



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

January 31, 2025

Nancy Ann Whaley, Supervisor
Geneva Township
63133 16th Avenue
Bangor, MI 49013-9661

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR HOLTEC DECOMMISSIONING INTERNATIONAL, LLC'S LICENSING AND REGULATORY REQUESTS FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF POWER OPERATIONS AT PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT (EPID NUMBER: L-2024-LNE-0003) (DOCKET NUMBER: 50-0255)

Dear Nancy Ann Whaley:

In a letter dated July 1, 2024, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. [ML24152A134](#)), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) notified your office that it is conducting an environmental review for a series of licensing and regulatory requests submitted by Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC that, if approved, would collectively support reauthorizing power operations at the Palisades Nuclear Plant (Palisades). These requests are the proposed actions before the NRC and include an exemption request, a license transfer request, and license amendment requests. The NRC is the lead Federal agency for the environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Loan Programs Office (LPO) serving as a cooperating agency. DOE LPO's proposed action, pursuant to its authority under Title 17 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended, is consideration of providing Federal financial assistance (a loan guarantee) to support the resumption of power operations at Palisades.

As part of this review, the NRC and DOE LPO staff have completed a draft environmental assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), "*Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Palisades Nuclear Plant Reauthorization of Power Operations Project*" (ADAMS Accession No. [ML24353A157](#)). The associated *Federal Register* notice was published on January 31, 2025, and is available at <https://www.federalregister.gov/>. The draft EA and draft FONSI are also available on the NRC's website at <https://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/reactors/pali.html#pali-1>.

The NRC invites your office to submit any comments or concerns on the draft EA and draft FONSI during the 30-day comment period, which ends on March 3, 2025. Comments can be submitted by the following methods:

1. Emailing PalisadesRestartEnvironmental@nrc.gov;
2. Going to <https://regulations.gov> and searching for Docket ID NRC-2024-0076; or

3. Mailing comments to the Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A60M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff.

After consideration of public comments received on the draft EA, the NRC and DOE LPO staff will prepare a final EA and final FONSI unless the staff determines that the proposed actions would have a significant impact on the human environment, in which case the staff would proceed to prepare an environmental impact statement. If it is determined that a final EA and final FONSI should be issued, it is expected that they would be published in June 2025.

If you have any questions concerning the NRC's environmental review, please contact Environmental Project Manager, Mary Richmond, by phone at 301-415-7218 or via email at Mary.Richmond@nrc.gov; or Environmental Project Manager, Laura Willingham, by phone at 301-415-0857 or via email at Laura.Willingham@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Barnhurst, Daniel
on 01/31/25

Daniel Barnhurst, Chief
Environmental Project Management Branch 3
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,
and Financial Support
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 50-0255

cc: GovDelivery

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DATE: January 31, 2025

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