U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Environmental Scoping Meeting for a Proposed Consolidated Interim Storage Facility for Spent Nuclear Fuel
Lea County, New Mexico

Rockville, MD – April 25, 2018
Roswell, NM - April 30, 2018
Hobbs, NM – May 1, 2018
Carlsbad, NM – May 3, 2018
Public Meeting Objectives

• Describe NRC’s Mission
• Describe NRC’s Environmental Review Process
• Describe scoping process
• Describe how you can provide comments during the scoping period
• Receive Comments on Appropriate Scope and Content of the EIS
The NRC and Its Mission

NRC Mission:
To license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of radioactive materials to protect public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment.
NRC Regulates
The NRC’s Role

- Determine whether it is safe to build and operate a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) at the proposed site
- Evaluate the environmental impacts of building and operating a CISF at the proposed site
Holtec CISF Description

• 40 year license under 10 CFR Part 72 to store waste

• Phase 1: 500 canisters of spent nuclear fuel

• Holtec anticipates applying for up to 20 phases total of up to 10,000 canisters
  – Separate licensing action for additional Phases, safety and environmental review
Holtec’s Proposed Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) for Spent Nuclear Fuel

Proposed location of the facility

Source: SWRI
Holtec’s Proposed Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) for Spent Nuclear Fuel

- HI-STORM UMAX system
- Dry, in-ground spent fuel storage system
- Each module contains 1 canister
- Canister transfer facilities below ground

Source: Safety Evaluation Report (Holtec, 2017)
NRC License Application Review Process

Applicant Submits License Application

NRC Decides Whether to Accept Application for Review

NRC Dockets License Application

NRC Begins Safety Review

NRC Begins Environmental Review

NRC Issues Safety Evaluation Report

NRC Issues Environmental Impact Statement

ASLBP* Issues Findings; NRC may Issue License

NRC Adjudicatory Hearings

ASLBP*: Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
NRC Environmental Review Process

1. Receive License Application
2. Perform Acceptance Review
3. Accept License Application; Issue Federal Register Notice
   - Engage Consulting Agencies
   - Begin EIS Scoping Process and Hold Public Scoping Meeting
   - Publish Scoping Summary Report
     - Collect and Review Data/Identify and Analyze Environmental Impacts
     - Issue Draft EIS for Public Comment
     - Issue Final EIS
     - Recommendation on Application
     - NRC Licensing Action
   - Revise Draft EIS after Considering Public Comments
   - Begin Public Comment Period and Hold Public Meeting on Draft EIS

You are here
Environmental Review

- Evaluate environmental impacts of construction and operation of a proposed CISF per National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- NRC is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
  - NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 51
  - Environmental Review Guidance (NUREG-1748), *Environmental Review Guidance for Licensing Actions Associated with NMSS Programs*
- EIS provides decision makers and the public with a detailed and thorough evaluation of significant environmental impacts
- Collect public comments on the scope of the environmental review that the NRC is conducting
- Your input to the NEPA process for the EIS is vital – your comments will be used in developing the appropriate scope and content of the EIS.
Information Gathering

- CISF License Application
- Staff’s Site Audit
- Public Comments
- State, Local & Other Agencies
- Tribes
- Federal Agencies
Anticipated Environmental Review Schedule

Published *Federal Register* notice March 30, 2018

Scoping process: March 30 to May 29, 2018

Expect to publish draft EIS in June 2019

There will be at least a 45-day comment period on the Draft EIS

Expect to publish Final EIS in mid to late 2020
Why is NRC requesting comments?

The scoping process is intended to:

- Determine the scope of the EIS
- Identify the significant issues pertinent to the environmental review
- Identify and eliminate issues that are not significant
- Identify other environmental reviews and consultation requirements related to the proposed action.
Scoping Comments

What kind of input are we looking for?

- Local issues
- Reasonable alternatives
- Site specific characteristics
- Local sources of information
- Historic properties that may be affected
- Issues or alternatives that might be eliminated
How to Provide Scoping Comments

• Present oral or written comments at this meeting.

• Federal Rulemaking Website:

• Mail comments (showing Docket ID NRC-2018-0052 in subject line) to:
  Ms. May Ma
  Office of Administration
  Mail Stop:  TWFN–7–A60M
  U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
  Washington, DC 20555–0001

Scoping comment period ends May 29, 2018.
For Additional Information:

- **Federal Rulemaking Website:** Go to [http://www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and search for Docket ID **NRC-2018-0052**.

- **NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR):** One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (1st floor), Rockville, MD 20852 (Tel: 800-397-4209; Fax: 301-415-3548; pdr.resource@nrc.gov)


- **NRC Public Web Site for Holtec’s application:** [https://www.nrc.gov/waste/spent-fuel-storage/cis/holtec-international.html](https://www.nrc.gov/waste/spent-fuel-storage/cis/holtec-international.html)

- **NRC Contacts:**
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