



FEMA

August 12, 2022

Katherine Brock
Director, Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Proposed Commission Paper Language for the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Emergency Planning Decommissioning Exemption Request

Dear Ms. Brock:

This is in response to your letter dated June 7, 2022, notifying the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the transmittal of a copy of the draft SECY paper entitled "*Request by Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC for Exemptions from Certain Emergency Planning Requirements for Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3,*" for FEMA's review and comment. We appreciate the opportunity to ask questions, seek clarification, comment, and consult with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) prior to the Commissioners' review and approval of the requested exemption. Additionally, we are very grateful for the additional time to complete our review of the SECY paper.

FEMA defers to Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC (HDI) and the NRC, regarding the technical analysis and evaluation respectively, in support of this exemption request from certain emergency planning requirements. FEMA recognizes the NRC's role to analyze the possibility of incidents that could result in offsite dose impacts. However, FEMA acknowledges that individual states and local governments have the primary authority and responsibility to protect their citizens and respond to disasters and emergencies and should be engaged in every phase of the decommissioning process. The exemption, if issued, could create a transitional environment for off-site emergency planners in how they consider radiological hazards. FEMA will continue to support offsite organizations as they adjust their plans, capabilities, and resources to the changing radiological threat. Among the resources available to support FEMA stakeholders during the transition process include, but are not limited to, the National Preparedness System guidance materials, the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee, and assistance from FEMA Headquarters and Regional Staff.

During the review of the HDI's analysis of the proposed emergency planning exemptions, staff noted that HDI was silent on continuing requirements for a Joint Information Center; other on-site emergency facilities such as the Operations Support Center, Technical Support Center and Emergency Operations Facility are specifically addressed in the technical evaluation. FEMA would appreciate clarification on how HDI intends to communicate and coordinate media release and public messaging with offsite response organizations.

Again, thanks for the opportunity to provide comments on the HDI proposed emergency planning exemptions analysis and evaluation.

Should you have any questions about this response, please contact Mr. Thomas Warnock, REP Program Branch Chief at Thomas.Warnock@fema.dhs.gov or 202-657-2301.

Sincerely,

Erin Hoffman
Director, Office of National Exercises and
Technological Hazards