

# **Indian Point Community Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes** **December 10, 2020**

## In attendance:

Theresa Knickerbocker, Village of Buchanan Mayor, Chairperson  
Linda Puglisi, Supervisor Town of Cortlandt, Vice-Chairperson  
Joseph Hochreiter, Sup. HHS  
Peter Harckham, State Senator  
Sandy Galef, Assemblywoman  
George Latimer, Westchester County Executive  
Catherine Borgia, WC Legislature  
Colin Smith, WC Legislature  
Kevin Byrne, State Senator  
Richard Becker, Cortlandt Town Councilman, Deputy Supervisor  
Marcus Serrano, Buchanan Village Manager  
Richard Funchion, Buchanan, Deputy Mayor  
Tito Davila, Sen. Harckham, IP Liaison  
Peter Loughran, WC  
Thomas Congdon, PSC, Deputy Director - Chair of the NYS Closure Task Force  
John Sippos, PSC  
Mike Twomey, Entergy  
Joe Lynch, Director of Gov't. Affairs, Entergy  
Rich Burroni, Decommissioning Director Entergy (attending for Tony Vitale)  
Al Liberatore, Business Agent Teamsters 456 (union rep. for security officers at IP)  
Thomas Carey, Pres. AFL-CIO West/Put Central Labor body, Bus. Rep. Plumbers/Steamfitters, LU#21  
William Smith, V.P. of Local 1-2 (representing the utility workers at IP)  
Eileen Absenger, Buchanan resident  
Don Dwyer, Montrose resident, local realtor  
Manna Jo Greene, Environmental Dir. Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Ulster Co. Legislator  
Charles Graven  
Nick Longo, representing Co. Exec. Ed Day, Rockland County  
Deb Milone, President of HV Gateway Chamber of Commerce

## Holtec Representatives:

Joy Russell, Senior VP and Strategy Officer  
Dr. Stefan Anton, VP Engineering and Licensing  
Joe Delmar, Senior Director Gov't. Affairs and Communications  
Pat O'Brien, Manager Gov't. Affairs and Communications at Holtec, CDI

Mayor Knickerbocker welcomed everyone to the meeting and said the dry casks would be discussed by the Holtec Representatives.

All members were introduced:

Supervisor Puglisi stated that we have been great partners with Buchanan and the Hendrick Hudson School District and all the other members of our task force over the last 3½ years. It has been a journey since the closing was announced. We have stated our opinions, our challenges and our needs. Supervisor Puglisi thanked Entergy representatives for being at all

of our task force meetings throughout these years; it has been helpful. We are looking forward to Holtec being at all the future meetings. Linda stated that we work and live here and we have to be the representatives who will disseminate the information to the public. The environmental issues, tax revenues and jobs are key. The NRC has approved Holtec and that will be discussed further in this meeting. We have more to do and more to learn.

Mayor Knickerbocker thanked the Supervisor for her partnership in this adventure. These meetings will continue to keep the residents informed.

Panel member's introduction and comments:

Richard Funchion: Both Supervisor and Mayor Knickerbocker have done a great job and I appreciate all the work that they have done.

Sandy Galef: We are trying to get the Gov. to ask for the Bills and to support them. With all the efforts hopefully this will happen. The petitions have been recirculated. Everyone should write to the Gov. and encourage him to support all 3 Bills. In NJ, Oyster Creek is trying to do the same as we are.

Catherine Borgia: We are releasing a letter and are hoping all the Legislators will sign the Bill (15/17 have already). The County Executive will sign also.

George Latimer: Both letters will be signed.

Peter Harckham: Thank you all for your collaboration in this effort. I met with Holtec today (2nd meeting). I have an open door policy for all the stakeholders to help facilitate the process as we go forward.

Nick Longo: Thank you to the Mayor and Supervisor. We appreciate having a seat at this table.

Sup. Hochreiter: I have been working on a number of fronts with many of you, especially the Mayor and Supervisor.

