Compilation of Email Communications
3-1-23 to 5-17-23

NRC Licenses New Mexico Interim Spent Fuel Storage Facility to Mixed Reviews

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 8:34 AM
To: David Victor; Dan Stetson; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Victor Cabral; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: NRC Licenses New Mexico Interim Spent-Fuel Storage Facility to Mixed Reviews
|

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

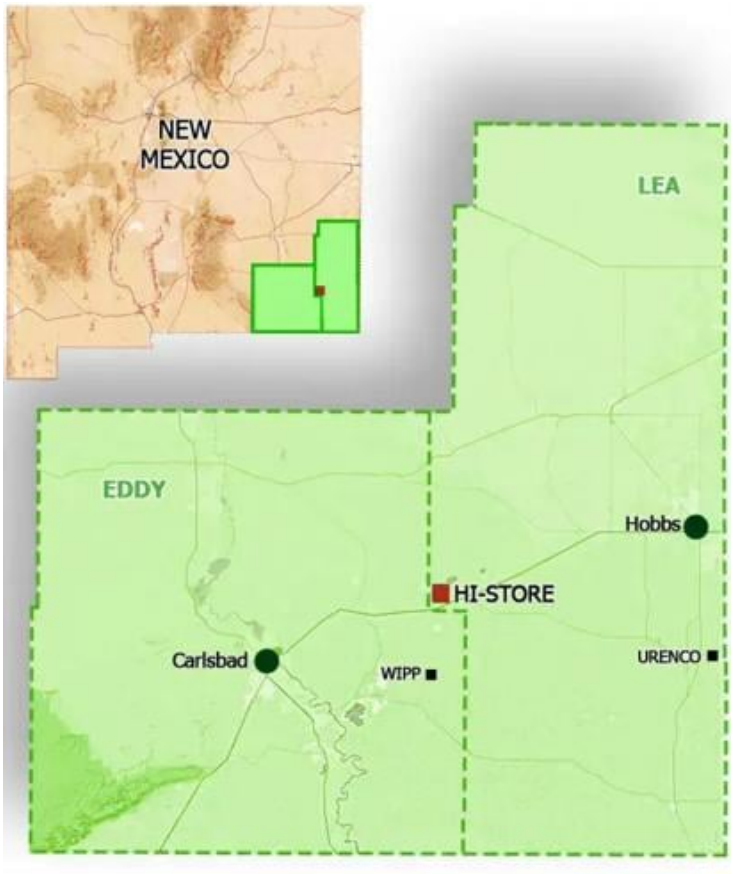
Sharing the recent story on the Holtec CISF that mentions SFS and includes quotes from Manuel Camargo for awareness. https://www.newsdata.com/california_energy_markets/southwest/nrc-licenses-new-mexico-interim-spent-fuel-storage-facility-to-mixed-reviews/article_f75cef40-f0fa-11ed-b6ce-4b49d780a552.html

CALIFORNIA ENERGY MARKETS

TOP STORY

NRC Licenses New Mexico Interim Spent-Fuel Storage Facility to Mixed Reviews

- Abigail Sawyer May 12, 2023



Holtec International's proposed consolidated interim storage facility for spent nuclear fuel was licensed this week by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. If built, the CISF would join two other nuclear facilities in the area. The Waste Isolation Pilot Project stores defense-related waste, and Urenco's UUSA is the nation's only commercial uranium-enrichment facility. Holtec International

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Opponents of a plan to build a temporary storage facility for spent nuclear fuel in New Mexico reacted with concern and chagrin to federal regulators' decision this week to license such a facility in their state. But political leaders in the area where Holtec International's consolidated interim storage facility would be built continue to support it.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on May 9 granted Holtec a license to build and operate a CISF to store spent nuclear fuel from the nation's power plants on 1,000

acres the company purchased from the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance, an economic development organization in southeastern New Mexico (see related story). Those opposing the facility include the state's governor, attorney general and land commissioner, but local leaders in Eddy and Lea counties, where it would be built, say the issue is now political.

The state in March passed Senate Bill 53, a law that prohibits permitting construction or operation of such a facility in New Mexico unless the state has consented to its creation and a permanent repository for the nation's spent fuel and similar waste is already in operation (California Energy Markets No. 1736).

