

## **SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION**



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

August 5, 2021

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

**SUBJECT:** PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO CHANGE THE SECURITY PLAN, TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION PLAN, AND SAFEGUARDS CONTINGENCY PLAN TO REFLECT AN INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION-ONLY CONFIGURATION (EPID NO. L-2021-LLL-0008)

Dear Ms. Sterdis:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 255 to Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-35 for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim). The amendment is issued in response to your application dated March 17, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession [ADAMS] No. ML21085A596), as supplemented on June 22, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21173A328), pursuant to the provisions of 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 50.4, 10 CFR 50.54(p), 10 CFR 73.55(r), and 10 CFR 50.90. The enclosures to the March 17, 2021 application are not publicly available in ADAMS as they contain security-related and safeguards information. The amendment will revise the Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50 license to reflect the requirements associated with the security changes set forth in the revised Pilgrim Security Plan, Training and Qualification Plan, and Safeguards Contingency Plan (the Plan) for the independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) only configuration, upon the permanent removal of all spent fuel from the spent fuel pool.

The proposed changes to the Pilgrim Plan reflect changes in the status of the nuclear power reactor based on certifications that the licensee has submitted under 10 CFR 50.82(a) for permanent cessation of power operations and permanent removal of fuel from the reactor vessel and has completed the transfer of all irradiated fuel to the on-site ISFSI. The implementation of the proposed changes is predicated upon the completion of the transfer of all spent fuel to dry storage in casks within the ISFSI. The movement of all spent fuel to the ISFSI will occur within the existing protected areas (PAs), which includes the locations of the two onsite ISFSI pads, as well as the haul path. Parts of the haul path are outside the PAs. For those areas outside the PAs, the approved mitigative measures in the ISFSI plan will be used. Implementation of the proposed changes also requires the installation or modification of those security structures, systems, and components necessary to support the ISFSI-only plan.

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Additionally, the implementation of the proposed changes require appropriate security measures to be in place during the transition from the current Plan to the ISFSI-only plan.

On June 1, 2021, the license amendment request; opportunity to comment, request a hearing, and petition for leave to intervene; and order imposing procedures was published in the *Federal Register* (Federal Register Volume 86, Number 103, Pages 29299-29305). No comments or requests were received.

The NRC staff consulted with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on July 13, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21200A152) regarding the proposed no significant hazard determination for the proceeding. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts responded on July 22, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21211A516) with no comments.

The NRC staff concludes that there will be no significant construction impacts from a change in the physical security plan strategy and a categorical exclusion from 10 CFR 51.22(c)(12) applies.

For the reasons set forth in the safety evaluation in Enclosure 2 to this letter, the NRC staff has determined that the proposed Pilgrim ISFSI-only plan continues to meet the requirements in 10 CFR 72.212(b)(9). As such, the Pilgrim ISFSI-only plan provides reasonable assurance that adequate protective measures can and will be taken in the event of an occurrence of a physical security contingency at the site.

The amendment approving the Pilgrim ISFSI-only plan is provided in Enclosure 1 to this letter. Enclosure 2 contains the staff's associated safety evaluation which includes safeguards information and should be protected from public disclosure. The Notice of Issuance will be forwarded to the Office of the *Federal Register* for publication.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-6822, or via e-mail at [amy.snyder@nrc.gov](mailto:amy.snyder@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Amy M. Snyder, Project Manager  
Reactor Decommissioning Branch  
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery  
and Waste Programs  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket Nos. 50-293 and 72-1044

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 255 - DPR-35
2. Safety Evaluation (Safeguards –  
Withhold public)

cc: via Listserv (w/o Enc. 2)

Pierre Paul Oneid [P.oneid@holtec.com]  
Pamela B. Cowan [P.Cowan@holtec.com]

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HOLTEC DECOMMISSIONING INTERNATIONAL, LLC

DOCKET NO. 50-293

AMENDMENT TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 255  
License No. DPR-35

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) has found that:
  - A. The application for license amendment filed by the Holtec Decommissioning International (HDI or the licensee), dated March 17, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession (ADAMS) No. ML21085A596), as supplemented on June 22, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21173A328), complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and applicable portions of the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I, and all required notifications to other agencies or bodies have been duly made;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, as supplemented, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security, or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions," of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

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2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to License Condition G of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-35, and is hereby amended to read as follows:

Holtec Decommissioning International shall fully implement and maintain in effect all provisions of the Commission-approved physical security, training and qualification, and safeguards contingency plans including amendments made pursuant to provisions of the Miscellaneous Amendments and Search Requirements revisions to 10 CFR 72.212(b)(9) and to the authority of 10 CFR 50.90 and 10 CFR 50.54(p). The combined set of plans, which contains Safeguards Information protected under 10 CFR 73.21 is titled "Pilgrim Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation-Only Security, Training and Qualification, and Safeguards Contingency Plan, Revision 0" (ADAMS Accession No. ML21085A596 and No. ML21173A328), approved by letter dated, August 5, 2021.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date the licensee notifies the NRC in writing that all spent nuclear fuel assemblies have been transferred out of the spent fuel pool and have been placed in dry storage within the newly build independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI II) and shall be implemented within 90 days of the effective date.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Bruce A. Watson, CHP, Chief  
Reactor Decommissioning Branch  
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery  
and Waste Programs  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Attachment:  
Change to Facility  
Operating License No. DPR-35

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ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 255

TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-35

DOCKET NO. 50-293

Replace the following page of the Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-35 with the attached revised page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains marginal lines indicating the area of change.

Renewed Facility Operating License No DPR-35

REMOVE

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INSERT

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provisions of the Act and to the rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect; and is subject to the additional conditions specified below:

A. DELETED

B. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 252, are hereby incorporated in the renewed license. The licensee shall maintain the facility in accordance with the Permanently Defueled Technical Specifications.

C. Records

HDI shall keep facility records in accordance with the requirements of the Technical Specifications.

D. DELETED

E. DELETED

F. DELETED

G. Physical Protection

The licensee shall fully implement and maintain in effect all provisions of the Commission-approved physical security, training and qualification, and safeguards contingency plans including amendments made pursuant to 10 CFR 72 .212(b)(9) and to the authority of 10 CFR 50.90 and 10 CFR 50.54(p). The combined set of plans, which contain Safeguards Information protected under 10 CFR 73.21, is titled: "Pilgrim Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation-Only Security, Training and Qualification, and Safeguards Contingency Plan, Revision 0" (ADAMS Accession No. ML21085A596 and No. ML21173A328).

Renewed License No. DPR-35  
Amendment No. 255

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SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF  
NUCLEAR SECURITY AND INCIDENT RESPONSE  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 255  
TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-35  
HOLTEC DECOMMISSIONING INTERNATIONAL  
PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION  
DOCKET NO. 50-293

The safety evaluation contains  
safeguards information and should  
be protected from public  
disclosure.

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Enclosure 2