

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**[Docket No. 72-1050; NRC-2016-0231]**

**Interim Storage Partners, LLC**

**WCS Consolidated Interim Storage Facility**

**Issuance of Materials License and Record of Decision**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** License and record of decision; issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued Materials License No. SNM-2515 to Interim Storage Partners, LLC (ISP) to construct and operate the WCS Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) as proposed in its license application, as amended, and to receive, possess, store, and transfer spent nuclear fuel and Greater-than-Class-C radioactive waste at the WCS CISF in Andrews County, Texas. ISP will be required to operate under the conditions listed in Materials License No. SNM-2515. The NRC staff has published a record of decision (ROD) that supports the NRC's decision to approve ISP's license application for the WCS CISF and to issue the license.

**DATE:** September 17, 2021

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID **NRC-2016-0231** when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may access publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Website:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2016-0231**. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email:

Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- **NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System**

**(ADAMS):** You may access publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document. In addition, for the convenience of the reader, the ADAMS accession numbers are provided in a table in the section of this document entitled, **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

- **Attention:** The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of public documents, is currently closed. You may submit your request to the PDR via email at [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov) or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John-Chau Nguyen, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-0262; email: [John-Chau.Nguyen@nrc.gov](mailto:John-Chau.Nguyen@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Discussion**

The NRC has issued a license to ISP for its WCS CISF in Andrews County, Texas (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML21188A096). Materials License No. SNM-2515 authorizes ISP to construct and operate its facility as proposed in its license application, as amended, and to receive, possess, store, and transfer spent nuclear fuel,

including a small quantity of mixed-oxide fuel, and Greater-than-Class-C radioactive waste at the WCS CISF. The license authorizes ISP to store up to 5,000 metric tons of uranium [5,500 short tons] of spent nuclear fuel for a license period of 40 years. ISP will be required to operate under the conditions listed in Materials License No. SNM-2515.

The NRC staff's ROD that supports the NRC's decision to approve ISP's license application for the WCS CISF and to issue Materials License No. SNM-2515 is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML21222A214. The ROD satisfies the regulatory requirement in section 51.102 paragraph (a) of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), which requires that a Commission decision on any action for which a final environmental impact statement (EIS) has been prepared be accompanied by or include a concise public ROD. As discussed in the ROD and the final EIS for ISP's license application for a CISF for spent nuclear fuel in Andrews County, Texas (ADAMS Accession No. ML21209A955), the NRC staff considered a range of reasonable alternatives that included the No-Action alternative, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; storage at a government-owned CISF; alternative design and storage technologies; and alternative locations. The final EIS documents the environmental review, including the NRC staff's recommendation to issue an NRC license to ISP to construct and operate a CISF for spent nuclear fuel at the proposed location, subject to the determinations in the NRC staff's safety review of the application. The final EIS conclusion is based on the NRC staff's independent environmental review, as well as (i) the license application, which includes the environmental report and supplemental documents and ISP's responses to the NRC staff's requests for additional information; (ii) consultation with Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies and input from other stakeholders, including members of the public; and (iii) the assessments provided in the final EIS.

The NRC staff prepared a final safety evaluation report that documents the staff's safety and security review of the application (ADAMS Accession No. ML21188A101). The staff's safety and security review found that the application met applicable NRC regulations in 10 CFR part 72, "Licensing Requirements for the Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level Radioactive Waste, and Reactor-Related Greater than Class C Waste."

Documents related to the application carry Docket ID **NRC-2016-0231**. These documents for the ISP license include the license application, the applicant's safety analysis report, emergency plan, physical security plan, environmental report, updates to these documents, and applicant supplements and responses to NRC staff requests for additional information, and the NRC staff's final safety evaluation report, final EIS, and ROD.

ISP's request for a materials license was previously noticed in the *Federal Register* on November 14, 2016 (81 FR 79531). A notice of docketing with an opportunity to request a hearing and to petition for leave to intervene was published in the *Federal Register* on January 30, 2017 (82 FR 8773). Four groups of petitioners filed petitions to intervene. An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board considered petitions and admitted one contention. The Board subsequently dismissed the contention as moot after ISP supplemented its application with information that the contention had noted was missing, and the Board subsequently terminated the adjudicatory proceeding. Intervenors appealed the decisions to the Commission, and the Commission affirmed the Board decisions, with one new contention remanded to the Board for consideration. The Board subsequently dismissed the remanded contention, and the Commission denied an appeal of the Board decision.

