

Holtec-CISFEISCEm Resource

From: Blanchard, Rosemary A <rblnchrd@skymail.csus.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 3:09 AM
To: Holtec-CISFEIS Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Comments on Holtec International HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility Project

Importance: High

Dear NRC,

I have already provided written and spoken comments on the proposal to allow Holtec to establish a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility Project for high-level nuclear waste in Southeastern New Mexico. Therefore, you have already heard and read my objections to this ill-conceived project. However, I am sending an email to your comment site as well because I am not sufficiently convinced that you have taken account of or even accurately recorded the comments you received at your various public hearings in New Mexico. As I stated in my earlier testimony, the proposal by Holtec has potential to jeopardize the livelihoods of farmers and oilworkers in Southeastern New Mexico. One leak and our dairy farmers will risk the loss of their livelihood.

The concentration of high level nuclear waste in one place is dangerous and irresponsible. You have no plan for what happens next, so the use of the word "Interim" to describe the storage is questionable.

I live in the city of Albuquerque. Rail lines go through our city in all four directions. We would have high level nuclear waste traveling through our city. One accident and our way of life is devastated. I have not seen in any of your reports a credible study of the condition of the rail roadways on which these trains laden with high level nuclear waste will travel. Our rail infrastructure has suffered from neglect for decades. These roadways are not safe for such cargo.

In your hearings you have not included representatives from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Yet DOT, not NRC will be the federal entity responsible for the safety of the transportation of these wastes. DOT has a lot of questions to answer about its plans to improve the railways, the routes the fuel rods will travel (through how many densely populated areas, the potential dispersion of radioactive waste from a leak in transit (maybe that requires an answer from both DOT and NRC.

The nuclear industry, both military and civilian, has done enough harm to New Mexico's land, water and rural peoples already. This nuclear waste dump would be the last insult. I urge you to reject the Holtec project and reconsider your options for rendering "high-level nuclear waste" decontaminated where it is located. The solution is not to bury it in New Mexico. The solution is to use some of the scientific muscle that created our nuclear problem to render the material safe, non-hazardous, inert.

Please keep me informed of all future developments regarding the Holtec proposal/

Thank you,

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*Peace and justice are two sides of the same coin.
Dwight D. Eisenhower*

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