

From: [Daneira Meléndez-Colón](#)
To: [Gurpreet Singh](#)
Cc: [Yaira Diaz Sanabria](#); [Lisa Regner](#); [Alex Sotomayor-Rivera](#); [Gerond George](#); [Jason Plotter](#); [Jesse Carlson](#); [James Drabble](#); [Marlone Davis](#); [Yong Kim](#); [Loren Howe](#); [Jorge Solis](#); [JoAnn Ireland](#); [ext Kimberly Manzione](#)
Subject: Acceptance of Holtec Amendment Request to Certificate of Compliance No.1040 for the Model No. HI-STORM UMAX, Amendment No. 6
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 6:59:53 AM
Attachments: Attachment - Observation HI-STORM UMAX Amendment 6.pdf

Subject: Acceptance of Holtec Amendment Request to Certificate of Compliance No.1040 for the Model No. HI-STORM UMAX, Amendment No. 6

Dear Gurpreet Singh:

By letter dated January 16, 2026(Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML26019A017), you submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the amendment of the HI-STORM UMAX Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1040. In your application, you requested changes to the CoC and to introduce a new version of the UMAX (HI-STORM UMAX Version F) and a new transfer cask (HI-TRAC VW MSC).

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide you with the results of the NRC staff's (the staff thereafter) acceptance review of this proposed action request. We have completed the acceptance review of your application and determined that it contains technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

Therefore, your application has been accepted for detailed technical review. However, the staff did identify the attached observation to allow you to start earlier on items that may be asked for at a later date. Observations are not the result of a detailed technical review and may be resolved once staff begins a detailed review. Responses to observations are not required for staff to begin their technical review.

Given the more limited scope and depth of the acceptance review compared to the detailed technical review, issues that affect the staff's ability to complete the technical review may still be identified despite the acceptance review being deemed adequate. If additional information is needed, you will be notified by separate correspondence.

The staff determined, based on historical data, that the technical review may require approximately 1477 staff hours and 12 months. To support a more efficient process, the NRC is setting a goal of completing reviews in 15 percent less time and level of effort. The staff estimate for this review is approximately 1250 staff hours and 10 months. Additionally, the staff is evaluating the option of engaging a contractor to conduct confirmatory analyses within the shielding area. Once a final decision has been made, we will provide detailed information regarding the associated contract costs.

The schedule includes the issuance, if needed, of a request for additional information (RAI) by June 2026, and provided that we receive your responses within 30 days after its issuance (i.e., July 2026) we anticipate issuing the Certificate of Compliance and Safety Evaluation Report by October 2026. Rulemaking is estimated to take 4 months, and if there are no significant adverse comments received during the comment period, the CoC is estimated to become effective in March 2027. These estimates are based on the staff's initial review of the application and may change due to several factors, including, unanticipated expansion of the review scope involvement, or if the submittal is provided to

the NRC in advance of or concurrently with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

The schedule above is also based, in part, on Holtec providing RAI responses by the specified timeline, unless another date is agreed upon, RAI responses resolving issues with limited need for follow-up RAIs, and clarification calls being scheduled and conducted promptly, and any additional supporting non-docketed information being provided timely.

To achieve this schedule, the staff intends to engage Holtec frequently to resolve emergent issues or challenges that may arise during the staff's review that affect the initial forecasted completion date or result in significant changes to the estimated review hours. The reasons for those changes, along with updated estimates, will be communicated during routine interactions with the assigned project manager and documented accordingly. Should the review experience a delay for other reasons, the staff will endeavor to make up the time within the schedule.

Your submittal has been assigned Cost Activity Code (CAC)/Enterprise Project Identification Number (EPID) 001028/L-2026-LLA-0007. Please reference this number and Docket No. 72-1040 in any future correspondence associated with this request.

Note that this email will be placed in ADAMS as publicly available to document this communication.

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

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Daneira Meléndez Colón

Daneira Meléndez Colón

Project Manager
Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
(301) 415-7295 | Daneira.Melendez-Colon@nrc.gov