

Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Subject: Overview of Questions and Answers from the September 23, 2019 Oyster Creek Stakeholder Information Forum (SIF)

The following pages provide an overview of the questions and answers during the Stakeholder Information Forum. This document provides only the answers to questions that were submitted in writing on index cards, as was the format of the meeting. Questions that were duplicated are synopsized, to reduce redundancy.

The questions are not in the order of which they were handed in but are bundled by subject. Also, questions may not be transcribed as exactly written, but are edited for understanding.

SPENT FUEL STORAGE

Q. How is spent fuel stored? How is radioactivity contained?

A. The used fuel is currently in the spent fuel pool and the existing Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI). Holtec intends to move the used fuel from the pool to the ISFSI, where it will be maintained and managed by Holtec until such time as the fuel is removed from site.

Currently, Oyster Creek has 2,074 fuel assemblies stored in the ISFSI -- robust metal canisters that are housed in a massive concrete structure. The storage facility is highly secured, and the casks are impervious to weather and risk of attack. The casks are closely monitored and emit no radiological activity beyond normal every day background radiation.

Q. What is the timeline for the ISFSI project from start to completion?

A. Fuel movement will commence in January 2021 and complete by November 2021

Q. What type of crane will be used to move spent fuel from the spent fuel pool to the dry storage canisters? Who is the manufacturer? What is its rating? Is it failure-proof?

A. We will use the currently installed 105-ton Single Failure Proof Reactor Building Crane to move the spent fuel canisters to and from the ground elevation of the Reactor Building. This crane has been used to safely and successfully move all of the fuel canisters that are currently stored in our ISFSI. The Crane was updated with a new Trolley manufactured and installed by American Crane

Q. Oyster Creek's spent fuel will remain in the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Facility Installation (ISFSI) until a repository is established. If a repository is not established, what will happen to the ISFSI and the spent fuel when Holtec completes decommissioning the site? Will the fuel stay where it is in the above ground facility?

A. Holtec recently submitted a license application for an autonomous consolidated interim storage facility (CISF) named "HI-STORE" in New Mexico to accept spent nuclear fuel from all nuclear plants in the U.S., including from Oyster Creek. Once licensed, fuel could be sent to the New Mexico CISF based upon the established use of interim storage locations by the federal government which would allow Holtec to return the full site to unrestricted use once the fuel has been transported off-site.

Until such time as the CISF is established or the federal government fulfils its responsibility to establish a permanent repository for all of the nation's spent fuel, the 6-acre, highly secured ISFSI will remain at Oyster Creek.

Q. Has vitrification been considered for spent nuclear fuel?

A. The Nuclear Nonproliferation Act prohibits U.S. commercial nuclear facilities from recycling or reprocessing used nuclear fuel. As a result, vitrification and recycling are not a consideration at this time.

EMPLOYMENT

Q. Will Holtec hire union tradespeople of all trades or will non-union workers also be hired?

A. Holtec will hire the right person for the job. We will hire union personnel that are qualified to perform the task needed to be accomplished in the safest and most efficient manner possible. We will also hire no-union personnel for specialty work based on required qualifications and skill sets.

Q. The township committee was given assurances that Lacey Township and Ocean County residents, and unions would receive preference in hiring. Is that still true?

A. The decommissioning project at Oyster Creek will take approximately eight years. The people we bring in will be trained on our human performance and safety standards. We will also train them on the processes and programs required to work at a nuclear facility. It benefits everyone to have consistency in the personnel working at the facility and local workers who meet the requirements are best suited to provide that consistency. We have discussed this approach with the labor unions.

IMMEDIATE DECOMMISSIONING

Q. *How will you accomplish decommissioning in six years when all research calls for 60 years for a full decommissioning? What specifically has changed to allow the shortening of this timeline?*

A. The safe and efficient decommissioning process, whether implemented by the previous owner Exelon or now Holtec, requires roughly the same amount of field work and time. Holtec's approach is to begin the decommissioning process at Oyster Creek as soon as possible (known as DECON) compared to waiting the maximum 60-year timeline (known as SAFSTOR) that Exelon originally considered. The difference is that there won't be any long periods of inactivity in the Holtec approach.

Holtec is a well-recognized innovative company that is committed to providing solutions to the nuclear industry. Holtec, as the new owner of the plant, has selected Comprehensive Decommissioning International, LLC (CDI) to perform the decontamination and decommissioning of the plant. With its experience and **proven** state-of-the-art technologies, CDI is well equipped to decommission Oyster Creek within eight years, which is more than 50 years ahead of the industry-allowed 60-year timeline.

CDI is a joint venture company of Holtec and SNC-Lavalin, which has extensive experience decommissioning nuclear power plants. This includes Big Rock Point and Zion in the United States and the Magnox fleet in the United Kingdom. They have also decommissioned multiple research reactors in Canada.

Q. *Won't expediting decommissioning in six years cause ill radiological effects on employees when the rest of the industry allows the plant to "cool down" for 30 to 40 years?*

A. Holtec is committed to performing the decommissioning of Oyster Creek with personnel, radiological, and environmental safety as its Number One focus. The plans for dismantlement have been built to keep workers' exposure to radiation as low as reasonably achievable and well under the federal guidelines.

