



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma, Chairman  
Hopi Tribe  
P.O. Box 123  
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dear Chairman Nuvangyaoma:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for construction and operation of Holtec International's (Holtec) consolidated interim storage facility (CISF). The proposed CISF would be located in Lea County, New Mexico. As part of its review of the proposed action, the NRC staff has prepared a DEIS that includes analyses of potential impacts to historic properties from construction and operation of the CISF. As stated in our letter dated April 2, 2018, the NRC staff will use the National Environmental Policy Act (process to comply with its obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA), as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c).

As discussed in Chapter 4 of the DEIS, the NRC has determined that the construction and operation of the CISF would not adversely affect historic properties near the site. In support of this determination, the NRC staff conducted a site visit, reviewed available archaeological literature, conducted a search and evaluation of archaeological records and collections maintained by the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office (NM SHPO) and U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Documentation of tribal consultation is presented in Appendix A of the DEIS. The updated Class III Report, along with the NRC staff recommendations, will be submitted to the NM SHPO for concurrence prior to finalization of the DEIS. While consultation under NHPA Section 106 is ongoing, the NRC staff's preliminary conclusion is that no historic properties would be affected by the proposed action.

A copy of the DEIS is available in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/readingrm/adams.html>. The ADAMS accession number for the DEIS is ML20069G420. If you prefer a CD or hard copy of the DEIS, please let us know.

A separate Notice of Availability of the DEIS will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, beginning the 60-day public comment period. The comment period will end on May 22, 2020.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.8(c), we are requesting comments on the DEIS and preliminary conclusions. Electronic comments on the DEIS may be submitted to the NRC by accessing <https://www.regulations.gov/> and searching for Docket ID NRC-2018-0052. Written comments should be submitted by mail to the NRC at:

ATTN: Program Management, Announcements  
and Editing Staff  
Office of Administration  
Mail Stop: TWFN-7A60M  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Comments should be submitted by May 22, 2020. Should you have any questions concerning the staff's environmental review of Holtec's application for construction and operation of a CISF, please contact Ms. Jill Caverly at 301-415-7674 or by e-mail at [Jill.Caverly@nrc.gov](mailto:Jill.Caverly@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Cinthya I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

cc:  
Carmalita Coochyumptewa  
Secretary  
Hopi Tribe  
P.O. Box 123  
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Bobby Komardley, Chairman  
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1220  
Anadarko, OK 73005

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dear Chairman Komardley:

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Cinthya I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

William Nelson, Chairman  
Comanche Nation  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73502

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dear Chairman Nelson:

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Cinthya I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

cc:  
Jim Arterberry, THPO  
Comanche Nation  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73502

Marina Callahan, THPO  
Comanche Nation  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73502



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Levi Pesata, President  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
P.O. Box 507  
Dulce, NM 87528

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dear President Pesata:

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Cinthya I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

cc:  
Dr. Jeffrey Blythe, THPO  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
P.O. Box 1367  
Dulce, NM 87528





UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Matthew Komalty, Chairman  
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 369  
Carnegie, OK 73015

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

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*/RA/*

Cintha I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

cc:  
Kellie J. Poolaw, Acting THPO  
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 50  
Carnegie, OK 73015



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Arthur "Butch" Blazer, President  
Mescalero Apache Tribe  
P.O. Box 227  
Mescalero, NM 88340

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dear President Blazer:

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Cinthya I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
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Docket No. 72-1051

cc:  
Holly Houghton, THPO  
Mescalero Apache Tribe  
P.O. Box 227  
Mescalero, NM 88340



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Russell Begaye, President  
Navajo Nation  
P.O. Box 7440  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

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Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
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Docket No. 72-1051

cc:  
Richard M. Begay, THPO  
Navajo Nation  
P.O. Box 4950  
Window Rock, AZ 86515



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Bruce Pratt, President  
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 470  
Pawnee, OK 74058

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

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and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

cc:

Michael Knife Chief, THPO  
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 470  
Pawnee, OK 74058

Matt Reed, THPO  
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 470  
Pawnee, OK 74058





UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
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March 11, 2020

J. Robert Benavides, Governor  
Pueblo of Isleta  
P.O. Box 1290  
Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dear Governor Benavides:

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As discussed in Chapter 4 of the DEIS, the NRC has determined that the construction and operation of the CISF would not adversely affect historic properties near the site. In support of this determination, the NRC staff conducted a site visit, reviewed available archaeological literature, conducted a search and evaluation of archaeological records and collections maintained by the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office (NM SHPO) and U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Documentation of tribal consultation is presented in Appendix A of the DEIS. The updated Class III Report, along with the NRC staff recommendations, will be submitted to the NM SHPO for concurrence prior to finalization of the DEIS. While consultation under NHPA Section 106 is ongoing, the NRC staff's preliminary conclusion is that no historic properties would be affected by the proposed action.

A copy of the DEIS is available in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/readingrm/adams.html>. The ADAMS accession number for the DEIS is ML20069G420. If you prefer a CD or hard copy of the DEIS, please let us know.

A separate Notice of Availability of the DEIS will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, beginning the 60-day public comment period. The comment period will end on May 22, 2020.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.8(c), we are requesting comments on the DEIS and preliminary conclusions. Electronic comments on the DEIS may be submitted to the NRC by accessing <https://www.regulations.gov/> and searching for Docket ID NRC-2018-0052. Written comments should be submitted by mail to the NRC at:

ATTN: Program Management, Announcements  
and Editing Staff  
Office of Administration  
Mail Stop: TWFN-7A60M  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Comments should be submitted by May 22, 2020. Should you have any questions concerning the staff's environmental review of Holtec's application for construction and operation of a CISF, please contact Ms. Jill Caverly at 301-415-7674 or by e-mail at [Jill.Caverly@nrc.gov](mailto:Jill.Caverly@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Cinthya I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

cc:  
Dr. Henry Walt, THPO  
Pueblo of Isleta  
P.O. Box 1270  
Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 11, 2020

Carlos Hisa, Governor  
Ysleta de Sur Pueblo  
P.O. Box 17579  
117 S. Old Pueblo Rd.  
El Paso, TX 79907

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dear Governor Hisa:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for construction and operation of Holtec International's (Holtec) consolidated interim storage facility (CISF). The proposed CISF would be located in Lea County, New Mexico. As part of its review of the proposed action, the NRC staff has prepared a DEIS that includes analyses of potential impacts to historic properties from construction and operation of the CISF. As stated in our letter dated April 2, 2018, the NRC staff will use the National Environmental Policy Act (process to comply with its obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA), as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c).

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Cinthya I. Román, Chief  
Environmental Review Materials Branch  
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,  
and Financial Support  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED IN LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (DOCKET NUMBER: 72-1051)

Dated: March 11, 2020

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**Identical letters have been sent to:**

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma  
Comanche Nation  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma  
Mescalero Apache Tribe  
Navajo Nation  
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma  
Pueblo of Isleta  
Pueblo of Tesuque  
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

**ADAMS Accession Nos: ML20063J853**

**\* via email**

OFFICE	NMSS/REFS/ERMB	NMSS/REFS/ERMB	NMSS/REFS/ERMB	NMSS/REFS/ERMB
NAME	*SImboden	*JCaverly	AWalker-Smith	CRomán
DATE	03/04/2020	03/04/2020	03/03/2020	03/11/2020

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