

What's the Holtec Proposal?

Indivisible Nob Hill

June 25, 2018

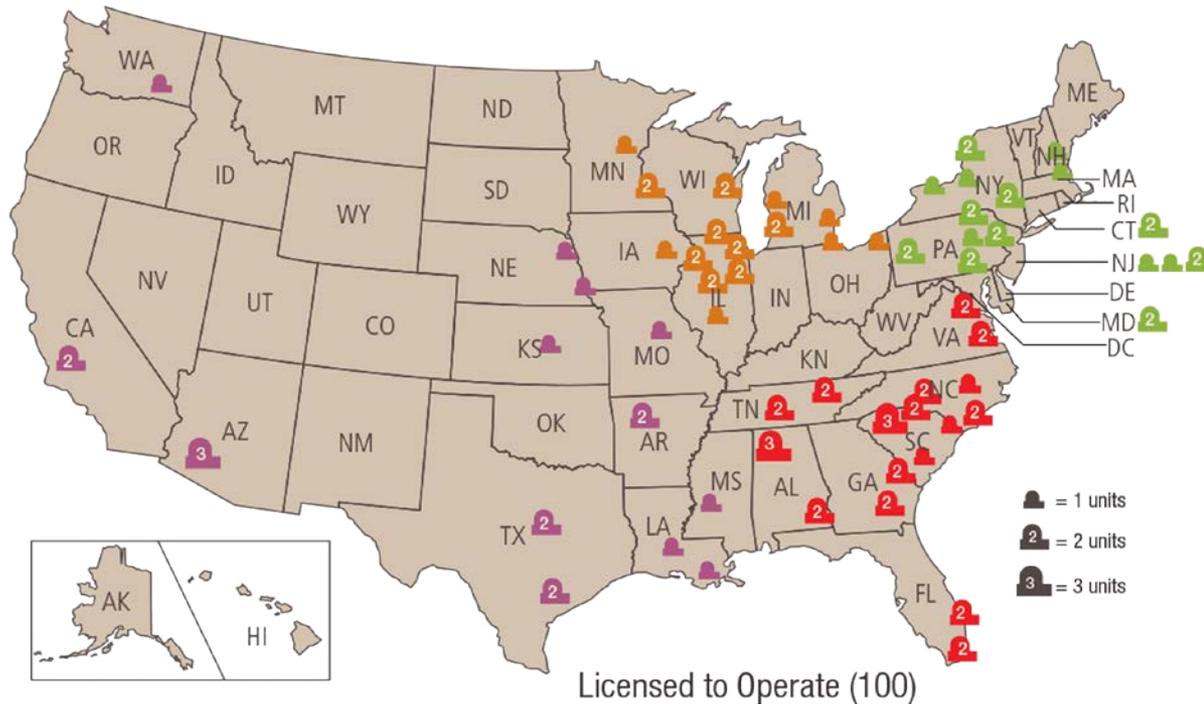
Don Hancock

Southwest Research and Information Center

- ❖ What's the current situation?
- ❖ Basic Facts about Holtec's Proposal
 - ❖ Current Law
 - ❖ Will Congress Change the Law?
 - ❖ Next Steps in NRC process
 - ❖ What Can You Do?
 - ❖ Your Questions and Ideas