Tom Carey: Thank you Mayor, Supervisor, Co. Executive, Senator and Assemblywoman for giving Labor a seat at the table. It is imperative that we are a part of these discussions.

Minutes from Nov. 5, 2020 were approved.

Supervisor made the motion to approve, Eileen A. second, all approved

Joe Delmar - Holtec International:

I presented to the panel back in January 2020 and I appreciate the opportunity again here tonight and look forward to working closely with the Panel going forward. I joined Holtec 1 ½ years ago and prior to that I do have nuclear industry experience and specifically working with the local community. I worked for PSEG and led the communications and outreach programs. I have worked with Chamber of Commerce's and elected officials.

Presentation from Holtec International - Dry Cask Overview:

Joe Delmar:

We will discuss an update on the decommissioning process for IP and where we are today. Also, the program that Holtec uses as their operating model, as well as a time-frame for completing decommissioning at IP. We will share an update on the other plants we are decommissioning; Oyster Creek and Pilgrim plants. We will discuss how dry cask storage is designed to protect public health and safety. We will talk about the benefits of Holtec doing prompt decommissioning at IP.

In January 2017 the closure of IP was announced. April 2019 we announced a sales agreement with Entergy to purchase all 3 units at IP for decommissioning. Nov. 2019 we filed a license transfer application with the NRC and filed with the NYS PSC. IP 2 was shut down April 2020 and the NRC has just acknowledged the license transfer approval for IP from Entergy to Holtec. In April 2021, Unit 3 will be shutting down and we are projecting the sale completion in May of 2021.

With the approval of the license transfer the NRC determined that Holtec met the regulatory, legal, technical and financial requirements to be the licensee at IP. Besides NRC approval there are some other steps that need to be taken before the transaction can be completed. The companies have requested an order from the PSC disclaiming jurisdiction or alternatively approving the transaction. With the parties that are involved with the PSC petition we did with the Village, Town and School district and some environmental groups have filed to be parties with the case with the PSC - we did voluntarily enter discovery (Holtec and Entergy) we want to be transparent and make sure the information was available. This will allow the PSC process to move forward and allow us to complete the transaction in May 2021. It is important that there is closure so that the employees can move forward in the future.

Holtec is also looking to have an agreement with the DEC for closing. We understand there are many environmental requirements that will be required in NYS. We want to work closely with the DEC to have this outlined.

Pat O'Brien:

I have been with the Holtec team for about 1 year. I came when Holtec purchased the Pilgrim plant in Plymouth, MA. Prior, I worked for Entergy for about 5 years as the communications manager for the Pilgrim station and prior to that I was in state and local government in MA. I am a MA Citizens Advisory Panel Member.

The safe and efficient decommissioning work takes about the same amount of time (whether Entergy or Holtec were to do the work) but we would start a lot sooner with the prompt DECON model. We are looking to take ownership at the end of May 2021 and we would go right into prompt DECON. This is decades sooner than if Entergy would have remained the owner and took the maximum 60 years SAFSTOR. Our goal is to get to partial site release in 15 years. Now we are in the planning and pre-decommissioning preparation. We are working closely with the Entergy team to align and ensure we have an orderly and effective transition. We have had a Holtec planning team on site at IP for 1 year working on preparation for the transaction. We would start the plant deactivation so the activities associated with terminating operations and going from an operating site to a decommissioning project could begin. The initial phase will include the safe storage operations and looking to get the fuel into dry cask storage in the first few years of ownership and get that to the existing ISFSI pad. Then we would begin dismantling the materials and start removing them. At the end of the 15-year time-frame we would have ongoing ISFSI operations. You would be left with the ISFSI pad, with the spent

fuel in the dry cask, with security as oversight and it would remain there until the DOE fulfills their commitment to move the fuel from the site.

Joe Delmar:

I want to highlight the activities and current schedule for the decommissioning at IP.

(see chart on PowerPoint page 8).