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and Attorney General Raúl Torrez in a joint statement May 9 called the NRC's decision "incredibly disappointing" and said it undermines the federal regulator's commitment to engage with stakeholders. "It appears our concerns were wholly ignored and went unaddressed by Holtec and the NRC," the statement says.

"While I understand the need to store our nation's nuclear waste, the world's most active oil- and gas-producing field is not the right place," New Mexico Commissioner of Public Lands Stephanie Garcia Richard said in a separate statement, referring to New Mexico's portion of the Permian Basin. "Holtec needs to understand that New Mexico is not the nation's dumping ground and should stop misleading the public about the dangers their proposal presents."

John Heaton, an Eddy County representative on the ELEA, in a phone interview with California Energy Markets said the NRC's safety analysis for the project was very strong and that it also cleared the federal government's environmental impact statement process.

Lujan Grisham wrote numerous times to federal officials, including two presidents, asking that the NRC suspend the licensing process for the Holtec CISF, but the state's previous governor, Susana Martinez, supported the plan, Heaton pointed out.

Martinez in 2015 wrote a letter to U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz suggesting that the U.S. Department of Energy's adoption of a consent-based approach to siting nuclear waste facilities should "highlight areas such as southeastern New Mexico where there is broad support in the region for such an endeavor."

Both houses of the New Mexico Legislature, in 2016, passed a memorial specifically requesting that ELEA work with Holtec to develop the site for a CISF. Current Land Commissioner Garcia Richard, who now opposes the project, was then a state representative and co-sponsored the symbolic measure.

"It's very disconcerting to have an approval and then change that based on distorted facts," Heaton said, referring to safety issues raised in conjunction with the passage of SB 53. A consent-based siting policy for spent-fuel storage is not likely to be successful if politics remain part of the process, he said. Such a project takes eight to 10 years to bring to fruition, and no governor is in office for that long. "How do you have a consent-based siting process where politics rules the day rather than facts?"

The City Council of Carlsbad, New Mexico, Eddy County's largest city, on April 28 voted unanimously to oppose SB 53 and authorize ELEA to join potential litigation against the state. Holtec would be the party to file suit, based on the argument that a federal law that authorizes the NRC to determine requirements for creating interim storage facilities preempts state law. Heaton and another ELEA representative, Jonathan Sena, told California Energy Markets they expect the matter to go to litigation.

New Mexico already houses transuranic waste and other byproducts of the nation's nuclear weapons industry at DOE's Waste Isolation Pilot Project—the nation's only deep geologic repository for radioactive waste. Spent fuel from the nation's commercial reactors is stored on-site at the 75 power plants where it was used, and the U.S. Government Accountability Office estimated in 2021 that the federal government had paid reactor owners about $9 billion to store the spent fuel.

"The federal government has an obligation to create a permanent repository for nuclear waste before it forces states to become de facto permanent sites through an 'interim' storage scheme," Douglas Meikljohn of Conservation Voters New Mexico said in an emailed statement.

Efforts to create a permanent repository for the nation's spent fuel at Yucca Mountain in Nevada were abandoned in 2010, and DOE's consent-based siting approach to building a permanent repository was adopted in 2015. Spent Fuel Solutions, a Southern California-based coalition aimed at moving the federal government toward the development of off-site storage for spent fuel, in March hosted a webinar on international best practices for spent-fuel storage. The event brought together experts

from Canada and several European nations that are further along than the U.S. in selecting a permanent repository.

"What we've come to understand is that while technical demonstrations are absolutely important, siting and ultimately constructing a deep geological repository isn't really a technical issue. It's an emotional one," Lisa Frizzell of Canada's Nuclear Waste Management Organization said during the webinar. A consent-based process requires mutual understanding and a well-informed community, she said. NWMO asked potential host communities near geologically appropriate sites to learn more about a permanent repository before asking them to support one, she said.

Sena, a Lea County commissioner who also represents the county in the ELEA, in an interview with California Energy Markets said southeastern New Mexico residents are already well-informed. The CISF would sit on the Eddy-Lea county border just north of the WIPP site and west of Urenco's UUSA commercial uranium-enrichment facility, which has operated near the Texas border in Lea County since 2010.

"The project has been scientifically proven to be a good complement to ranching, oil and gas and the community at large. It's a safe project," Sena said.

Heaton and Sena agree that nuclear energy will be essential to a low-emissions future. They also want the jobs and other economic benefits that a CISF would bring to the region as the nation transitions away from fossil fuels.