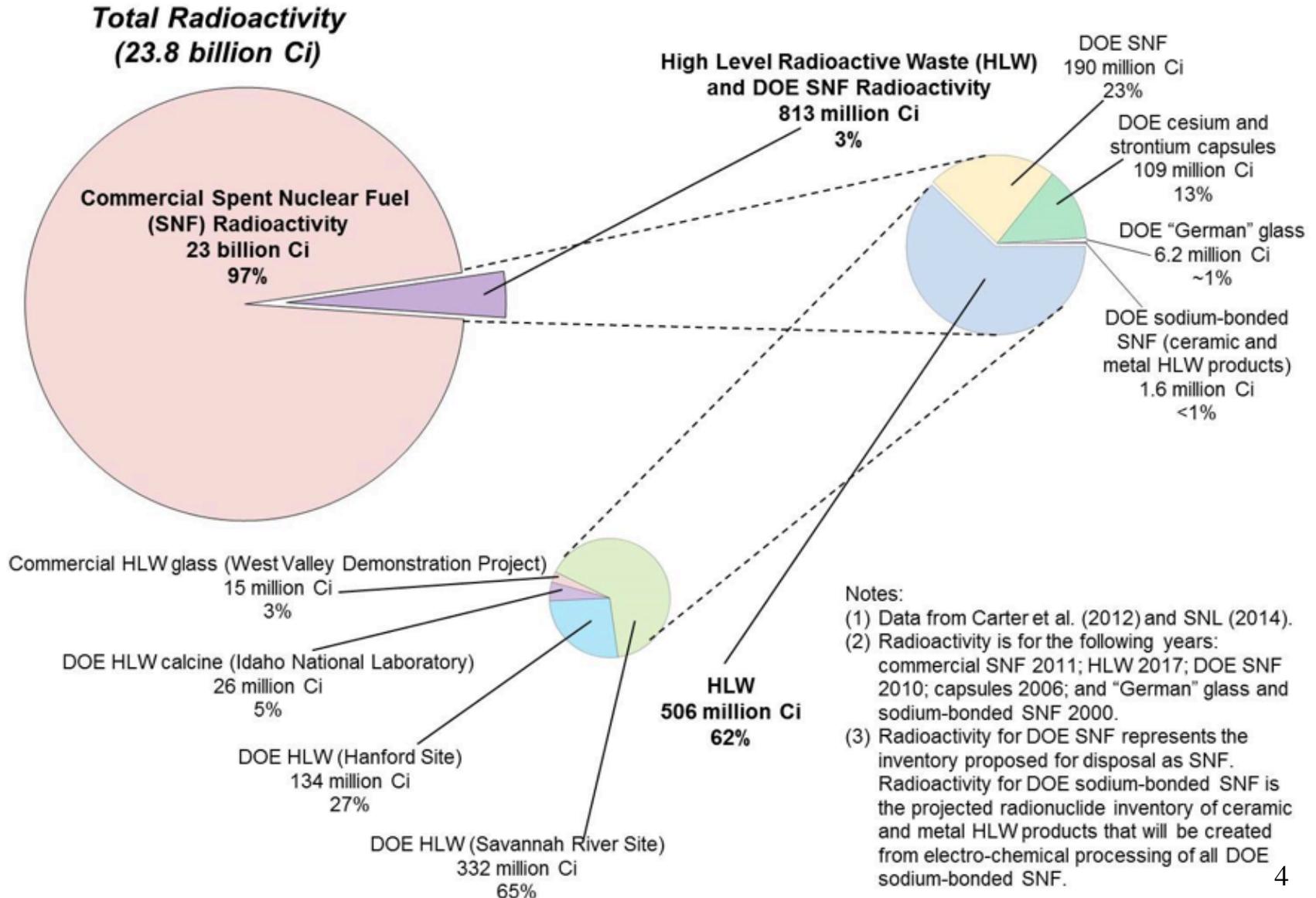
Nuclear Power Plants

U.S. Operating Commercial Nuclear Power Reactors

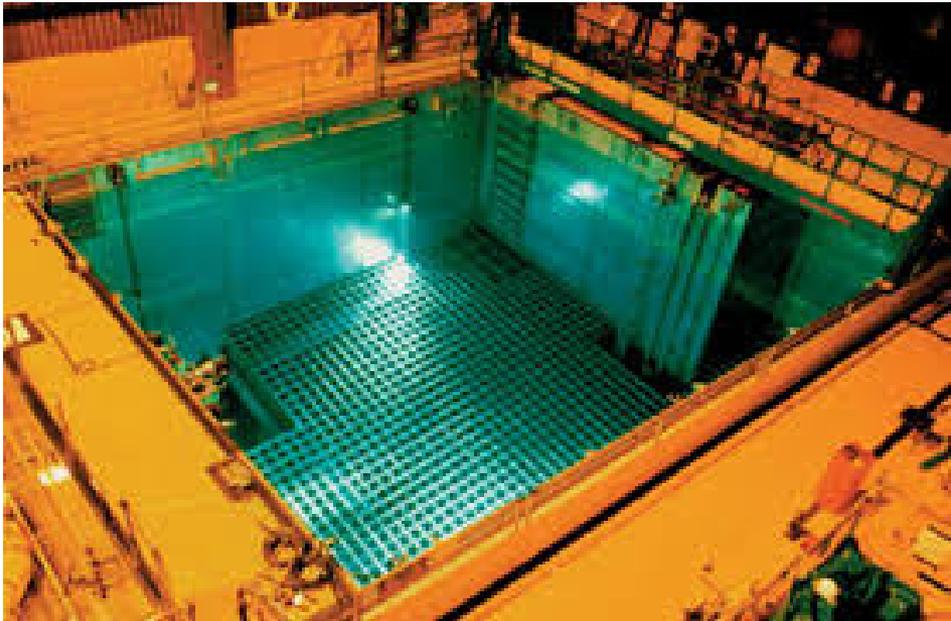


- ~ 94% of operating reactors are east of 100th meridian
- ~ 92% of spent fuel is east of 100th meridian

VERY Radioactive Waste



Storage Today



Surry - Virginia



San Onofre - California

Basic Questions

- ❖ If the waste is safe where it is, why bring it to New Mexico?
- ❖ If waste storage is good for the economy, why do the nuclear reactor communities not want to keep it?

Basic Facts

- ❖ NRC Application submitted March 31, 2017
 - Dec. 2017 Environmental Report is 543 pages
 - Safety Analysis Report is 536 pages & other documents
- ❖ 100,000 Metric Tons of Commercial Spent Fuel
 - 500 canisters per year for 20 years, starting in 2022.
 - About 80,000 Metric Tons now stored*
- ❖ Spent Fuel to be shipped by rail
 - Loaded Transport cask weighs 371,000 lbs. to 414,800 lbs.
- ❖ Waste could be stored for 120 years (40-year license, plus two extensions)