Before Holtec takes ownership at IP, after the plant shutdown the fuel will be moved into the spent fuel pools and upon that the completion the transaction will be completed. At that point with the reactor emptied the reactor vessels internals and key components of the plant itself we will begin the segmentation of all 3 reactor vessels (Units 1,2 and 3). We will work over the next 3 years on each of those units.

Once we begin with that in parallel in 2022 we will begin moving the spent fuel from the fuel pools in Units 2 and 3 into dry cask storage and place them into the independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI). All the Unit 1 fuel was already placed on the ISFSI. There is also existing fuel from Units 2 and 3. This will complete the removal of all the spent fuel that IP has generated throughout its operating history.

In 2022 we will begin dismantling operations for a lot of the buildings. We will remove key components from the buildings and shut off utilities properly and remove different structures inside. This will allow for the demolition of different structures beginning in 2024 and this will go on for 7-8 years. Then we will have the final status site survey and this will ensure that the site environmental characterization that we have done from the federal standards as well as any agreements that we have reached with NYS - that we are meeting the requirements of any cleanup activities that we need to be eligible to release the property.

We will also be restoring different pieces of land throughout the operations, as those areas are cleared and buildings are dismantled and the final parcels will be restored in 2032-2034. At that point we will reach out to the NRC and file to amend the license for IP that would be an ISFSI only location. This will allow us to release the remaining site for redevelopment or repurpose (2033-2036). With the partial site release we can redevelop with the exception of the ISFSI. 2033-2062 we are targeting for the isfsi only operations to have the spent fuel stored on site with a goal to move the fuel off-site prior to that with the federal repository or our proposed consolidated interim storage facility in NM.

Pat O'Brien:

Here is an update on the 2 plants that we have currently under decommissioning.

The Oyster Creek Plant in NJ - we took over July 2019. We have begun demolition and have removed 6 support buildings and a number of storage tanks. We have removed some of the reactor vessels internals - the dryer and the separator - the large components inside the reactor. This has been done ahead of schedule and with no issues. We have removed the transformers and dismantled them from the site. The fuel loading campaign will begin next week.

In Plymouth, MA we have loaded 11 casks this year in addition to 17 casks that were already located on our spent fuel pad. There are 33 more casks to go which will be loaded next year. This will completely remove all the fuel from the spent fuel at Pilgrim in a 2 ½ year time-frame from when we shut the plant down. We are currently constructing a new isfsi pad - it is a larger pad that will accommodate all the fuel that the plant had. This will allow for safe decommissioning. The current pad is adjacent to the reactor building and in close proximity to some structures that will be taken down so the fuel will be moved to a different site on the property. We have begun environmental site characterization which is a key step in understanding and identifying issues that we may have to remediate. We have demolished

multiple buildings. We have a main mission stack that can be seen for miles and that has been removed. We are currently working on the reactor vessel segmentation. One of the key things that we were able to accomplish was the comprehensive agreement with the commonwealth of MA. A lot of hard work went into this to give clarity to what the site will look like and gives us the ability to work closely with the State to ensure everything is done to the NRC and State regulations.

We have had a pre-submittal meeting with the NRC regarding the Palisades plants in MI. We will be filing, along with Entergy a license transfer application by the end of 2020 seeking to get the approval. The transaction will be scheduled in May 2022. This would include a formerly decommissioned plant - Big Rock Point. The nuclear decommissioning fund still needs to grow here.

Pilgrim and Oyster have an 8-year timeline, as single units. IP has a 15-year timeline with the 3 units.

Joy Russell:

My background - undergrad in Mechanical Eng., with concentration in nuclear from USMA at West Point. The HV is near and dear to me. 8-year active duty in the military with grad school at the U. of Tennessee and received Masters in Nuclear Eng. and I worked on a decommissioning project for the Army for a research reactor in Boston. I have been at Holtec for over 23 years and started in the nuclear analysis group and did a lot of field services work. When I started there were less than 30 people at the company and now there are over 1,500.