Consent should come from the local area only, Heaton said, adding that the community has consistently supported the project.

Manuel Camargo, principal manager of strategic planning for decommissioning Southern California Edison's San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, said he finds some reason for optimism in Lujan Grisham's March 21 letter to NRC Chairman Christopher Hanson, sent just after passage of SB 53. It suggests that there's room for dialogue, he said, referring to the governor's suggestion that Hanson discuss the matter with the state's environment secretary, James Kenney.

The Holtec and Interim Storage Partners storage facilities were not subject to DOE's consent-based siting process, Camargo said. ISP's proposal for a facility in Texas not far from the Holtec site in New Mexico was licensed by the NRC in 2021 but

hamstrung by passage of state legislation (California Energy Markets No. 1659). It's possible they could come around, Camargo said.

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Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

No attachment. Direct link within text above.
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For Awareness: Invitation to 5/23, 8 pm EST public webinar 'A Disaster Waiting to Happen-Safety at San Onofre Nuclear Waste Site

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 3:58 PM
To: David Victor; Dan Stetson; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Victor Cabral; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: FW: For Awareness: Invitation to 5/23, 8 PM EST public webinar 'A Disaster Waiting to Happen-Safety at San Onofre Nuclear Waste Site'

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

During the 1Q CEP meeting on March 23, we took an action to inform you when this public webinar was scheduled so sharing for your awareness. Details are in the e-mail below.

Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

From: Paul Blanch
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 12:55 PM
Cc: Paul M. Blanch
Subject: (External): Invitation to 5/23, 8 PM EST public webinar 'A Disaster Waiting to Happen-Safety at San Onofre Nuclear Waste Site'
~~~~~~

Compilation of Email Communications
3-1-23 to 5-17-23

Dear Friends and Associates

San Clemente Green, Public Watchdogs, and Grassroots Environmental Education invite you to the public webinar 'A Disaster Waiting to Happen-Safety at San Onofre Nuclear Waste Site' on May 23, 2023, at 5:30 pm (Pacific Standard Time) and 8:30 pm (Eastern Standard Time). Thus far publicly unaddressed safety concerns by the NRC, by waste site owner SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON and by their Community Engagement Panel will be presented. The meeting will address major safety concerns related to the decommissioning of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). Presentations will focus on:

Potential flooding of the Holtec canisters c
Lack of Transparency of communication with the public
Spent fuel retrievability and Potential Criticality as required by 10 CFR 72 and 10 CFR 100
Similarities to Fukushima
Solutions going forward
For more information and Registration, Speakers' Bios, San Onofre Background, Press Release, and Agenda

https://www.grassrootsinfo.org/sanonofre

The NRC, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON, Holtec and the SONGS Community Engagement Panel (CEP), the Office of the NRC's Inspector General are all being requested to attend and ask questions and have been extended an invitation.

Speakers will include:

Paul Blanch
Cathy Iwani
Charles Langley
Gary Hedrick

Sincerely,

Cathy Iwane
Nuclear Safety Advocate, Southern California

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE

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US NRC approves license for Holtec CIS facility in New Mexico

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 9:36 AM
To: Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Victor Cabral; Mark Enmeier; Jim Desmond; Kristal Jabara; Katrina Foley; Alyssa Napuri; Garry Brown; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Val Macedo; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Ted Quinn; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz; Daniel T. Stetson; John Taylor; Captain Mel Vernon; David G. Victor; Michael Villar; Adam Tallabas
Cc: Doug Bauder; Vincent J Bilovsky; Liese Mosher; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Julie Holt; Ronald Pontes; Jerry L Stephenson; Randall Granaas; Albert Bates; Derek J. Brice; Amy F Pressler; James Peterson; Laura Parra; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Subject: FYA: US NRC approves license for Holtec CIS facility in NM

Hello CEP,

Below for your awareness is an announcement from Holtec regarding the NRC's issuance of a license for the company's private consolidated interim storage facility for commercial spent fuel in New Mexico. For context, an Associated Press story on the project is available at US regulators OK spent nuclear fuel facility in New Mexico | AP News. Our strategic plan on spent fuel highlights the importance of optionality and SCE supports all commercially reasonable alternatives for the offsite storage and disposal of spent fuel.

HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL

Holtec Receives U.S. NRC's License for Building and Operating America's First Below-Ground Consolidated Interim Storage Facility for Used Nuclear Fuel

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We are pleased to announce that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued the final license to build and operate the HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) to Holtec International on the land provided by the Eddy Lea Energy Alliance (ELEA), a regional economic development authority in Southeast New Mexico. This license is the culmination of an eight-year process to bring a safe, secure, temporary and retrievable private facility to store used nuclear fuel and high level waste to the Nation. The license envisions use of Holtec's inherently safe below-ground storage system called the HI-STORM UMAX.

The HI-STORE facility is the first in the world to deploy a below-ground storage system for consolidated interim storage although several U.S. plants (notably Callaway and SONGS) have been using this technology accruing great benefits in terms of dramatically reduced radiation dose, ultimate protection from incident hazards (such as a crashing aircraft or airborne missiles) and its negligible environmental impact. The subterranean HI-STORM UMAX storage system is so environmentally unobtrusive that all industrial activities such as fracking, drilling, and potash mining in the area can continue without obstruction and, as stated in the final environmental impact study, construction of the proposed CISF would not have an effect on oil and gas operations regardless of drilling method.