Holtec Site Now

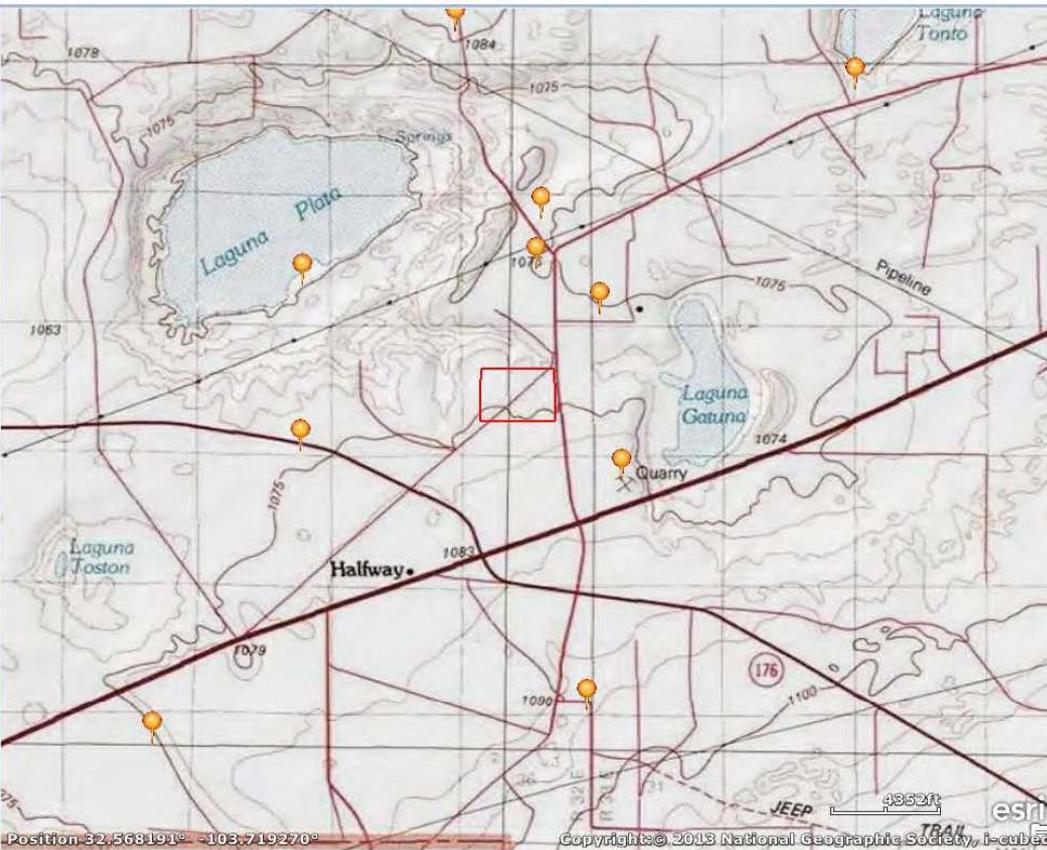
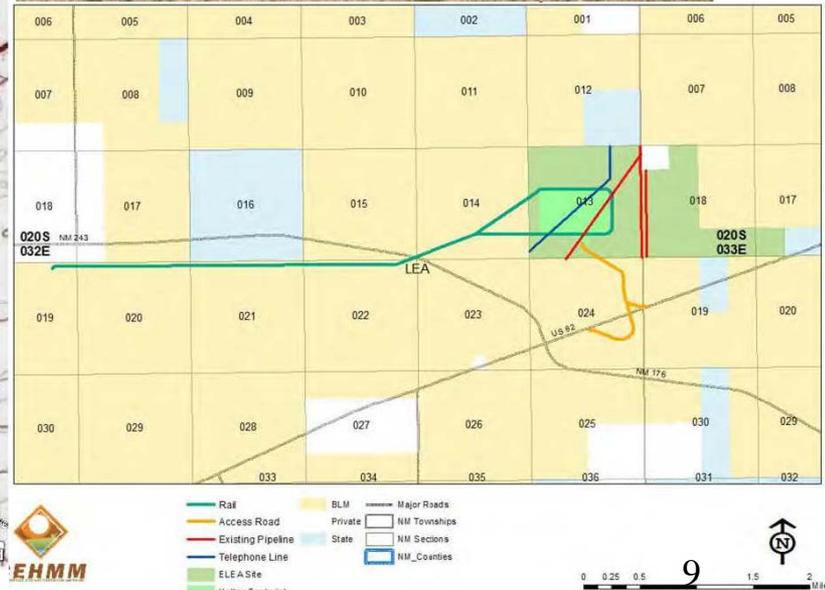
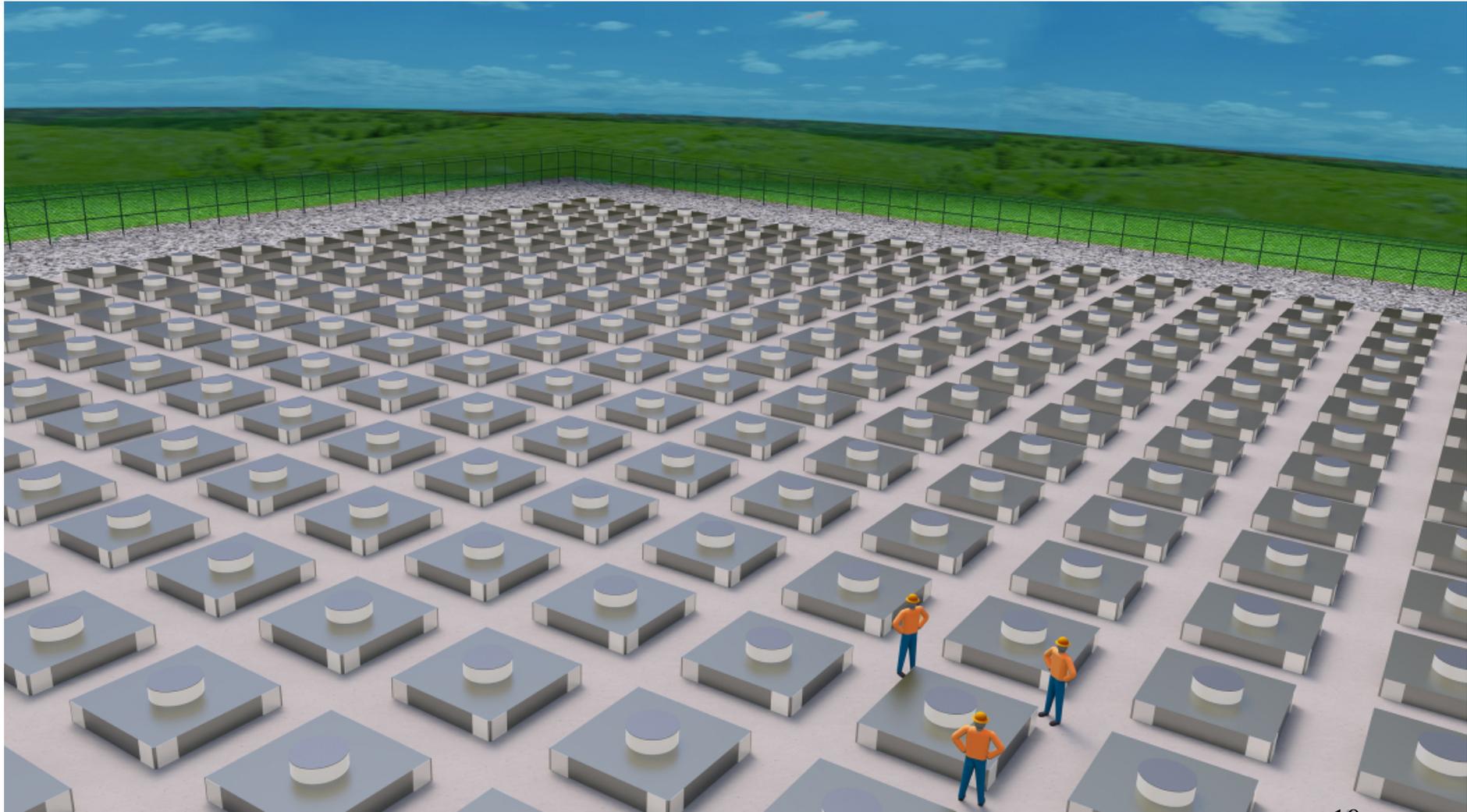