Holtec is a privately held company with one sole owner for 35 years, Dr. Singh. We have a robust safety program and a strong quality assurance program (vetted by the NRC) and audited by various utilities and international clients. The company has been profitable every year. We have a well-managed system to look at our resource loading and our manufacturing facilities. Holtec has no long-term debt. We have managed to diversify our portfolio and do research and development using our internal funds. We do not seek outside money.

A photo of campus in Camden, NJ was viewed. There is office space and manufacturing space on the campus. The land was a former navy shipyard that produced 450 navy vessels. The site was contaminated and needed restoration. Holtec did this work.

We do have a large and diversified customer base in the US and 16 foreign countries. There are currently over 130 active contracts; therefore, we have a predictable and stable cash-flow that allows us to manage our resources.

We are vertically integrated. We have the in-house capability to perform the design, engineering, licensing activities, manufacturing, construction, nuclear workers and our decommissioning arm.

Holtec is innovation - we have over 100 patents. Holtec World-Wide- Holtec is an international company. We manufacture in the United States.

Another page was viewed of where around the globe Holtec's dry, spent storage systems are deployed - there are currently 1,482 systems deployed. The dry storage systems that Holtec has licensed by every regulator and every country is seen on this map. There are 137 nuclear units around the globe that use Holtec's dry storage systems.

Holtec has been the spent fuel nuclear management service provider to Entergy (the entire fleet) for over 30 years. In NY there are almost 100 systems loaded. In the unlikely event that this transaction does not go through Holtec will continue to provide safe storage of the spent nuclear fuel at IP.

Dr. Stefan Anton:

I am the VP of Engineering for Holtec. I am also the technical lead of the nuclear analysis group at Holtec. I have worked for Holtec for 22 years but before Holtec I worked in Germany developing the dry storage for the German storage systems.

Fuel pellets are the building block of nuclear fuel; they are quite small made of a ceramic. It is a hard solid material and you need quite a number of them to create the energy. The fuel rods are a metal tube and the pellets are stacked in there and the tube is sealed at the top and the bottom. The tube is 12' long, there are quite a number in there and the next unit is the fuel assembly where the tubes and rods are bundled together. These units are placed in the core of the nuclear power plant and create the power that creates the steam that operates the turbine and creates the electricity. Once the individual energy in the individual fuel assemblies is exhausted they are put in the spent fuel pool that sits next to it. It is a big water pool in the plant - it cools the fuel and also shields the radiation. It stays in the fuel pool for quite some time until it cools down enough and goes into the dry storage system. The fuel assembly and it fits in the basket and typically there are 25 -90 assemblies that fit into the basket. The basket is part of the safety system; it provides separation of the fuel assembly and makes sure the temperatures are controlled. This is just an overview. The basket fits inside the canister. The outer part is made of stainless steel and the lid is thicker and they are welded together. Finally, you have the overpack that finishes the system off. This is a massive piece of equipment, when fully loaded about 180 tons.

Our system is the most robust in the industry. It consists of an inner and outer steel structure and the area in between the 2 shells is filled with concrete. (please see the PowerPoint for more details). The steel, concrete system of the overpack - the 2 main functions is to provide physical protection and radiation shielding.

Physical protection - is a steel shell. It ensures that there will be no degradation of the surface of the system from any environmental conditions.

The concrete contains no rebar inside because there are steel shells on the outside so rebar is not needed. The rebar can also lead to cracking in the concrete and we want to avoid that for radiation protection.

Heat removal - the system is cooled by natural convection. There is basically a chimney effect that brings the outside air through the system to cool the canister on the inside. It does not have any pumps or fans. It is a passive system and requires minimal maintenance. It requires no monitoring because it is passive.

