

From: carolina <coyotecreative@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Holtec-CISFEIS Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Lea County nuclear waste storage proposal

To Whom it May Concern;

It was predicted forty years ago that nuclear waste from our nation's 100 operating and closed nuclear reactors would become a serious national problem. Now, in 2020, there are over 70,000-plus tons of high-level radioactive waste stored in 34 different states. Holtec International LLC has plans to dump all of it in New Mexico

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy are tasked with regulating and licensing nuclear power plants and managing the radioactive waste they produce. Despite the past 40 years, there is no national permanent repository for this toxic waste, nor any plans to create one

Holtec International, a private, for-profit company based out of New Jersey, has been working toward creating and licensing a high-level nuclear waste dump near Eunice, N.M., in Lea County. Plans include transportation by rail and truck of up to 100,000 metric tons of toxic and dangerous radioactive waste through major population centers, and "temporarily" storing it in southeast N.M. Holtec is calling this proposed toxic dump "consolidated interim storage". This dump would eventually hold the entire nation's high-level nuclear waste for up to 120 years, or until a permanent site is developed. High-level nuclear waste remains radioactive and dangerous to all living things for up to 1 million years

Dumping this toxic waste in New Mexico is unacceptable.

Once this radioactive waste is transported across the country at great cost and risk to every community along the transport route, there will be no political will or money to find a permanent storage site. The N.M. Holtec site will, by default, become permanent, leaving New Mexicans to pay the price in poisoned water, food, air and health for many generations.

Holtec is a limited liability corporation, meaning that if there is an accident or leak during transport or storage, they are not responsible for cleanup or damages, leaving American taxpayers to pay the price.

This proposed site would create approximately 55 permanent jobs in the area, and destroy hundreds more in the ranching, dairy and farming industries. This proposal is shortsighted, economically disastrous, and unfair to every New Mexican. Once again, a few people will get rich while generations of New Mexicans will pay the price.

I stand in vehement opposition to this proposal and insist that a long term, distributed storage solution be expedited.

Meanwhile, the US must immediately invest in green, sustainable energy solutions and stop producing radioactive waste.

Sincerely,
Caroline Metzler
Silver City, NM resident

Federal Register Notice: 85FR16150
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