It should be noted that Holtec has served as the dry storage technology provider for two other interim storage facilities in the past: the first for the Private Fuel Storage initiative in Skull Valley, Utah, which received the final license from the NRC in 2006, and the second for Ukraine's National Nuclear Energy Generating Company, Energoatom, in Ukraine. The latter has been constructed and awaiting the cessation of russia's aggression to begin operations.

The HI-STORE CISF fulfills America's aspiration expressed in the Blue-Ribbon Commission's report on America's Nuclear Future (established by President Barack Obama), which envisages the establishment of one or more consolidated interim storage facilities, independent of the schedule for opening a repository. HI-STORE CISF will unify all different storage canisters (both vertically and horizontally stored) in one standardized HI-STORM UMAX system, simplifying operations and aging management activities. Storing the Nation's used nuclear fuel in the HI-STORE CISF will be a temporary measure, as the all-welded stainless-steel canisters are easily retrieved from the storage cavities and shipped to the repository or a reprocessing site.

"The licensing of HI-STORE CISF should be viewed as the triumph of private perseverance in the service of public purpose. America knows that the interim solution of the used fuel problem, ergo HI-STORE, is critical to sustain the rise of nuclear power. We thank the nuclear-savvy communities of the Southeast New Mexico region and their visionary leaders who have welcomed us to bring our technologies to create environmentally benign and well-paying jobs, and help diversify the region's economy thus fostering a stable industrial base," says Holtec's President and CEO, Dr. Kris Singh.

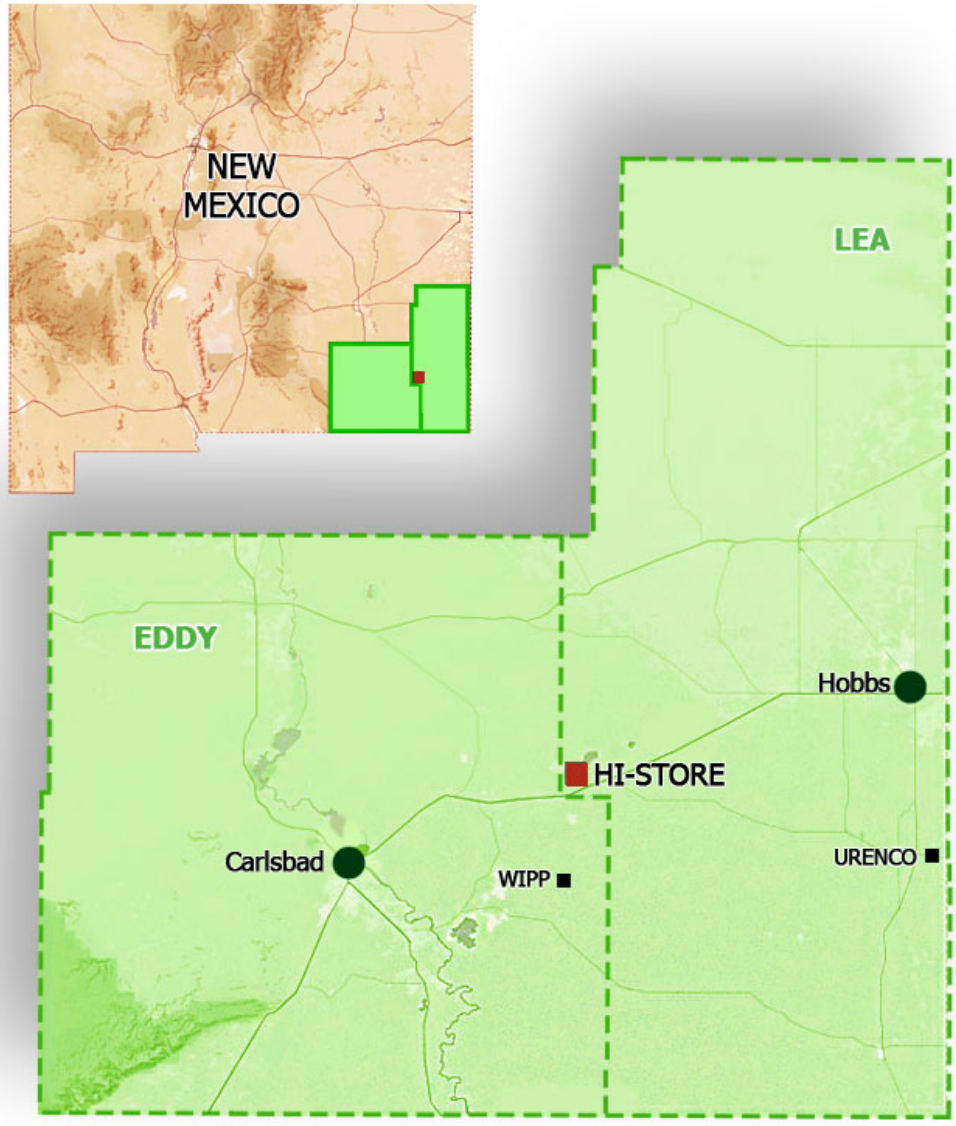
The license for the initial phase of construction allows for 500 loaded used fuel canisters to be received, possessed, transferred and stored at the facility proposed in Lea County, New Mexico. Holtec's expected contribution to the community in Southeast New Mexico includes additional economic development opportunities including a state-of-the art manufacturing facility, a technology development center, and a global workforce training center.

This final license follows the NRC's July 2022 approval of a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The final EIS notes the absence of any environmental impacts that would preclude a license for HI-STORE. The NRC's recommendation was based on its review of Holtec's license application; consultation with Federal, State, Tribal and local agencies; input from other stakeholders; independent consultation with the New Mexico Bureau of Land Management; and the Commission's own environmental review, which included land use, transportation, geology and soils, surface and groundwater, ecological resources such as threatened and endangered species, noise, historical and cultural resources, public and occupational health, environmental justice, socioeconomics and other considerations.

The final EIS also confirmed that there are no adverse impacts to other enterprises in the area including oil and gas, potash, ranching, and farming. HI-STORE CISF is designed with safety and environmental stewardship as the overriding considerations. The strength-welded and hermetically closed canisters are designed, qualified, and tested to maintain their integrity and prevent the release of radioactive material under the most adverse accident scenarios postulated by NRC regulations for both storage and transportation.

Program Director for the HI-STORE CISF U.S. Navy Captain (retired) Ed Mayer stated, "Thanks to the local support, we have persevered for the past eight years to license HI-STORE in spite of variable enthusiasm from the State's authorities. The project has the ability to allow Southeast New Mexico to diversify its economy, generate some 400 jobs, infusing ~$3 billion investment in the area. Holtec and ELEA are proud to have worked together to eliminate the most formidable barrier to the renaissance of nuclear energy that our country faces today."

"Our heartfelt thanks go out to the dedicated NRC staff whose diligent and critical reviews of the license application and detailed interactions with our licensing team has resulted in a solid body of work that undergirds the regulatory basis for the license configured to safeguard public health and safety in full measure," said Ms. Kim Manzione, Holtec's Director of Licensing.



Location of the Proposed HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility

To learn more about HI-STORE CISF, visit http://www.historecisf.com.

For more information, please contact:

Caitlin Marmion, Publisher

Phone: (856) 797-0900, ext. 3991 | Email: c.marmion@holtec.com

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
Southern California Edison | SONGS Decommissioning

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Representative Levin Opinion Piece in San Diego Union Tribune on Spent Fuel Plan

From: Manuel Camargo <Manuel.Camargo@sce.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2023 7:33 PM
To: Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Victor Cabral; Mark Enmeier; Jim Desmond; Kristal Jabara; Katrina Foley; Alyssa Napuri; Garry; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Val Macedo; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Ted Quinn; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz; Daniel T. Stetson; John Taylor; Captain Mel Vernon; David G. Victor; Michael Villar; Adam Tallabas
