



February 7, 2020

Chairman Kristine L. Svinicki
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington DC, 20555-0001

Re: Indian Point License Transfer Application Docket ID NRC-2020-0021

Dear Chairman Svinicki:

We the undersigned members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators together with Westchester County Executive George Latimer anticipate a petition will be filed by New York State and Riverkeeper requesting that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conduct a hearing on the Indian Point Transfer Application, pursuant to NRC regulations set forth in 10 C.F.R Part 2. We strongly support the request for a hearing. We also join Senators Charles E. Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand as well as Representatives Nita Lowey, Eliot Engel, and Sean Patrick Maloney who also have written you in support of such a hearing.

The proposed license transfer raises serious and substantial concerns that are critical to the economic and environmental well-being of the residents of Westchester County, some of which we detail below. These concerns make it imperative that the NRC hold such a hearing before taking any action on the proposed license transfer from Entergy Corporation (Entergy) to a subsidiary of Holtec International (Holtec).

Matters requiring substantive examination before any license transfer is granted include concerns about the adequacy of the financial resources of Holtec and its subsidiaries to properly complete the work, and the sufficiency of plans to ensure the safety of Westchester residents and natural resources during the decommissioning.

Some questions include:

- How can a company with unknown financial resources and a questionable track record provide assurance that it can safely complete the decommissioning process?
- To avoid undue burden on County and local first responders, will Holtec/Entergy maintain necessary plans, a sufficient number of trained staff, and security mechanisms to prevent or mitigate workplace accidents and consequences of extreme weather, earthquakes, terrorist attacks and risks associated with proximity to high pressured gas pipelines?


- Will there be independent monitoring of soil, air, and groundwater to allow accurate measurement of released contaminants, including an accurate baseline from which to measure?
- How can we vet the financial viability of Holtec, which is comprised of organizations insulated from liability, and lacking transparency with respect to its funding and capital structure?
- How do we know that the amount set aside in the Decommissioning Trust Fund will be adequate, especially if Holtec is allowed to drain nearly 1/3 of the Trust Fund to pay for storage of nuclear waste?
- What will Holtec do if some of the assumptions being made, such as Congress changing the law to allow interim offsite storage and the monetary growth of the Decommissioning Trust Fund, do not come to pass?
- What long-term measures will be put in place to monitor the environmental and safety concerns on the site? For example, how will potential degradation of the dry cask storage units can be monitored in future decades?

The people of Westchester County and their elected representatives must be given a full and transparent opportunity to present their concerns on the proposed license transfer before the NRC acts, and the input of the people of Westchester and their elected representatives must be included in the decisional record before the NRC grants a license transfer.


In addition, County Executive George Latimer and other elected officials representing the people of Westchester, are writing the NRC to request an extension of the 30-day public comment period on the proposed license transfer and a local public hearing, a period which currently is set to end on February 24, 2020. We join them in requesting such an extension and a local public hearing, to ensure that the people of the County have adequate time to weigh in on such a complex matter and such a consequential decision that will impact the people of Westchester for generations.

Thank you for your attention. We hope you will provide the people of Westchester with the proper and adequate venue and opportunity for examining a proposed license transfer of such significant economic and environmental consequence to the residents of our County.

Sincerely,



Chairman Benjamin Boykin
Legislator, 5th District



Vice Chair Alfreda Williams
Legislator, 8th District

Majority Leader MaryJane Shimsky
Legislator, 12th District

Colin Smith
Legislator, 1st District

Minority Leader Margaret Cunzio
Legislator, 3rd District

Majority Whip Christopher Johnson
Legislator, 16th District

Nancy Barr
Legislator, 6th District

Kitley Covill
Legislator, 2nd District

Catherine Parker
Legislator, 7th District

Vedat Gashi
Legislator, 4th District

Damon Maher
Legislator, 10th District

Catherine Borgia
Legislator, 9th District

Terry Clements
Legislator, 11th District

Lyndon Williams
Legislator, 13th District

David Tubiolo
Legislator, 14th District

Ruth Walter
Legislator, 15th District

Jose Alvarado
Legislator, 17th District