



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

February 1, 2021

Ms. Andrea L. Sterdis  
Vice President, Regulatory &  
Environmental Affairs  
Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC  
Krishna P. Singh Technology Campus  
1 Holtec Blvd.  
Camden, NJ 08104

SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT – HOLTEC PROPOSED POST SHUTDOWN  
DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORT WITH SITE-SPECIFIC  
DECOMMISSIONING COST ESTIMATE (EPID L-2020-LLM-0003)

Dear Ms. Sterdis:

By letter dated December 23, 2020 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20358A075) Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENOI), on behalf of itself, Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC (ENP), Holtec International (Holtec), and Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC (HDI) (collectively, the applicants), requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) consent to: (1) the transfer of control of the Operating Licenses for Big Rock Point Plant (Big Rock Point) and Palisades Nuclear Plant (Palisades), respectively, as well as the general licenses for the Big Rock Point Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) and the Palisades ISFSI (collectively, the licenses) to Holtec and (2) the transfer of ENOI's operating authority (i.e., its authority to conduct licensed activities at Palisades and Big Rock Point) to HDI. In addition, the applicants requested that the NRC approve conforming administrative amendments to the licenses to reflect the proposed transfer.

By letter dated December 23, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20358A232), HDI submitted a "Post Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report including Site-Specific Decommissioning Cost Estimate for Palisades Nuclear Plant."

The regulation under Section 50.82(a)(4)(i) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* states:

Prior to or within 2 years following permanent cessation of operations, *the licensee* [emphasis added] shall submit a post-shutdown decommissioning activities report (PSDAR) to the NRC, and a copy to the affected State(s). The PSDAR must contain a description of the planned decommissioning activities along with a schedule for their accomplishment, a discussion that provides the reasons for concluding that the environmental impacts associated with site-specific decommissioning activities will be bounded by appropriate previously issued environmental impact statements, and a site-specific DCE [decommissioning cost estimate], including the projected cost of managing irradiated fuel.

In its letter dated December 23, 2020, HDI stated, in part:

In accordance with the requirements of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 50.82, "Termination of license," paragraph (a)(4)(i), this report constitutes the [HDI PSDAR] for the decommissioning of [Palisades] following the scheduled permanent cessation of plant operations and permanent removal of fuel from the reactor vessels and subsequent transfer of the Part 50 and Part 72 licenses to [Holtec] and HDI. This PSDAR is being submitted to notify the NRC of HDI decommissioning plans and planned decommissioning schedule for the decommissioning of Palisades and the unrestricted release of all portions of the site.

This PSDAR is contingent upon NRC approval of the [License Transfer Application] and the transfer of the Palisades licenses.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that, consistent with the above regulatory requirements and HDI statements, the NRC staff will not consider the HDI PSDAR submittal dated December 23, 2020, under the provisions of 10 CFR 50.82(a)(4) because HDI is not the licensee for Palisades. However, the NRC staff is treating the HDI PSDAR submittal as a supplement to the Palisades license transfer application dated December 23, 2020, until such time as the NRC makes a regulatory decision regarding the Palisades license transfer application.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-2855 or by e-mail to [Scott.Wall@nrc.gov](mailto:Scott.Wall@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Scott P. Wall, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-155, 50-255,  
72-007, and 72-043

cc: Listserv

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 DATED FEBRUARY 1, 2021

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML21011A067**

**\*by e-mail**

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