



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 1, 2019

Ms. Kimberly Manzione
Licensing Manager
Holtec International
Holtec Technology Campus
One Holtec Boulevard
Camden, NJ 08104

SUBJECT: HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL'S APPLICATION FOR SPECIFIC INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION LICENSE FOR THE HI-STORE CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY FOR SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL – REVISED REVIEW SCHEDULE

Dear Ms. Manzione:

By letter dated March 30, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML17115A431), as supplemented on April 13 (ML17109A386), October 6 (ML17310A218), December 21 (ML17362A097) and 22 (ML18011A158), 2017; February 23 (ML18058A617), May 24 (ML18150A319), July 27 (ML18213A206), November 30 (ML18345A153), 2018; January 31 (ML19037A280), March 15 (ML19081A083) and 30 (two submissions, ML19094A271 and ML19106A183), and May 13 (ML19143A268) and 16 (ML19143A319), 2019, Holtec International (Holtec) submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) an application for a specific independent spent fuel storage installation license to construct and operate the HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage (CIS) Facility, in Lea County, New Mexico, in accordance with the requirements of Part 72 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 72), "*Licensing Requirements for the Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level Radioactive Waste and Reactor-Related Greater than Class C Waste.*" The license application seeks NRC approval to store up to 8,680 metric tons of commercial spent nuclear fuel in the HI-STORM UMAX Canister Storage System for a 40-year license term. By letter dated February 28, 2018 (ML18059A251), the NRC staff docketed the license application, began a detailed safety, security, and environmental review, and established a schedule for the issuance of requests for additional information and the completion of these reviews.

The NRC staff has determined that it will revise its previously established review schedule to account for the time incurred in the issuance of requests for additional information (RAIs) and the submission of Holtec's responses to the staff's RAIs. The revised schedule for its safety and security review will now provide for staff to complete its final safety evaluation report (SER) by March 2021. The revised schedule for its environmental review will now provide for staff to publish the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) by March 2020. After publication of the draft EIS, the staff intends to publish a notice in the *Federal Register* providing a 60-day public comment period on the draft EIS. Following the public comment period, the staff intends to publish a final EIS by March 2021.

As we stated in our previous letter, this revised schedule continues to assume that Holtec will provide timely and high-quality RAI responses within 60 days of the receipt of any future RAI

letters. In accordance with the guidance in LIC-SFM-26, "Operational Strategies and Management Expectations" (ML16222A251), RAI responses which are not received within the agreed-upon time may result in the review being delayed again or suspended. In addition, low-quality RAI responses may be deemed non-responsive and result in the suspension of the review.

If you have any questions regarding these matters, please contact Mr. Jose R. Cuadrado, Project Manager, at (301) 415-0606.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John McKirgan, Chief
Spent Fuel Licensing Branch
Division of Spent Fuel Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-1051
CAC/EPID No.: 001028/07201051/
L-2018-NEW-0001

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