

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

August 27,2021

VIA EMAIL ONLY The Honorable Charlie Falcon Andrews County Judge 201 North Main Room 104 Andrews, TX 79714 (thru EMAIL ADDRESS: cfalcon@co.andrews.tx.us)

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF THE ANDREWS COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT OPPOSING CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL IN ANDREWS COUNTY, TEXAS

Dear Judge Falcon:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to the resolution from the Andrews County Commissioner's Court, dated July 30, 2021, expressing opposition to the proposed interim storage of spent nuclear fuel in Andrews County, Texas, which you transmitted to the NRC.

I want to thank you for sharing your perspectives and those of your fellow Commissioners. The NRC's mission is to protect public health and safety. The NRC staff is conducting a detailed review of the license application from Interim Storage Partners, LLC, to determine whether the proposed WCS Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) will meet the NRC's regulatory requirements. The NRC staff will issue a safety evaluation report that will discuss its findings on the safety and security of the proposed CISF. The NRC staff's safety evaluation will consider whether the proposed WCS CISF would pose an undue risk to the safe operation of the WCS facilities managing low-level radioactive waste. In addition, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the NRC staff issued a final environmental impact statement on July 29, 2021, which considers potential environmental impacts from the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed facility.

The NRC will inform you when it makes a licensing decision. Based upon current schedules, the NRC staff anticipates making a decision in September 2021. The NRC staff would be happy to meet with you or your staff to discuss our roles, responsibilities, and the review process for a CISF. If you have any questions, please contact John McKirgan of my staff at (301) 415-5722 or at John.McKirgan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Cbristopher M. Regan, Deputy Director Division of Fuel Management Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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