



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

December 2, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO: Daniel Barnhurst, Chief
Environmental Project Management Branch 3
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,
and Financial Support
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Mary Richmond, Project Manager
Environmental Project Management Branch 3
Division of Rulemaking, Environmental,
and Financial Support
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Richmond", is placed over the "FROM:" line.

Signed by Richmond, Mary
on 12/02/24

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SUMMARY OF THE
APRIL 3, 2024, OBSERVATION PREAPPLICATION PUBLIC
MEETING WITH SMR, LLC (A HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL
COMPANY) TO DISCUSS THE PALISADES CONSTRUCTION
PERMIT APPLICATION INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SITE
CHARACTERIZATION

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held an environmental observation public meeting on April 3, 2024, with SMR, LLC (SMR), a Holtec International Company (Holtec), to discuss preapplication information related to the environmental review of the SMR-300 project for the Palisades Construction Permit Application. Specifically, SMR (Holtec) requested the meeting to discuss and receive NRC staff feedback related to the environmental site characterization found in the public meeting details located at Agencywide Documents and Access Management System (ADAMS) ML24081A031. This meeting summary satisfies the SMR (Holtec) request for review and feedback on its preapplication meeting materials.

Preapplication engagements, including this meeting, provide an opportunity for the NRC staff to engage in early discussions with a prospective applicant to offer guidance and to identify potential issues early in the licensing process. No decisions or commitments were made during the preapplication meeting.

CONTACT: Mary Richmond, NMSS/REFS
301-415-0673

The NRC issued the public meeting notice ML24081A031 on March 21, 2024, and posted it on the NRC public website. The agenda is included in the public meeting materials referenced above. Enclosed is a summary of the meeting.

Docket No. 99902049

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: HOLTEC Listserv

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 3, 2024, OBSERVATION PREAPPLICATION PUBLIC MEETING WITH SMR, LLC (A HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL COMPANY) TO DISCUSS THE PALISADES CONSTRUCTION PERMIT APPLICATION INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SITE CHARACTERIZATION

DATE: December 2, 2024

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 3, 2024,
OBSERVATION PREAPPLICATION PUBLIC MEETING WITH SMR, LLC
(A HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL COMPANY)
TO DISCUSS THE PALISADES CONSTRUCTION PERMIT APPLICATION INITIAL
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SITE CHARACTERIZATION

Meeting Summary

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held an observation public meeting on April 3, 2024, with SMR, LLC (SMR), a Holtec International Company (Holtec), to discuss preapplication information related to the environmental site characterization for the Palisades Construction Permit Application (CPA). SMR (Holtec) provided for NRC staff review presentation slides for the public meeting.

This virtual observation preapplication meeting had attendees from SMR, LLC, (Holtec), NRC staff, and members of the public. Preapplication engagements, including this meeting, provide an opportunity for the NRC staff to engage in early discussions with a prospective applicant to offer licensing guidance and to identify potential licensing issues early in the licensing process. No decisions or commitments were made during the preapplication meeting.

The following summarizes the discussion during the public preapplication meeting:

- SMR (Holtec) provided a summary of the agenda and described the purpose of the meeting as giving an overview of the progress on the site characterization activities ongoing at the Palisades site.
- SMR (Holtec) provided a high-level synopsis of the design, CPA project, and its stakeholder engagement outreach planned for the project.
- SMR (Holtec) discussed the CPA site characterization activities provided in the slide presentation.

NRC question and answer:

- The NRC staff inquired if a source of water had been identified or if the technology was going to support air-cooled (slide 10)?

SMR (Holtec) response: The cooling technology will be mechanical. Initial thought is that the source of water would be Lake Michigan. Still evaluating.

- The NRC staff asked if, with regard to slide 11, SMR (Holtec) had established a methodology for validating the representativeness of the meteorological data?

SMR (Holtec) response: We are reviewing the guidance in Regulatory Guide 1.23 and will work with NRC in the future.

Enclosure

- The NRC staff questioned whether safety characterization is built into the schedule (slide 12)?

SMR (Holtec) response: It will be generated separately as boundaries are identified. Subsurface hydrology is also safety-related and included in the data and analyses.

- The NRC staff asked for clarification on subsurface investigation as to whether new borings would be drilled (slide 10).

SMR (Holtec) response: New borings would be drilled at the site.

- The NRC staff asked whether the cultural survey includes an evaluation of historical buildings and structures and has any coordination with Tribes been initiated (slide 7)?

SMR (Holtec) response: SMR (Holtec) has not performed any historical evaluations. Tribal outreach is being planned.

The NRC staff followed up to emphasize the importance of early communication with the Tribes.

Following the NRC staff question and answer, the public comment period was conducted by:

- Katie Hosier, City Manager, South Haven Township expressed appreciation for the public meeting and involvement.
- Tom Flynn, resident next to Palisades, inquired the location of the SMR.

Slide 6 provided an outline of the potential location of the site on Palisades being considered.

- Tom Flynn also inquired about the cooling tower drifts how it will affect neighbors.

Any impacts on resources, including drift from cooling towers will be reviewed by the NRC.

- Ross Stein, Supervisor South Haven Charter Township, also expressed support and appreciation for the public involvement.