From: McKenney, Chris

To: <u>jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org</u>; <u>jeff.tittel@verizon.net</u>

Cc: Snyder, Amy

Subject: Courtesy Notice on the Issuance of the Oyster Creek license transfer and exemption

**Date:** Thursday, June 20, 2019 2:15:12 PM

## Dear Director,

As a courtesy, I am informing you that on June 20, 2019, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved the transfer of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (Oyster Creek) license from Exelon Generation Co. (Exelon) to Oyster Creek Environmental Protection (OCEP), as owner, and Holtec Decommissioning International (HDI), as decommissioning operator. The three companies requested the license transfer in August 2018. Once the purchase is finalized, as previously announced, OCEP and HDI plan to expedite decommissioning and dismantling of the plant. The license transfer includes the dry cask spent fuel storage installation at Oyster Creek. The NRC order approving the license transfer is effective immediately, but the license transfer will not be finalized until the successful completion of the transaction between Exelon, OCEP and HDI. At that point, the NRC will issue a license amendment reflecting completion of the transfer.

In reviewing the license transfer application, the NRC staff considered OCEP's and HDI's technical and financial qualifications, the adequacy of Oyster Creek's decommissioning trust funds to complete the radiological decommissioning of the plant, and the adequacy of plans to manage the onsite storage of spent nuclear fuel until it can be removed for storage or disposal elsewhere. The staff concluded that OCEP and HDI met the regulatory, legal, technical and financial requirements necessary to qualify as licensees. The Commission on June 18 denied two requests for an adjudicatory hearing challenging the license transfer. The hearing process is separate from the licensing process; however, the staff considered your comments in your hearing request and the public comments in its review as summarized in its safety evaluation.

The order and other documents related to the review will be available through the NRC's ADAMS online documents database and a Press Release will be issued later today. The documents are expected to be publicly available within the next 24 hours and the accession numbers for the documents are ML19095A454 (Oyster Creek license transfer documents including the safety evaluation report) and ML19140A114 (Exemption to allow HDI to use the Decommissioning Trust Fund). Note that both '0' in the accession numbers are zeros.

Please contact Amy Snyder of my staff, if you have any questions.

Christepher McKenney, Acting Director Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery, and Waste Programs Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Phone: (301) 415-6663

Email: Christepher.McKenney@nrc.gov Website: http://www.nrc.gov/waste.html