



CHAIRMAN

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

October 21, 2021

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
Post Office Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

VIA EMAIL: Wes.Hambrick@gov.texas.gov

Dear Governor Abbott:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your September 10, 2021, letter related to Interim Storage Partners' (ISP) license application to construct and operate a consolidated interim storage facility for spent nuclear fuel and Texas House Bill 7.

ISP submitted its application to the NRC in April 2016. The NRC conducted detailed technical and environmental reviews of the proposed facility. In July 2021, the staff published the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed facility. On September 13, 2021, the NRC released its Safety Evaluation Report and issued a license under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 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 authorizes ISP to construct and operate the Waste Control Specialist Consolidated Interim Storage Facility in Andrews County, Texas. The license was issued pursuant to the NRC's authority under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, (AEA) based on the determination that ISP's license application meets the standards and requirements of the AEA and the NRC's regulations.

Throughout the review process, the NRC has worked hard to keep you and your staff updated on any developments. Prior to issuing the license, the NRC's Executive Director for Operations spoke directly with your staff on September 13, 2021, to inform them of the imminent issuance of the license and to answer their questions. A formal letter from the NRC staff notifying you of the license issuance was also transmitted to your office on September 13, 2021.

We appreciate your interest in and concerns about this project. We also value the strong partnership between the NRC and the State of Texas under the Agreement State program. If you have any questions or need any additional information, have your staff contact Andrew Averbach at (301) 415-1956.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. T. Hanson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher T. Hanson

Docket No.: 72-1050