Figure 2.1.12: Mineral Resources near the Site

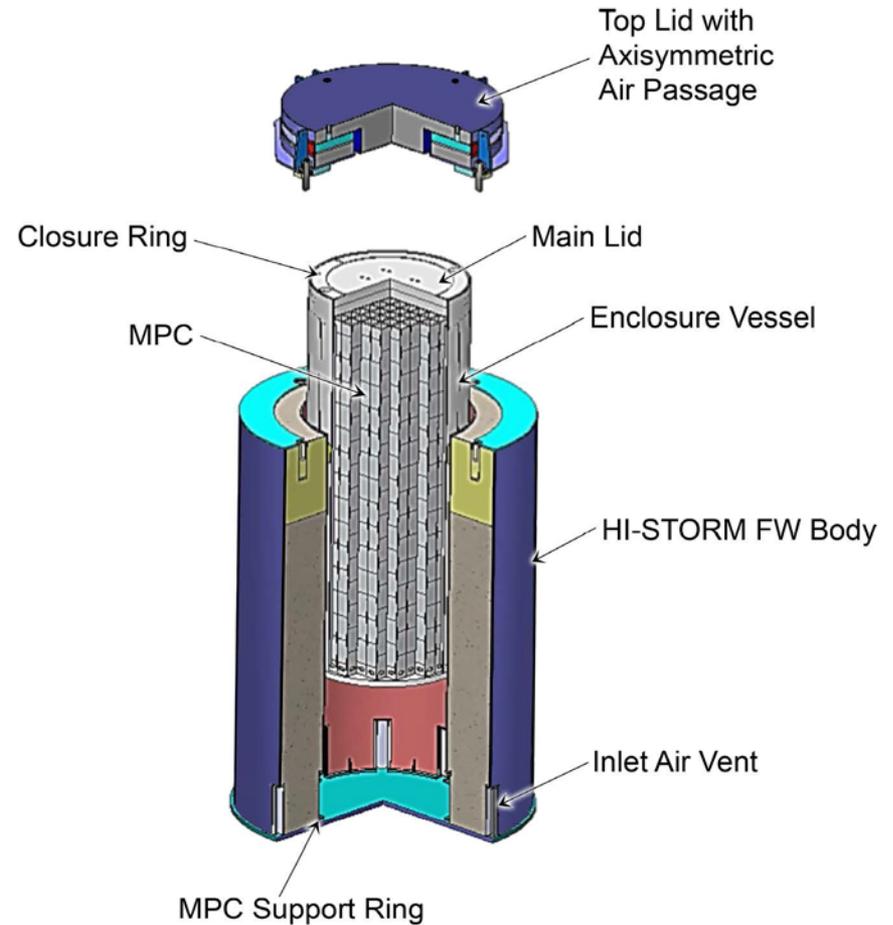
Figure 2.1.11: Surface Land Ownership in the Vicinity of the Site [2.1.15]