If there are any objects that could hit a system like this (from a tornado) it would not create any problems. There are regulations for these systems. While it is extremely unlikely for the system to be hit by an airplane (military or commercial) it has been evaluated by us and the NRC and external companies. In all cases it was demonstrated that such an impact would not result in the release of any radioactivity. There is a lot of confidence in the safety of these systems.

There are 2 purposes of the overpack - one being the physical protection and the other is the protection from the radiation from the inside. It is 27" thick in concrete and steel. The radiation emitted from the fuel assembly is reduced to an insignificant level. There is no danger in getting close to these.

Canisters - it is called the multi-purpose canister. It is welded closed, stainless steel, cylindrical vessel and is closed for storage and transportation. The advantage of this system is that if you move it once, you load it into this system and after all you have to move is the canister. You do not have to touch the individual fuel assemblies again for transportation. Once these fuel assemblies have to go to a final repository it may stay in the canister. All these systems have to be certified by the NRC. The overpack is certified for storage. In the U.S. there is not a lot of transportation right now.

The multipurpose canister is one of the most important features of this canister system. It is providing the welded closure of the fuel which prevents any radioactive release to the environment. It is achieved through a process of many things. It starts with the design of the system to make sure it can be a tight system. You select the materials appropriately. The steel sheets that form the outer shell are made out of ½ of stainless steel. They are all inspected to make sure there are no flaws. The welds are all x-rayed to make sure that they are flawless. After the fuel is placed in there and it is closed it is seal welded at the top. Every step is designed to ensure that the goal will be to have an impactable barrier. No loaded canister of Holtec has ever leaked in storage.

Thick-walled casks are used in some areas but they are suboptimal. These are different from ours, they need monitoring. Ours is the better solution. The temperature of the fuel assemblies is an important parameter. You want to make sure that it is as cold as you need it. Our system is also better than the thick walled canisters. We have internal air circulation that cools down the system. Ours have been inspected that have been in storage and they have been found safe and gave us confidence in our canisters. There will be additional inspections every few years. The NRC has an aging management system established for these storage systems. These require all safety significant items be reviewed so everything is still the way it is expected. If the industry finds something that does not meet the expectations, then the appropriate steps will be taken so the systems remain safe.

Fuel basket - there have been many improvements over the years to improve the functionality and the performance of these baskets. This material was developed by Holtec and has specific benefits in keeping the fuel assemblies cooler and the temperature down. It allows us to load the fuel assemblies into this basket earlier than it was possible years ago without any compromise of the safety.

Joy Russell:

In 1982 the Federal gov't. Directed the DOE to investigate sites for the final disposition of the spent fuel and high level radioactive waste that was accumulating at the nuclear plants. Today it is still unclear as to when the Fed. Gov't will fulfill its obligation. As a result, every nuclear plant in the US stores nuclear fuel at the site -safely, securely, without incident until a permanent disposal site is developed. On-site storage is robust and safe but it was never intended to be permanent.

Holtec has responded to a request for a proposal from Eddie Lee Energy Alliance in NM - in 2015. We were invited by them to go to NM to partner with them to develop a below-grade storage facility to consolidate used nuclear fuel from around the country within the area of SE NM. In 2016 Holtec launched the licensing effort for this facility. In 2017 we submitted our application to the NRC for a site-specific license to be able to store spent nuclear fuel at the facility in NM (we call HI-STORM). The licensing process with the NRC is proceeding positively and we anticipate that we will receive the license in mid-2021. Holtec has, so far, spent \$25 - \$30 million so far for the licensing of this facility. Once funding is gained, the HI-STORM facility could be built and operational by 2024/2025. The canisters that are in storage at IP could be transported to the Hi-storm facility in NM, which would allow the site to be completely repurposed.

Joe Delmar:

I want to conclude with the community benefits of Holtec's prompt decommissioning plan for IP. We have a strong record of protecting the environment. We also have a track record of cleaning up other sites (manufacturing sites where Holtec offices are now located). We will get a historical assessment that Entergy has worked on regarding the IP site and properly identify anything that is found currently on the site.

