



# NRC NEWS

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## **NRC Resumes Review of Application for Texas Consolidated Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage Facility**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has resumed its safety and environmental reviews of an application by Interim Storage Partners to construct and operate a consolidated spent nuclear fuel storage facility in Andrews County, Texas.

The application was initially filed by Waste Control Specialists in 2016. The company requested the NRC suspend its review in April 2017, pending the anticipated sale of the company. WCS was sold to J.F. Lehman & Co., in January 2018. In March, WCS and Orano, an international nuclear supplier, formed Interim Storage Partners as a joint venture to take over the spent fuel storage project. The new company [submitted a revised application](#) to the NRC in June.

When NRC's review was suspended last year, the staff was in the process of receiving public comment on the scope of its environmental review and had issued a notice of opportunity for an adjudicatory hearing. Those processes will now resume.

The staff will consider all comments previously received on the scope of the environmental review. In a [notice](#) published Sept. 4 in the *Federal Register*, the NRC requested additional public comment through Oct. 19 on environmental issues to be considered in its environmental impact statement. In a separate notice in the *Federal Register*, published [Aug. 29](#) and corrected [Aug. 31](#), the NRC announced an opportunity to request a hearing, through Oct. 29. The notices include detailed instructions on how to file a hearing request or submit public comment.

The NRC completed its administrative review of the revised application and informed Interim Storage Partners of its decision to resume the review in a [letter](#) dated Aug. 21, 2018. The staff expects to complete its safety, security and environmental reviews in the summer of 2020.