

December 21, 2005

Dr. Stephan Anton
Licensing Manager
Holtec International
555 Lincoln Drive West
Marlton, NJ 08053

SUBJECT: HI-STORM 100, AMENDMENT 4 REVIEW SCHEDULE
(TAC NO. L23923)

Dear Dr. Anton:

On November 7, 2005, Holtec International (Holtec) submitted a License Amendment Request (LAR) application, LAR 1014-4, in accordance with 10 CFR Part 72 for an amendment to Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1014 for the HI-STORM 100 Cask System. LAR 1014-4 proposed to: (a) add additional fuel debris and non-fuel hardware to the approved contents and (b) streamline several loading operations thereby reducing occupational exposures.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the tentative schedule the staff has developed for review of LAR 1014-4. By letter dated November 23, 2005, the staff acknowledged receipt of your application and informed you that the application appeared to contain the necessary information to begin a technical review. The staff will begin the technical review of LAR 1014-4 January 9, 2006, and anticipates a Request for Additional Information (RAI), if necessary, by the beginning of April 2006. With the staff review of LAR 1014-4 scheduled to begin January 9, 2006, I believe it would be mutually beneficial to arrange for a public meeting between the NRC staff and Holtec, to provide Holtec the opportunity to present and discuss with the staff the content of the LAR 1014-4 application.

The staff considered your recent request to accelerate the scheduled review of LAR 1014-3 to the HI-STORM 100 Cask System CoC and your request that review of LAR 1014-3 take priority over review of LAR 1014-4. In an effort to be responsive to your request to accelerate review of LAR 1014-3 it should be recognized that it may be necessary to modify the schedule for review of LAR 1014-4. We request that you inform the NRC as soon as possible of any desire, or need, to change the priority or schedule for review for these two LARs. However, any change in the current staff review schedules at this juncture could potentially delay issuance of one or both of the aforementioned licensing actions.

Furthermore, it was noted in the November 23, 2005, letter that the staff did not consider LAR 1014-4 Proposed Change No. 2, elimination of the helium leak test requirement for the vent and drain port cover plates, as constituting an acceptable approach for ensuring the integrity of a storage cask confinement boundary. You informed the NRC at a public meeting between the NRC staff and Holtec on December 15, 2005, that it was the intent of Holtec, as part of the LAR 1014-3 to the HI-STORM 100 Cask System, to continue to implement leakage testing of the vent and drain port cover plates. You stated you would provide clarifying language in the Final Safety Analysis Report and Technical Specifications associated with this proposed action. As

S. Anton

- 2 -

such the staff considers that LAR 1014-4 Proposed Change No. 2 will no longer be necessary, as it will be addressed in LAR 1014-3, and therefore will not be part of the staff review of LAR 1014-4.

In general, no additional changes to the application will be allowed except for those minor changes that result in responding to the RAI. Additional changes, supplements, or enhancements may be treated as a new application.

Reference Docket No. 72-1014 and TAC No. L23923 in future correspondence related to this licensing action. If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact me at (301) 415-8500.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Christopher M. Regan, Senior Project Manager
Licensing Section
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1014
TAC No. L23923

S. Anton

- 2 -

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Christopher M. Regan, Senior Project Manager
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