca Long  
Rebecca Long, Vice Chair  
Voted:  Yes No Abstain

Lea County  
AUG 23 2018  
LCBCC Meeting

Dean Jackson  
Dean Jackson, Member  
Voted:  Yes No Abstain

Jonathan Sena  
Jonathan Sena, Member  
Voted:  Yes No Abstain

Richard Don Jones  
Richard Don Jones, Member  
Voted:  Yes No Abstain

**ATTEST:** Keith Manes  
Lea County Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:**

By: Kelli Williams  
Kelli Williams, Deputy Clerk

John W. Caldwell  
John W. Caldwell, County Attorney

