

## Holtec-CISFEISCEm Resource

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**From:** Christopher Hamilton <ceh41845@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 7:25 PM  
**To:** Holtec-CISFEIS Resource  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Docket ID NRC-2018-0052; Holtec International's HI-STORE CIS Facility for Spent Nuclear Fuel, Lea County, New Mexico

I was born in Hobbs, N.M. in 1945. An article some years ago in the San Francisco Chronicle noted that the area was the safest in the U.S., because natural disasters that the rest of the country endures don't strike the area.

Now it appears that Holtec International wants to change that. Though not a natural disaster risk, placing radioactive waste in claimed "temporary" storage will surely raise the stakes for risks such as leaks and other disasters, particularly while transporting the waste to that site.

It's clear from the history of the federal government's efforts to locate such a dump site in Nevada that once citizens learn the true risks of adverse effects to their health, they adamantly oppose placement of the waste near them.

The only remedy is to stop producing such high-level radioactive waste. There is no acceptable way to store such waste for the centuries it takes for it to become radioactively inert.

Therefore I respectfully reject the Holtec Environmental Report (ER) proposal to bring up to 100,000 metric tons of spent fuel, high-level radioactive waste from nuclear reactors around the country to southeast New Mexico. I do not consent to New Mexico becoming a national radioactive waste dumping ground. I do not consent to transporting up to 10,000 canisters of highly radioactive waste through thousands of communities nationwide. I do not consent to the risk of contamination of our lands, aquifers, air, or the health of plants, wildlife and livestock. I do not consent to endangering present and future generations to line the pockets of Holtec International.

The Holtec project would lead to dangerous extensive transport of high-level radioactive waste that would travel through major US cities, over major aquifers and across Tribal and agricultural lands. Without routes that are designated, the public cannot adequately comment on the impacts of this massive project.

Here are a few concrete things I urge you to consider:

1. This Holtec Proposal Is Contrary to Current Law Current law only allows the U.S. Department of Energy to take title to commercial spent fuel "following commencement of operation of a repository" or at a DOE-owned and operated monitored retrievable storage facility. The Holtec site meets neither requirement, as it is a private facility.
2. Holtec Must Remove Copyrights and All Redactions in the Environmental Report NRC must require Holtec to produce an ER that has no such copyright restriction and has no redactions.
3. The Impacts of Permanent Storage Must Be Analyzed The Environmental Report (ER) is inadequate and incomplete because it does not analyze the impacts of the spent fuel being left at the Holtec site indefinitely.
4. More Alternatives Must Be Analyzed

Keeping the spent fuel casks in some form of Hardened On Site Storage (HOSS) on the reactor sites must be analyzed. The alternative of consolidated storage being done at an existing licensed Independent Spent Fuel Storage Facility (ISFSI) must also be analyzed.

5. The Environmental Report inadequately discusses the Transportation Risks This ER must include all transportation routes and the potential impacts of accidents or terrorism incidents on public health and safety along all the routes. The ER is inadequate and incomplete because it does not discuss how rail shipments from reactors without rail access would be accomplished and the risks and impacts of such shipments.

6. The Consequences to an Accident-Exposed Individual Must Be Analyzed Terms like “collective dose risk” and “person-rem” are used to ignore the potential impacts to a single individual.

7. Cracked and Leaking Casks Must Be Addressed The ER does not analyze exactly how radioactive waste from a cracked and leaking canister would be handled, since there is no wet pool or hot cell at the site.

8. More Cumulative Impacts Must Be Analyzed The ER mentions WIPP but does not analyze the impacts of a radiologic release from WIPP on the proposed CIS site.

9. Impacts of Future Railroads and Electric Lines Must Be Analyzed The railroads and electric lines are not in place, but must be analyzed.

10. How many of the estimated 135 jobs will go to locals?

The total number of annual workers at the site could total as many as 135 when construction jobs are combined with the operating workforce.

11. Seismic Impacts on Stored Casks Must Be Stated Although the ER gives a statement on recent seismic activity in the area, there is no analysis of what impacts many 3.0 – 4.0 fracking-induced earthquakes will have on the buried casks.

12. The impacts of global warming on climate in the region and the resulting impacts on casks and canisters, in relation to their ratings, must be considered.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christopher Hamilton

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