Cc: Doug Bauder; Vincent J Bilovsky; Liese Mosher; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Julie Holt; Ronald Pontes; Jerry L Stephenson; Randall Granaas; Albert Bates; Derek J. Brice; Amy F Pressler; James Peterson; Laura Parra; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Andrew J Kosydar
Subject: FYA: Representative Levin Opinion Piece in U-T on Spent Fuel Plan

Hello CEP,

Following on the DOE announcement earlier in the week regarding its new process for using consent-based siting for federal consolidated interim storage facilities for commercial spent fuel, Representative Levin has an opinion piece on the matter running in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*. The Congressman's focus on this space is encouraging. For your awareness, the story is available online HERE and pasted below.

Opinion: My congressional district includes San Onofre. Here's my plan for moving nuclear waste.

For the first time in over a decade, the federal government has a plan to address the nation's spent nuclear fuel.

BY MIKE LEVIN
APRIL 27, 2023 3:59 PM PT

***Levin**, a Democrat, is the representative from California's 49th Congressional District. He lives in San Juan Capistrano.*

Since I took office in 2019, one of my top priorities has been moving the spent nuclear fuel from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station as quickly and safely as possible. Keeping spent fuel at the San Onofre station long term is unacceptable, with its location about 100 feet from the Pacific Ocean, near active fault lines, surrounded by highly populated areas and within the Camp Pendleton military base.

The situation at the San Onofre nuclear plant is the symptom of a far larger problem. In 1987, over Nevadans' objections, Congress designated the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository as the only site to dispose of America's commercial spent nuclear fuel. In 2009, the federal government shut down the site, as Nevadans never consented to it, and has lacked a cohesive strategy ever since. In other words, I inherited a mess.
The Obama, Trump and Biden administrations all declared Yucca Mountain dead without a backup plan.

My office got to work immediately, laying groundwork that has translated into real progress. We launched a San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Task Force to formulate policy recommendations that I have since been working to execute. We established the Spent Nuclear Fuel Solutions Caucus, a bipartisan group of members of Congress committed to breaking through the noise and solving these challenges.

Most significantly, we helped secure $93 million for the U.S. Department of Energy to restart a federal, consent-based consolidated interim storage

program. The new process is designed to work with local governments that want to host a site in a way that is inclusive, community-driven, phased and adaptive.

Under Secretary Jennifer Granholm's leadership, the Department of Energy has committed to rebuilding trust around spent nuclear fuel issues. Past missteps are being candidly acknowledged.

This week, in partnership with the Department of Energy, I am pleased to announce the contours of this program.

Finalizing one or more interim storage sites will require three stages. The first is planning and capacity building, which is well underway. The Department of Energy will soon award funding to communities throughout the country to advance mutual learning and foster open discussions about potentially storing spent fuel. This process is expected to take two to three years.

The second stage will be site screening and assessment, where communities that remain interested can engage with the Department of Energy and appropriate stakeholders to comprehensively assess their sites to reach a final decision. This is expected to take another four to seven years.

The third stage is negotiation and implementation, where the Department of Energy will negotiate agreements with willing and informed host communities, with site licensing, construction and operation to follow. The anticipated duration until initial operation is four to five years after the end of stage two.

Add the time frames of these stages together, and the Department of Energy is committing to have one or more destinations for spent fuel between 2032 and 2038. As your habitually impatient representative, I'll be pushing for all of this to happen as soon as possible.

As the Department of Energy continues its work, Congress will have plenty more to do. First, we need to work on a bipartisan basis to secure additional funding for the plan through each of its phases. As The San Diego Union-Tribune reported last April when I hosted Granholm's tour of the San Onofre

Nuclear Generating Station, direct federal compensation to host communities is a possibility.

Second, we must continue planning for the safe transportation of the spent fuel in close cooperation with local, state, tribal and regional partners along potential corridors.