Holtec Storage



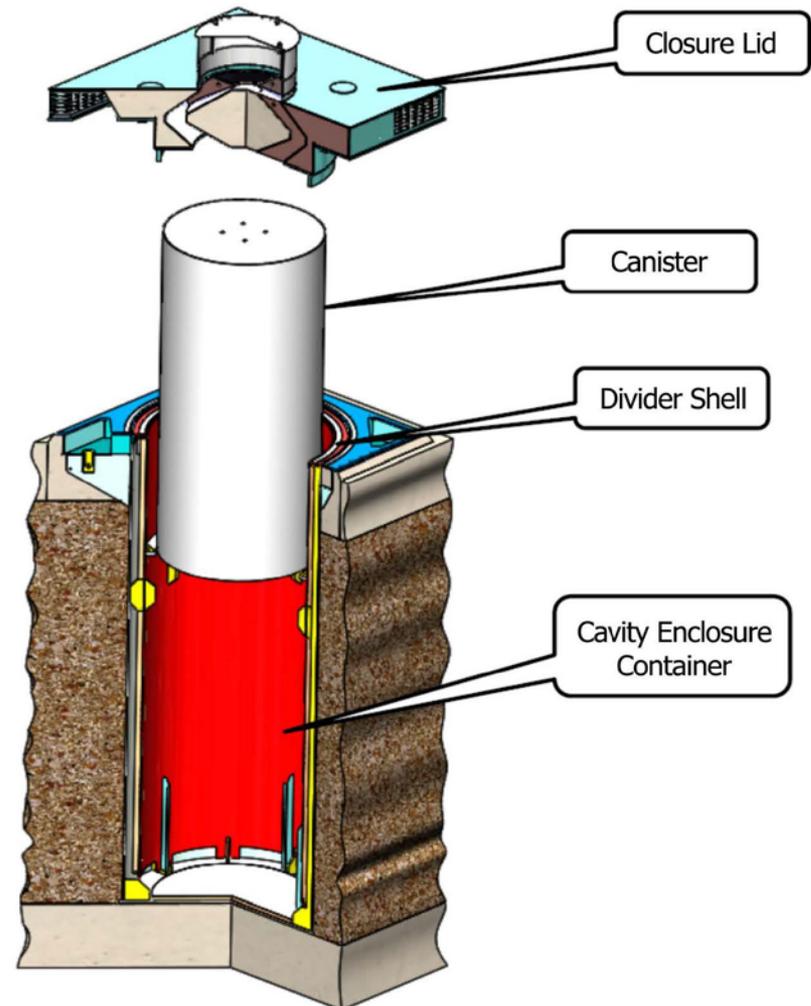
Safety In-Depth

3. For dry storage, between 24 and 89 fuel assemblies are placed into a fuel basket, for handling purposes, physical protection and improved shielding.
4. The basket is located inside the multi-purpose-canister (MPC), a seal-welded stainless-steel structure. Multi-Purpose means it is suitable for storage, transport and final repository without re-opening the canister

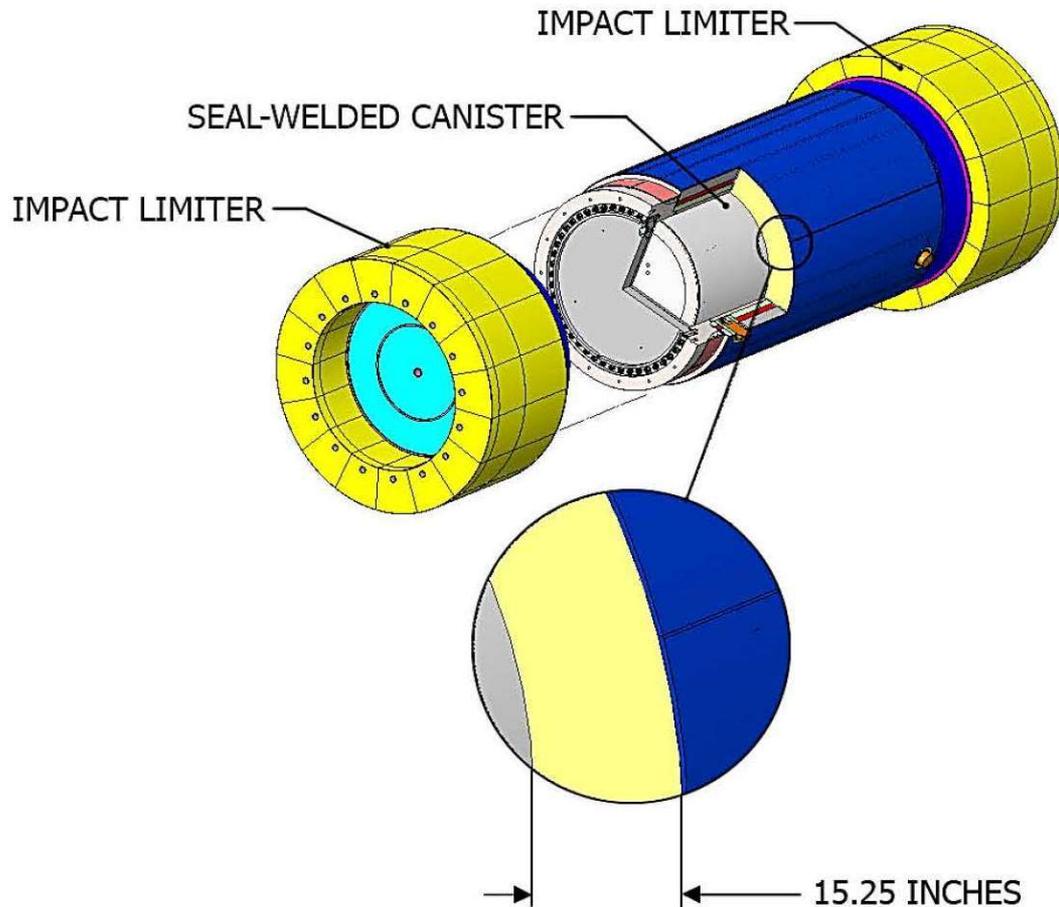


Safety In-Depth

5. The canister is placed into the subsurface cavity, for shielding and physical protection
6. The cavity is closed with a heavy lid for additional shielding and physical protection
7. The site is surrounded by barriers and fences for physical security protection