In issuing a materials license to ISP for the WCS CISF, the NRC has determined based on its review of this application that there is reasonable assurance that: (i) the activities authorized by the license can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public; and (ii) these activities will be conducted in compliance with the applicable regulations of 10 CFR part 72. The NRC has further determined that the issuance of the license will not be inimical to the common defense and security.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," the details with respect to this action, including the final safety evaluation report and accompanying documentation and license, are available electronically in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this site, you can access ADAMS, which provides text and image files of the NRC public documents.

## II. Availability of Documents

The documents identified in the following table are available to interested persons through one or more of the following methods, as indicated.

	<b>Document</b>	<b>ADAMS Accession No.</b>
1	Initial application, safety analysis report (SAR) and environmental report (ER), dated April 28, 2016	ML16133A070 (Package)
2	Application Revision 1, SAR Revision 1, and ER Revision 1, dated March 16, 2017	ML17082A021 (Package)
3	Application Revision 2, SAR Revision 2, and ER Revision 2, dated July 19, 2018	ML18206A595 (Package)
4	ER Revision 3, dated February 17, 2020	ML20052E144 (Package)
5	SAR Revision 3, dated May 22, 2020	ML20150A337 (Package)
6	Application Revision 3, dated August 24, 2020	ML20237F470
7	SAR Revision 4, September 2, 2020	ML20261H419 (Package)
8	Application Revision 4 and SAR Revision 5, dated April 12, 2021	ML21105A766 (Package)
9	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated July 19, 2018	ML18208A437

10	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated January 7, 2019	ML19009A099
11	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated March 22, 2019	ML19085A055
12	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated May 31, 2019	ML19156A048 (Package)
13	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated June 26, 2019	ML19197A044
14	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated June 28, 2019	ML19184A159 (Package)
15	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated June 28, 2019	ML19190A227 (Package)
16	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated July 31, 2019	ML19217A231 (Package)
17	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated August 20, 2019	ML19235A157 (Package)
18	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated September 18, 2019	ML19270E399
19	Applicant submittal of supplemental information, dated September 20, 2019	ML19268A113 (Package)
20	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated November 21, 2019	ML19337B502 (Package)
21	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated January 6, 2020	ML20015A448 (Package)
22	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated January 17, 2020	ML20028E843 (Package)
23	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated January 22, 2020	ML20028D890 (Package)
24	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated February 14, 2020	ML20052D995 (Package)
25	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated February 14, 2020	ML20052E047 (Package)
26	Applicant submittal of supplemental information, dated March 5, 2020	ML20071F152 (Package)
27	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated March 16, 2020	ML20083J964 (Package)
28	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated April 7, 2020	ML20105A133 (Package)
29	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated April 7, 2020	ML20105A171 (Package)
30	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated May 18, 2020	ML20139A173 (Package)
31	Applicant response to request for additional information, dated June 11, 2020	ML20163A008
32	Applicant submittal of supplemental information, dated July 21, 2020	ML20203M040
33	Applicant submittal of supplemental information, dated January 27, 2021	ML21027A147

34	Draft Environmental Impact Statement, dated May 2020	ML20122A220
35	Overview of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, dated May 2020	ML20121A016
36	Overview of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Spanish language version), dated May 2020	ML20136A148
37	Final Environmental Impact Statement, dated July 2021	ML21209A955
38	Overview of the Final Environmental Impact Statement, dated July 2021	ML21200A050
39	Final Safety Evaluation Report, dated September 2021	ML21188A101
40	NRC Staff's Record of Decision, dated September 13, 2021	ML21222A214
41	Materials License for ISP, dated September 13, 2021	ML21188A096 (Package)

Dated: September 13, 2021.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**/RA/**

Shana R. Helton, Director,  
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