



NRC NEWS

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NRC ISSUES LICENSE TO PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE FOR SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL STORAGE FACILITY IN UTAH

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a license to Private Fuel Storage, LLC, to construct and operate an independent spent nuclear fuel storage facility in Skull Valley, Utah.

PFS, a consortium of nuclear power utilities, intends to construct the site on the Reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians, about 50 miles southwest of Salt Lake City. The facility is intended for temporary above-ground storage, in large cylindrical casks, of up to 44,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel from U.S. commercial nuclear power plants.

Although the license, issued Feb. 21, is effective immediately, it does not authorize PFS to begin immediate construction of the facility. Rather, it conditions construction authorization on the company first arranging for adequate funding. In addition, PFS must obtain necessary approvals from other agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Surface Transportation Board.

The license is effective for a period of 20 years.

The license incorporates some changes prompted by comments by PFS and the State of Utah on a draft of the license that was provided to PFS and made public Feb. 13.

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