Pat O'Brien:

Regarding the local employment - Energy is putting together a Phase I organization so we will be taking 300 Entergy employees that have vast years of knowledge and experience at IP over to the Holtec, CDI Team, once we take ownership. We will honor the existing collective bargaining agreements with the Teamsters and Utility workers. The decommissioning work will be done with skilled labor through local union halls. The decommissioning general contractor which is Comprehensive Decommissioning International - we have national labor agreements with the Laborer's Unions in North America, International Operating Engineers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - they've allowed us to do a training option for decommissioning team members to become apprentices and join those unions. We have a specialty service contract with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters to offer radiation protection workers.

Holtec will honor the existing PILOT agreements that Entergy has in place. We will also participate in future PILOT agreements with the taxing jurisdictions when Holtec becomes the owner. Prompt decommissioning allows the site to be repurposed decades sooner and that helps replace the tax revenue. We are committed to working with local community leadership to discuss their ideas for the reuse of the site. We have worked hard to participate and support community organizations. We like to be involved and speak to groups and help them understand what the project is.

Joe Delmar:

We are committed and have no preconceived notions on what to do with the site. We did meet with Mayor Knickerbocker last week on what the Village would like to see there. We are committed to working with the local community and having an open dialogue. We met with Senator Harckham and the Business Council of Westchester. We also made a presentation to the HV Chamber of Commerce. We met with Peter Loughran and Nick Longo and the emergency management coordinators for the 4 counties. We have a tentative meeting with the NY Congressional delegation.

We invite any members of our panel to visit the Camden, NJ facility and see how the casks are manufactured. Also, Oyster Creek or Pilgrim to see some of the decommissioning activities.

Panel Discussion/Q & A

Mayor Knickerbocker:

I appreciate the open communication and thank you for meeting with the Village to understand our needs going forward.

If we don't get to all the questions, please submit them in writing and we will get those answered for you.

Supervisor Puglisi:

Thank you for stating that you will honor the PILOT agreement and the future ones that are being discussed and negotiated. I am pleased that you are going to have 300 of the current employees working with you and being re-trained and you will honor the local unions/labor and use local contractors.

I want to follow-up that there was no monitoring system required. I found that troubling and that it will be performed on a predefined schedule. To me this is gray/ambiguous and there should be more structure and monitoring of these dry casks units.



Dr. Anton:

I may not have explained the entire area of the aging management program appropriately. This is a process that has to be in place. It has to be submitted to the NRC and they have specific requirements of what needs to be done at what time. Every operator of the isfsi has to submit this report to the NRC. They will make sure that the program meets all of these requirements. This includes the inspections of the system to make sure that everything remains safe and in the appropriate condition.

Supervisor Puglisi:

I will follow up at that critical point. Hopefully the NRC will hold a Public Hearing. How thick are the walls on the dry cask units and what is their life expectancy? Do they have to be replaced?

Dr. Anton:

The life expectancy - the NRC only gives permission for 20-40 years, then the permission is extended if nothing else has to be done. This is in addition to the aging management program. Basically there are no moving parts so they can easily last 100 years if necessary. The NRC has concluded that these systems will last longer than 100 years. The overpack on the outside (the steel and concrete) is 27" and the canister inside (the stainless steel) is 1/2". These are the standards.

Supervisor Puglisi:

Which company will actually do the decommissioning? Holtec? Or subsidiary?

Joe Delmar:

The day to day decommissioning work will be by CDI, (we have a joint venture with SNC Lavalin). Holtec Decommissioning International will be the holder of the license from the NRC. Part of the application with NRC we have outlined the structure of the company and each role that they will play.

Joy Russell:

Holtec Decommissioning International, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holtec International it is not a joint venture. CDI, the general contractor that will perform the decommissioning day-to-day activities is a joint venture company.

Supervisor Puglisi:

This HI-STORM site in NM, how close are we to having it approved by the Federal gov.? By the NRC? Does Congress have to support this?

