



# NRC NEWS

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## **NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to Hold Oral Arguments on Texas Spent Fuel Storage Application**

A Nuclear Regulatory Commission Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will hear oral arguments July 10-11 in Midland, Texas, on petitions for an adjudicatory hearing on Interim Storage Partners' license application for a consolidated interim spent fuel storage facility.

The arguments will be heard July 10 beginning at 9 a.m., and, if necessary, July 11, in the Commissioner's Courtroom at Midland County Courthouse, located at 500 N Loraine St. The arguments will address the standing of petitioners and the admissibility of their proposed contentions.

The three administrative judges on the board will hear arguments from representatives for the following groups: Beyond Nuclear; Sierra Club; Permian Basin Land and Royalty Organization and Fasken Land and Minerals; and a coalition of Don't Waste Michigan, Citizens' Environmental Coalition, Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination, Nuclear Energy Information Service, Public Citizen, San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace, Sustainable Energy and Economic Development Coalition, and Leona Morgan; Interim Storage Partners; and the NRC staff.

Interim Storage Partners, a joint venture of Waste Control Specialists and Orano USA, has applied for a license to build and operate a dry cask storage site for commercial spent nuclear fuel adjacent to the WCS low-level waste disposal facility in Andrews County.

The hearings will be open to the public, though only representatives for the petitioners, the applicant and the NRC staff will be permitted to participate. Signs, banners, posters, demonstrations and displays will not be allowed by NRC policy.

The board is composed of three administrative judges from the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel. Boards conduct adjudicative hearings on licensing actions by the NRC, and are independent of the NRC staff. A board's rulings may be appealed to the Commission.