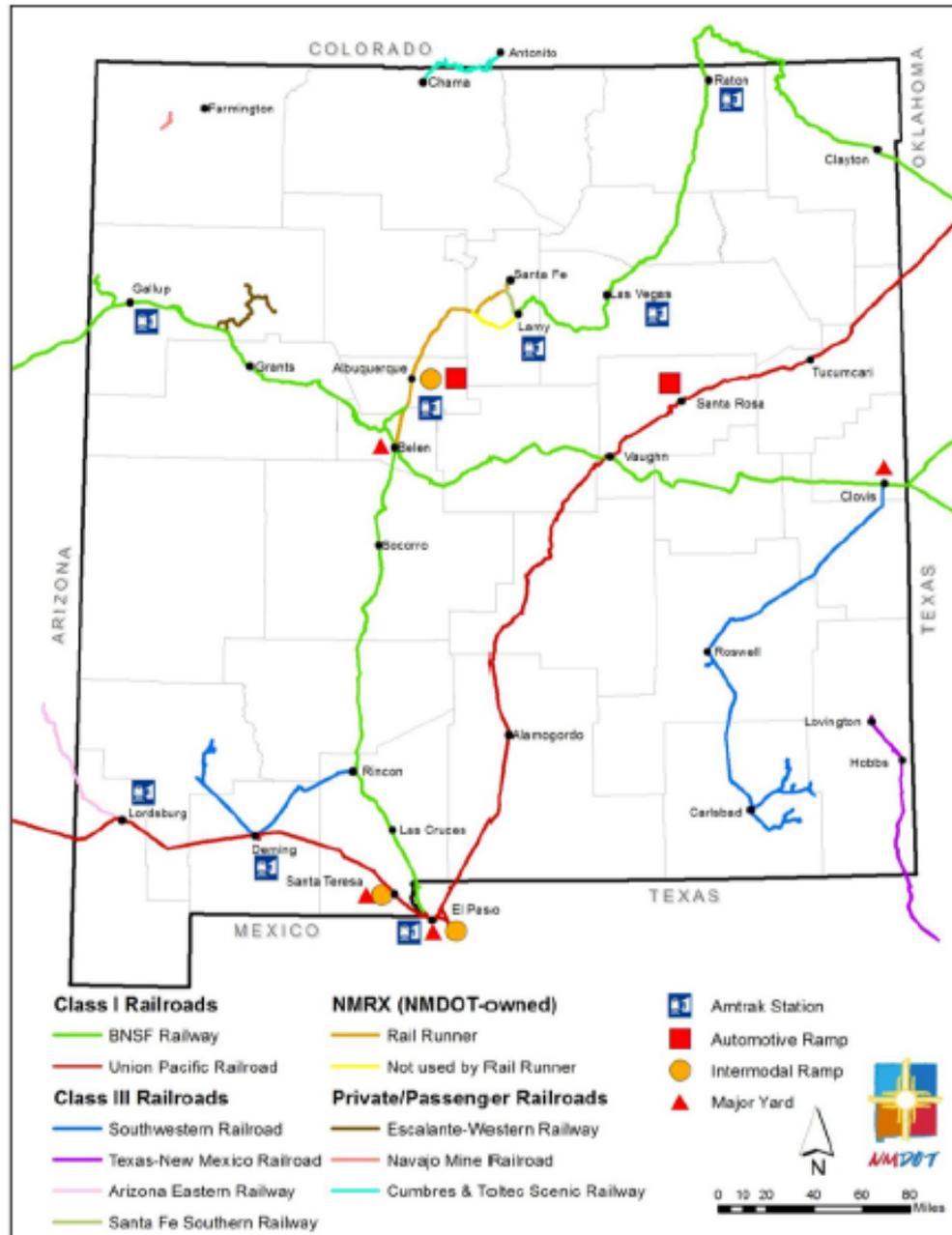
HI-STAR 190 Transport Cask



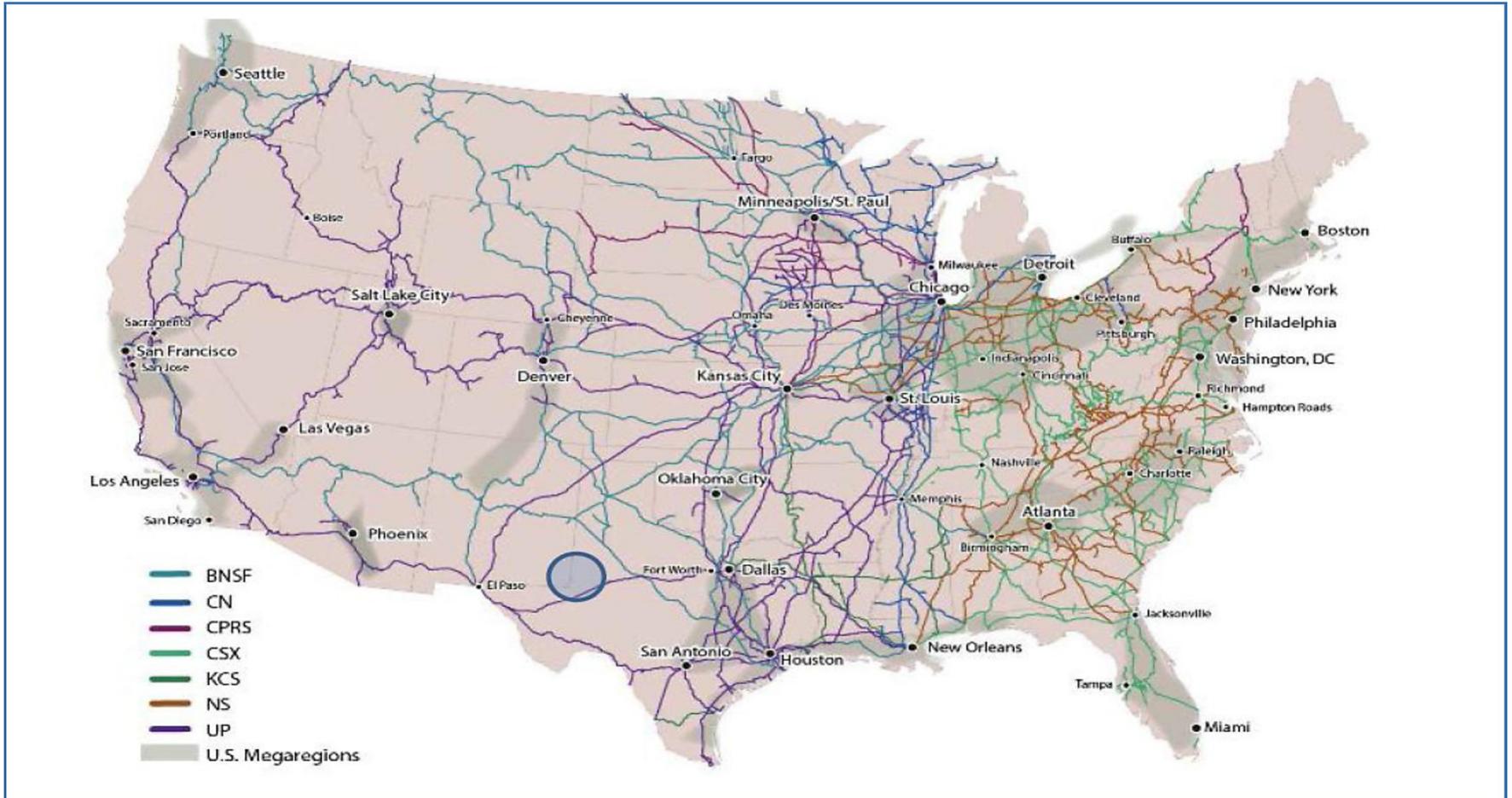
Cask length = 15' 9"/17' 8"
Internal Diameter = 6'4"
Outer Diameter = 8'10"

Waste Loaded weighs
371,000 lbs. to 414,800
lbs.