Third, we must codify that spent fuel from sites with the highest environmental risk, population density and national security concerns be moved before any others. My bill with Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Bonsall, the Spent Fuel Prioritization Act of 2022, would do just that.

Finally, interim storage sites are not intended to replace a permanent repository. The federal government must acknowledge we are moving past Yucca Mountain and license a different repository with local buy-in. This does not need to be finished by 2032, but the process must begin, assuring potential interim hosts they won't be stuck with spent fuel permanently.

This will require amending existing law and could require the creation of a new Nuclear Waste Administration to handle the nation's spent nuclear fuel. None of this will be easy.

But there is some good news. For the first time in over a decade, the federal government has a plan to address the nation's spent nuclear fuel. It won't happen overnight, but there is finally a light at the end of the tunnel.

###

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
Southern California Edison | SONGS Decommissioning

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U.S. Department of Energy Releases First Update to Consent-Based Siting Process for Spent Nuclear Fuel in America
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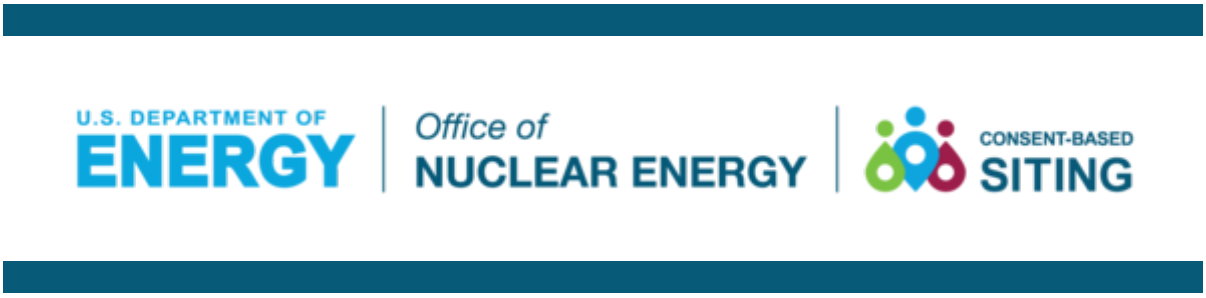
From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 7:07 AM
To: David Victor; Dan Stetson; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Victor Cabral; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar
Cc: Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz; Shayna Sharke; Holly Martino; Courtney Farrell; Patricia V. Carranza; Marisol Edrozo; Rebecca Smith
Subject: For Awareness: U.S. Department of Energy Releases First Update to Consent-Based Siting Process for Spent Nuclear Fuel in America

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released an updated version of its Consent-Based Siting Process that will inform how DOE finds sites to temporarily store the nation's spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. The federal government is responsible for the proper management and disposal of the nation's spent nuclear fuel and this revised approach takes immediate action to engage with willing communities to host federal consolidated interim storage facilities that will reduce the number of locations where commercial spent nuclear fuel is stored and ease the burden on U.S. taxpayers.

The updated document builds on DOE's 2017 Draft Consent-Based Siting Process and incorporates input received from Tribes, States, local governments, and members of the public since 2015. The DOE expects to continue revising the process as they learn more from engagement with communities and stakeholders.

More information on DOE's consent-based siting process can be found at energy.gov/consentbasedsiting.



DOE Releases Consent-Based Siting Process for Spent Nuclear Fuel

The *Consent-Based Siting Process for Federal Consolidated Interim Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel* is now available. DOE will use the process as a guide to site

one or more federal consolidated interim storage facilities for the nation's spent nuclear fuel to reduce the number of locations where spent nuclear fuel is stored and ultimately ease the burden on U.S. taxpayers.

The process is a multi-stage approach that puts communities' interests at the forefront. There are three broad stages:

1. Planning and capacity building
2. Site screening and assessment
3. Negotiation and implementation



DOE will continue to revise the process as it learns more from its engagements with communities and stakeholders.

Learn More

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4 Key Updates to the Consent-Based Siting Process

The updated consent-based siting process document builds on DOE's 2017 Draft Process and incorporates input received from Tribes, States, local governments, and members of the public since 2015. A 2021 request for information gathered input from the public and furthered the Department's commitment to this effort. Additional expert reports and lessons learned from decades of nuclear waste management activity from across the globe have also been incorporated.

While both versions focus on a consent-based approach to siting spent nuclear fuel facilities, there are four key updates to the 2023 version:

1. Focusing specifically on siting one or more federal consolidated interim storage facilities
2. Placing greater emphasis on equity and environmental justice
3. Creating a larger role for host communities in developing site-specific assessment criteria
4. Expanding consideration of funding opportunities, subject to availability of appropriations, to support community participation



Read More

DOE appreciates the insights, suggestions, and feedback from the many individuals and organizations who have submitted input and looks forward to continued conversations with communities and stakeholders.

You received this message because you are subscribed to updates from Department of Energy - Office of Nuclear Energy. Get this as a forward? Sign up to receive updates.

For more information on consent-based siting, please visit energy.gov/consentbasedsiting.

