



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

November 19, 2021

Ms. Kimberly Manzione
Licensing Manager
Holtec International
Holtec Technology Campus
One Holtec Boulevard
Camden, NJ 08104

SUBJECT: HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S APPLICATION FOR SPECIFIC INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION LICENSE FOR THE HI-STORE CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY FOR SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL – REVIEW SCHEDULE DELAY

Dear Ms. Manzione:

By letter dated March 30, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML17115A431), as supplemented, Holtec International (Holtec) submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) an application for a specific independent spent fuel storage installation license to construct and operate the HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage (CIS) Facility, in Lea County, New Mexico, in accordance with the requirements of Part 72 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, "Licensing Requirements for the Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level Radioactive Waste and Reactor-Related Greater than Class C Waste." The license application seeks NRC approval to store up to 8,680 metric tons of commercial spent nuclear fuel in the HI-STORM UMAX Canister Storage System for a 40-year license term.

On May 20, 2021, NRC staff issued a second request for additional information (RAI) in connection with its safety review of the license application (ML21124A308). On June 3, Holtec notified NRC that it would provide responses to the NRC staff's RAI on three separate dates, to be completed by August 30, 2021 (ML21154A209). On July 2, 2021, the NRC staff revised the schedule for the completion of the safety, security, and environmental reviews (ML21181A389). In its letter, the NRC staff stated that it expected to publish the final environmental impact statement by November 2021, and its final safety evaluation report (SER) by January 2022. This schedule assumed that Holtec would provide complete, timely, and high-quality responses to the NRC staff's requests for additional information (RAIs), and that no follow-up RAIs would be necessary. If additional RAIs were necessary, the NRC staff would revise its schedule accordingly. However, on October 29, 2021, Holtec submitted a supplement to its August 16, 2021, responses (ML21304A003). This supplement contains substantial calculation packages referenced in the structural and thermal evaluation of the safety analysis report (SAR) for the proposed facility. These additional analyses were not included in Holtec's previous RAI responses, submitted on June 30, August 16, and August 31, 2021.

The NRC staff reviewed Holtec's responses to the second round RAIs (with the exception of the October 29, 2021, submission) and determined that some of the responses require additional supplementation or revisions before staff can complete its detailed review and make the

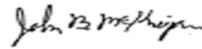
required regulatory compliance findings. Due to these deficiencies and the delay in Holtec providing complete responses by the August 30, 2021, date, the NRC staff determined that it will not be able to complete its safety and security review and publish a final SER by January 2022. In addition, the NRC staff will also adjust the publication date of the final environmental impact statement to coordinate with the revised final SER schedule.

The specific issues that the NRC staff has identified for resolution include: 1) justification for the computational code used for gas pipeline hazard analyses; 2) justification of the model assumptions and references used for site flooding hazards analyses; 3) clarification of the offsite boundary dose calculation results; and 4) editorial clarifications and revisions for the structural, operations, materials, and aging management evaluation chapters.

Within the next month, the staff will issue a letter transmitting a third set of RAIs discussing the remaining issues identified in each of your responses and the information needed to complete its safety evaluation and compliance findings. In this letter, the staff will request that Holtec provide, within two weeks of receipt, a proposed schedule for submitting responses to the staff's RAI. The NRC staff will issue a revised schedule for the publication of the final EIS and final SER after it receives your RAI responses and conducts a review of the revised and/or supplemental information. In addition, during the following weeks the NRC staff will schedule clarification calls and meetings with your staff to discuss these matters and ensure common understanding of the remaining issues.

If you have any questions regarding these matters, please contact Mr. Jose R. Cuadrado, Project Manager, at (301) 415-0606.

Sincerely,



Signed by McKirgan, John
on 11/19/21

John McKirgan, Chief
Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051
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DATE	Nov 18, 2021	Nov 19, 2021	Nov 19, 2021	

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