Figure ES.1 New Mexico State Rail System in 2014



Major Rail Lines to WCS



Current Law

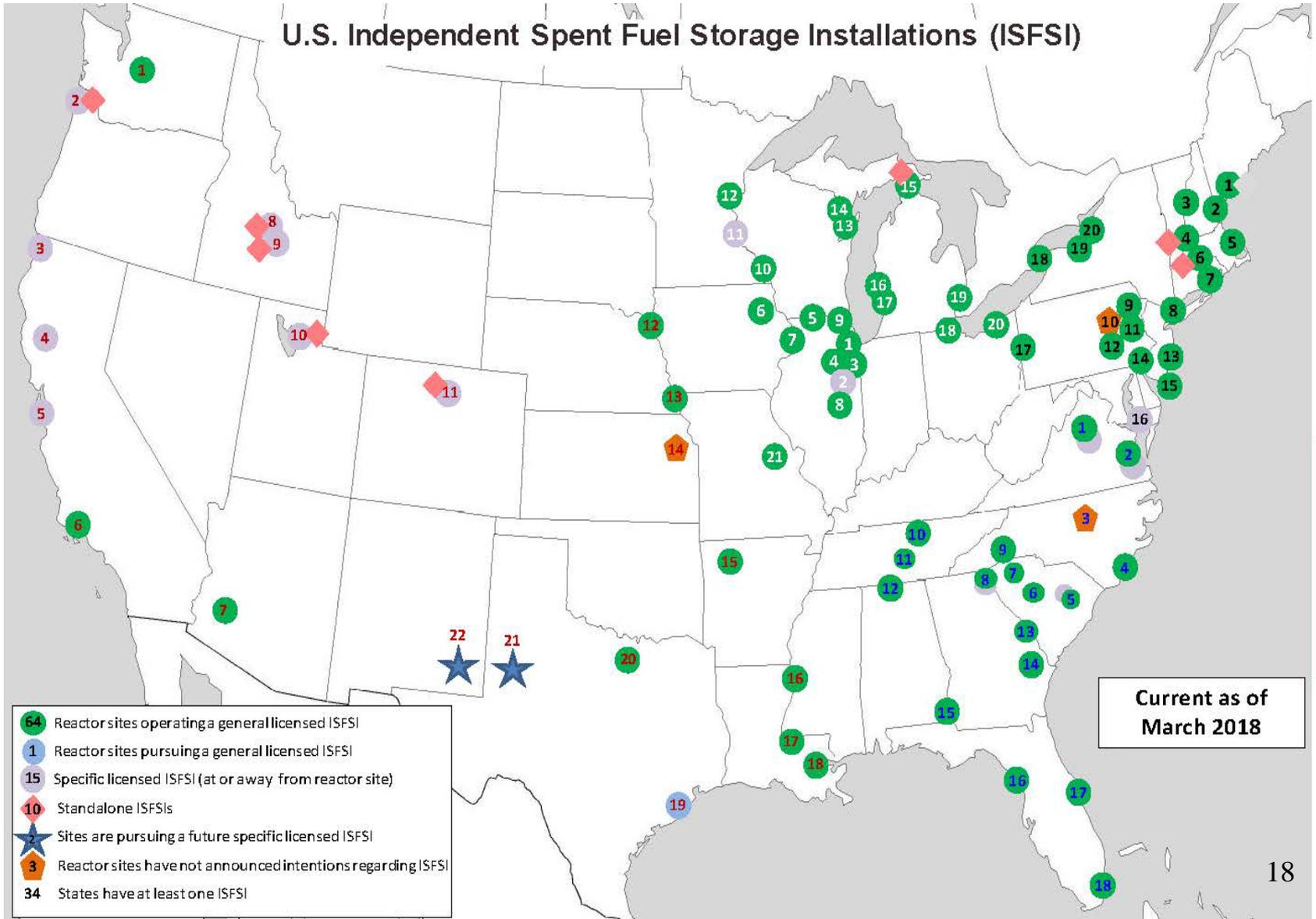
- ❖ Nuclear Waste Policy Act – “Polluter Pays” – Nuclear Utilities pay for storage on site and private storage
- ❖ Department of Energy (DOE) does disposal and transportation to repository disposal site

Existing Consolidated Storage

- ❖ Private Fuel Storage is located in Tooele County, Utah
- ❖ NRC issued 20-year license on February 21, 2006
- ❖ Site not used because of public and state opposition, establishment of Cedar Mountain Wilderness Area, BLM not granting access, and BIA not approving lease

Existing Storage

U.S. Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations (ISFSI)



Holtec Wants to Change Law

“Phase 1 construction would begin after issuance of the license and after Holtec successfully enters into a contract for storage with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).” Holtec Environmental Report, p. 13.

Holtec Wants to Change Law

“The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) would be responsible for transporting SNF to the CIS Facility in transportation casks licensed by the NRC pursuant to 10 Part CFR 71.” Holtec Environmental Report, p. 198 (and p. 155).

Holtec Wants to Change Law

“The Federal government, through DOE, is responsible for providing emergency training to states, tribes, and local emergency responders along the transportation routes where SNF would be transported to the CIS Facility.” Holtec Environmental Report, p. 198.