As noted by the U.S. NRC in its documentation and decommissioning webinars, decommissioning takes place in accordance with federal regulations and U.S. NRC inspectors observing operations. There are no short cuts, nor can safety be compromised.

Q. *We have heard about the virtues of Holtec's efficiency? How does Holtec define efficiency?*

A. Efficiency is achieving the maximum productivity with minimum wasted effort while maintaining the proper safety margins in completing a task or project.

DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING/ECONOMICS

Q. How much money will Holtec make in decommissioning Oyster Creek?

A. Holtec will have the rights to any Decommissioning Trust Fund balance left once decommissioning of the facility is final and the NRC terminates the license. The cost of storing the spent fuel at Oyster Creek is included in this equation and presents an undefined variable that will change the final profit for Holtec.

Q. Has a fund been established in the event an accident happens at the plant that might cause illnesses or loss of property? If so, who maintains that fund and where does the money come from?

A. No, a separate fund has not been established. Oyster Creek, like every nuclear facility in the United States is required to have an insurance policy that would compensate the public should the near-impossible happen.

Q. Does Holtec have recovery plans if SNC Lavalin's financial issues or the upcoming Canadian elections affect that company?

A. Our confidence in our partner SNC-Lavalin is unwavering. They have cooperated and been transparent with investigating authorities and been recognized by independent observers for having implemented reforms and having a strong corporate culture. In addition, they have taken legal actions against the former employees who were involved and support them being held accountable. SNC-Lavalin has not been debarred from bidding on federal contracts in Canada. SNC-Lavalin is a large, financially stable Canadian engineering company which is well-positioned to perform decommissioning work as part of the CDI joint venture. They have an excellent credit rating compared to their industry peers making them a strong and viable partner. In terms of costs of the decommissioning project, the decommissioning trust funds will be managed by Holtec in strict compliance with NRC regulations.

Q. What happens if costs exceed the decommissioning trust fund? Who bears that cost?

A. As of June 30, 2018, the trust fund balance was approximately \$980 million and was enough, with anticipated growth, to cover the expected costs of decommissioning.

Every year, Holtec must file a decommissioning funding status report with the NRC. The purpose of the report is to demonstrate minimum funding assurance to complete decommissioning in accordance with the NRC regulatory requirements. If additional funding is required during the course of decommissioning, Holtec will be responsible for that funding, not the public or the taxpayers.

SITE FUTURE

- Q. *When will the 200 acres of land be donated to Lacey Township, and exactly where is that located?***
- A.** The State of New Jersey and Lacey Township are negotiating development plans for the property. Once that is complete Lacey will be ready to accept the property from Holtec.
- Q. *What are the future plans for the Oyster Creek site. Since there are transmission lines in place, are there any plans to use the site for generation?***
- A.** Holtec is a dynamic, evolving organization that is a leader in energy technology. Although there are no formal plans for the site at this time, the company's leaders and innovators are considering many possibilities that will keep technology and clean commerce in Lacey Township.
- Q. *What is the status of the Orsted wind farms? The news articles have been saying that part of the facility will be built on Oyster Creek property.***
- A.** Although there have been many news accounts about the offshore wind farm project, the company is not directly involved in the project. Orsted is looking to land the distribution lines on Oyster Creek property and tie into the JCP&L substation.

DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES

- Q. *What are you doing to prevent fish and shellfish in the bay from being affected the continued circulation of cooling water at the plant for the next 2 ½ years?***
- A.** Shortly after the reactor stopped operating, the circulating water used for plant cooling purposes was drastically reduced by approximately 95- percent. There is no longer any temperature or water flow variations because of the operating plant. In fact, we are starting to see the waterways go back to a brackish composition. We expect Mother Nature to continue to take its course.
- Q. *Will the intake and discharge canals be filled in?***
- A.** The intake and discharge canals will remain as is.
- Q. *What will happen to construction debris from the dismantled buildings? Will it be moved offsite and to where? What is the timeline for that?***
- A.** The construction debris from building demolition will be segregated and classified in accordance with state and federal regulations. It will then be disposed of at the appropriate facility based on its classification. For example, Class A, B and C low-level radioactive waste, hazardous waste and byproduct materials can be shipped to WCS in Texas or Barnwell in South Carolina.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Q. *There should still be a method to notify boaters and others on the Barnegat Bay if an incident happens at the plant? What types of emergency response procedures will still be in place?*

A. We continue to partner with local, county, state and federal emergency management agencies. They control the communications to the public. Holtec is maintaining the emergency sirens in full operation for the state until all fuel is in dry storage. Then they will be transferred to the Ocean County Sheriff's department. However, all agencies involved have altered their emergency plans for Oyster Creek, because the risk associated with a radiological incident here are negligible. Emergency plans for Oyster Creek are now based on the same types of hazards that could happen at most commercial or industrial facility.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Q. *Will a Citizens Advisory Panel be established?*

A. We at Holtec and CDI believe that every resident, business owner and governmental leader is a stakeholder in what we do at Oyster Creek. Everyone has a right to ask a question or air a concern and get an answer. And we welcome feedback and ideas from everyone. We have expert associates who interact and build relationships with our stakeholders and we are happy to talk about what we do with pride, truth and accuracy. We want everyone to be involved, not just a select group. For that reason, our company will not establish a Citizens Advisory Panel.

Any government agency or group of citizens can start their own panel. We will provide them with the same information that we would every member of the public.