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Reprocessing of Spent Fuel could help San Onofre

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2023 10:21 AM
To: Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Victor Cabral; Mark Enmeier; Jim Desmond; Kristal Jabara; Katrina Foley; Alyssa Napuri; Garry Brown; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Val Macedo; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Ted Quinn; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz; Daniel T. Stetson; John Taylor; Captain Mel Vernon; David G. Victor; Michael Villar; Adam Tallabas
Cc: Doug Bauder; Vincent J Bilovsky; Liese Mosher; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Julie Holt; Ronald Pontes; Jerry L Stephenson; Randall Granaas; Albert Bates; Derek J. Brice; Amy F Pressler; James Peterson; Laura Parra
Subject: FYA: Story on spent fuel reprocessing in OCR

Hello CEP,

For your awareness, the *Orange County Register* published a story on spent fuel reprocessing today which is available HERE. Reprocessing (recycling) spent fuel is promising as are next-generation nuclear reactors. At the same time, David's quote appropriately cautions that even with reprocessing, we still need solutions for consolidated interim storage of spent fuel as well as permanent disposal in deep geologic repositories. Recycling can minimize the final waste volume but does not eliminate it.
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That's why, as you know, the Spent Fuel Solutions coalition—co-chaired by Supervisors Foley and Desmond—continues to press the federal government to address the offsite disposition of spent fuel.

Best regards,

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
Southern California Edison | SONGS Decommissioning

No attachment. Direct links within text above.
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SONGS Discharge Permit Renewed

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:05 PM
To: Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Victor Cabral; Mark Enmeier; Jim Desmond; Kristal Jabara; Katrina Foley; Alyssa Napuri; Garry Brown; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Val Macedo; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Ted Quinn; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz; Daniel T. Stetson; John Taylor; Captain Mel Vernon; David G. Victor ; Michael Villar
Cc: Doug Bauder; Vincent J Bilovsky; Liese Mosher; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Julie Holt; Ronald Pontes; Brian Metz; Sandra J Sewell; Albert Bates
Subject: SONGS Discharge Permit Renewed

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

Yesterday, April 12, the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board unanimously approved the reissuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System wastewater discharge permit for SONGS.

The permit was approved during a hybrid public meeting in Laguna Beach with a Cal-Span livestream. Board staff incorporated additional monitoring requirements into the tentative permit that were requested in a written comment by Orange County Coastkeeper and Surfrider Foundation. The public comment period had three commenters speaking in support of the tentative permit—including Garry Brown of OC Coastkeeper and the SONGS CEP—with none opposed. SCE environmental manager Ron Pontes stated that we appreciated the staff's hard work and supported the tentative permit.

The new permit becomes effective June 1 and runs through May 31, 2028, which we expect will be sufficient to support the current phase of decommissioning SONGS.

Best regards,

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
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Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
Southern California Edison | SONGS Decommissioning

No attachment.
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New Mexico opts for veto power on spent nuclear fuel debate

From: David G. Victor
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 7:47 AM
To: Manuel Camargo; Martha McNicholas; Daniel T. Stetson
Subject: (External): Article in AP on NM law...

Manuel

We should circulate this article to the CEP in the next circular:

https://apnews.com/article/nuclear-fuel-waste-new-mexico-b49566ab7d4832e714698d92b005f9f5

all best
David

No attachment. Direct link within text above.
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OC Register: As San Onofre comes down, bill would allow small reactors to go up

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 7:07 AM
To: David Victor; Dan Stetson; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Victor Cabral; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Katrina Foley; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness - OC Register: As San Onofre comes down, bill would allow small reactors to go up

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share a recent article in the Orange County Register regarding San Onofre. The link is provided here: As San Onofre nuclear plant comes down, bill would allow small reactors to go up – Orange County Register (ocregister.com)

Best,

Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

No attachment. Direct link within text above.
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