Will Congress Change the Law?

- ❖ **HR 3053 passed the House by vote of 340 to 72 on May 10 (Pearce-Yes, Lujan Grisham and Lujan – No)**
- ❖ **Authorizes funding for private consolidated storage**
- ❖ **House Energy & Water Appropriations does not include funding for private consolidated storage**

Will Congress Change the Law?

- ❖ **Senate will not consider HR 3053**

- ❖ **Senate Energy & Water**

 - Appropriations includes funding for private consolidated storage**

- ❖ **House and Senate Conference will develop final bill for House and Senate votes**

Opposition Makes a Difference

NM senators oppose interim N-waste site

*Proposed depository would store
rods from commercial power plants*

BY KEVIN ROBINSON-AVILA
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

5/1/15
B1

New Mexico's U.S. senators, Democrats Martin Heinrich and Tom Udall, released statements on Thursday opposing a proposal to build an "interim" storage site in southeastern New Mexico for spent nuclear fuel from commercial power plants in the U.S.

Both senators said that any proposal for an interim depository should not be considered until there is a permanent solution to disposal of the nation's nuclear waste.

Reality: Lots of Opposition

April 25, 2018 – NRC webinar

25 commentors: 0 support Holtec

April 30, 2018 – Roswell meeting

53 commentors: 45 oppose Holtec, 7 support, 1 neutral

May 1, 2018 – Hobbs meeting

47 commentors: 33 oppose Holtec, 14 support

May 3, 2018 – Carlsbad meeting

61 commentors: 32 oppose Holtec + 1,300 letters, 29 support

May 21, 2018 – Gallup meeting

36 commentors: 35 oppose Holtec, 1 support (Holtec)

May 22, 2018 – Albuquerque meeting

69 commentors: 63 oppose Holtec, 6 support

Reality: Lots of Opposition

May 21, 2018 – Albuquerque City Council Memorial
Opposing Holtec

May 29, 2018 – City of Jal Resolution Opposing Holtec

June 12, 2018 – Bernalillo County Commission
Resolution Opposing Holtec

Opposition Makes a Difference

“WCS respectfully requests that the NRC temporarily suspend all safety and environmental review activities as well as public participation activities.” 4/18/17

“WCS also is faced with a magnitude of financial burdens that currently make pursuit of licensing unsupportable. This is so because following the recent docketing of the CISF application in January 2017, the cost profile for WCS’ pursuit of the CISF application has increased dramatically.”

Next Steps in NRC process

- ❖ NRC has public comment period until July 30 on environment impact statement scoping
- ❖ Public meetings were held in Roswell (April 30), Hobbs (May 1), Carlsbad (May 3), Gallup (May 21), and Albuquerque (May 22)
- ❖ Send public comments to:
Holtec-CISFEIS@nrc.gov
- ❖ NRC issues notice of schedule for Intervening and submitting Contentions in the licensing case.
- ❖ Various parties file motions to intervene

What Can You Do?

- ❖ Email comments to NRC:
Holtec-CISFEIS@nrc.gov
- ❖ Mail comments to:
May Ma, Office of Administration
Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A60M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
- ❖ Contact Members of Congress
- ❖ Discuss the issue with candidates

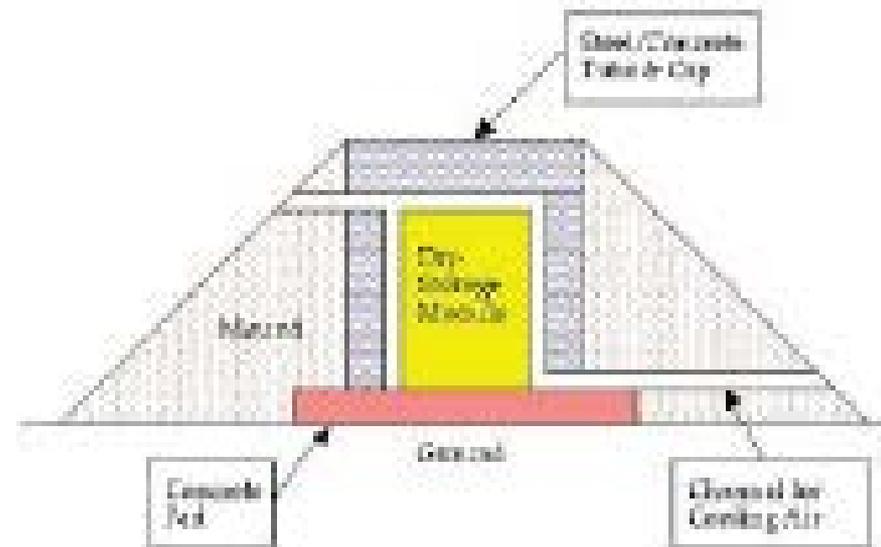
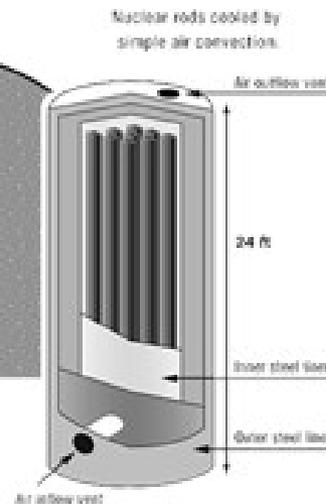
What to Do?

Store waste as safely as possible as close to generating site as possible

Earth/gravel berm should surround each cask and hide from ground-level view.



Potential Target: 24 to 36 Bundles of Nuclear Rods



Resources

Holtec NRC documents:

<https://www.nrc.gov/waste/spent-fuel-storage/cis/holtec-international.html>

Holtec community opposition:

<http://nonuclearwasteaqui.org>

Holtec's website:

<https://holtecinternational.com/product/sandservices/hi-store-cis/>



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