Joy Russell:

The HI-STORM facility is a license that Holtec, International is pursuing as a private entity for a private consolidated interim storage facility. The NRC has the authority to issue a site specific license for spent nuclear fuel storage to a private entity such as Holtec. The status is the application is under review and we have a schedule from the NRC stating that the license will be granted in 2021.

Supervisor Puglisi:

Does the government of NM have to approve this and the transportation through the country to traverse through all the states has always been problematic?

Joy Russell:

Technically the State of NM does not have to approve the license. The license is approved by the NRC. The Eddy Lea Energy Alliance is a NM entity and they invited Holtec to come to their state. For the construction to occur there are certain permits that would have to be granted by the NM. It is Holtec's commitment to NM to develop the most robust and safest interim storage possible.

Sandy Galef:

I would like them to get back to us in written form on all our questions.

We have a decommissioning fund and you are dealing with Oyster Creek, Plymouth and IP. You have talked about using the fund for transportation to NM but also you have asked the NRC to use the fund for the spent fuel rods going into dry casks - I would like to know what the fund is for these 3 facilities and if you have been given approval to use some of the decommissioning money for the spent fuel rods and what is left is that enough to do what you say you have to do? Where will you get the money for transportation?

Joy Russell:

I did not state at all the decommissioning trust fund would be used for transportation or for New Mexico. I want to make sure that is clear.

Sandy Galef:

Where will you be getting those monies from?

Joy Russell:

We would hope the Federal Gov't. would own up to its obligation and provide funding? Or from other nuclear facilities that would wish to move their fuel off-site. There are options we are pursuing.

Sandy Galef:

I am concerned that you are not coming back to NYS to ask them for money. Joe Delmar said if there wasn't enough money in the decommissioning fund Holtec would pay for the additional. I do not think that is true.

Pat O'Brien:

When we took over the Pilgrim site we had \$1.1 billion in the fund. That was projected to be enough for the decommissioning including spent fuel management. As part of our comprehensive agreement with MA - we put triggers into that agreement that we would meet certain thresholds so we could complete decommissioning. You would have similar guarantees and financial mechanisms in the comprehensive agreement with NYS.

Sandy Galef: Did you also get permission from the NRC to use the money out of the decommissioning for spent fuel?

Pat O'Brien:

We went for an exemption in MA to do that and at Oyster Creek.

Joe Delmar:

Exemptions were filed to allow for spent fuel management at Oyster Creek and IP. With the NRC's approval the license transfer they identified and approved that the decommissioning cost estimate that we provided them which outlined the financials of the spending of the fund was more than sufficient to cover those costs.

Theresa Knickerbocker:

We need to have an economic session to hammer out these financial questions.

Joe Delmar:

We would love the opportunity to sit down with Assemblywoman Galef and we have extended a couple of invitations - so we would love to sit down individually to address your concerns.

Sandy Galef:

I would like to do it more as a community.

Manna Jo Greene:

Regarding the 1/2" steel canisters - we are aware that there were problems in Santa Ofre which is a different storage system but none-the-less, when you are trying to put a 1/2" canister filled with very high-level radio-active waste into that receiving over-pack or concrete cask there is a very good chance that it could scrape. There are examples where that has happened and that would weaken the surface of that steel structure. I don't know if you can prevent that and I think that there is a really good chance that that can compromise the canister itself.

Dr. Anton:

There were really no problems with the canister with the wall integrity at Santa Onofre and we have here a very different system. The internal design of the over-pack that I used here has very different features. It is not really a direct comparison. At Santa Onofre it was concluded that there was no compromise of the integrity of the systems and they were approved by the NRC that they performed as attended. A minor scratch does not impair the integrity of the system.

MJG:

These types of questions are exactly why we need a public hearing by the NRC.

Other questions from the on-line participants:

How many spent fuel rods go into an assembly and how many assemblies go into your MPC?

