



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

July 13, 2022

Ed Mayer
Program Director
Holtec International
1 Holtec Blvd
Camden, NJ 08104

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

Dear Ed Mayer:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the construction and operation of Holtec International's (Holtec) proposed consolidated interim storage facility (CISF) for spent nuclear fuel in Lea County, New Mexico. The NRC staff will publish a *Federal Register* (FR) Notice of Availability (NOA) to notify the public that the FEIS is publicly available from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System ML22181B094. In addition, the NRC staff plans to make hard copies of the FEIS available to the public at several public libraries in the vicinity of the proposed CISF site.

The NRC staff's recommendation in the FEIS is issuance of an NRC license to Holtec to construct and operate a CISF at the proposed location, subject to the determinations in the staff's safety review of the application. This recommendation is based on (i) the license application, which includes Holtec's Environmental Report and supplemental documents, and Holtec's responses to the NRC staff's requests for additional information; (ii) the NRC staff's consultation with Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, and input from other stakeholders, including members of the public; (iii) the NRC staff's independent review; and (iv) the NRC staff's assessments provided in the FEIS.

After the NRC files the FEIS with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the EPA will publish a separate NOA of the FEIS in the FR. In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* section 51.100(a)(1)(ii), the NRC must wait 30 days after publication of the EPA's NOA before it can make a licensing decision. The NRC expects to make a licensing decision in early 2023.

Should you have any questions concerning the FEIS, please contact Jill Caverly of my staff at 301-415-7674 or via email at Jill.Caverly@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Park, James
on 07/13/22

James R. Park, Acting Chief
Environmental Review Materials Branch
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,
and Financial Support
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051

cc:

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Letter to Ed Mayer re: Notice of Availability of the Final EIS for the Holtec International's Proposed Consolidated Interim Storage Facility in Lea County, New Mexico DATE July 13, 2022

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