Dr. Anton:

One assembly (the one at IP) has approx. 205 fuel rods. There are 32 of the assemblies that go into one of the systems.

Why don't you monitor the air leaving the casks?

Dr. Anton:

The canister is sealed and leak tight so monitoring is not needed for the air.

Joy Russell:

The canisters are completely welded shut. There is no leaking out the canister; there is no air coming out of the canister. The over-pack is ventilated. It has vents at the bottom and top (see slide 25). The vents at the bottom permit the air to come in the vents, touch the outside of the canister and it is completely sealed. The air never comes in contact with the radio-active contents on the inside of the canister. That is why we do not monitor the air.

What is the longest any Holtec canister has ever been in long term storage?

Dr. Anton:

20 years.

Theresa Knickerbocker:

The NYS Legislature will start a new session in January and the public should be aware of a bill so they can weigh in on it.

I do not oppose the idea of a decommissioning oversight board but what I do oppose is the current composition of that board. Right now as the Bill is written the Board will have 21 members, 9 will be unelected State government officials. You already have a 9-8 voting majority on this board being unelected government officials. You are giving a clear voting majority over our community to Albany to people that, as far as we know, have never been to IP or have never been to this community. Please think about that. You have 6 appointments from the governor that is 15 of the 21 completely controlled by Gov. Cuomo and the Legislators each get 2 appointments. Albany is going to come into our community and tell us who will be overseeing the decommissioning process. This is more of Albany telling us what to do - a top-down approach instead of the community being in the driver seat. You are giving away control to Albany and there is no guarantee that I or Supervisor Puglisi will be a member or any elected officials here tonight. There is no guarantee that our business groups or labor unions or any others that have been participating will be involved. The only way the board works is if you reduce the number of unelected bureaucrats and mandate the types of appointees to be named to the panel such as the Supervisor, Mayor, County Leg., etc.

Everyone please be aware of this Bill. Supervisor Puglisi and I have already voiced our opposition. I encourage everyone to oppose this Bill and I hope that Assemblywoman Galef and Senator Harckham that you will meet with us and talk about ways to accomplish oversight for this community.

Sandy Galef:

We proposed a Bill that had been worked on and it had lots of changes and there are more recommendations for changes - it is not a Bill for IP it is a Bill for New York State, for any of the nuclear facilities. It is to - we will have the head of the government - that is one of the recommendations that you all made that we are going to put into the Bill. Also that there is a union rep. - the Bill says there is a union rep. but we will clarify that. We will sit down with you and figure out what else needs to be done. I think this is a really good committee but I think there are a lot of other issues with Holtec. They are going to the State to do negotiations and there is a lot of State environmental law, there is the Attorney General - there is a whole lot of things - this is a really complicated issue. So really having 2 different entities would be very helpful to the community, not hurt the community and we have had a wonderful task force that the governor put together with a lot of heads of different departments and we have all enjoyed participating in that but that goes out of existence this coming year. There won't be anything that brings State officials into this unless we do something. There is no effort to take away any kind of local control, we want to help. We will work together.

Mayor Knickerbocker:

We need to review this again before it gets reintroduced in January. This is about the community and about the safe decommissioning of this plant and the safe restoration of the site. We want to make sure our voices are heard because they were not heard with the closure of the plant. This is our home. This panel is about informing the community and making them feel safe and understanding this process.

Supervisor Puglisi:

I am in full agreement with the Mayor. We made this perfectly clear to our State officials this summer. Sandy: I know you have been part of our task force for the past 3 years and I understand there are State-wide issues that need to be addressed; however, we are the ones that are going to be the most effected by the closure of IP: economically, jobs, revenue, environmental - we need to have many voices on the panel a big representation. The Governor hasn't even addressed this subject with us.

Mayor Knickerbocker:

Thank you to all the participants tonight.

Feb. 4th is the next meeting.

Motion to close meeting, 2nd, all in favor.

