



Holtec Center, 555 Lincoln Drive West, Marlton, NJ 08053

Telephone (856) 797-0900

Fax (856) 797-0909

**BY OVERNIGHT MAIL**

January 12, 2000

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Request for Exemption from 10CFR72.234(c)

- References:
1. USNRC Docket No. 72-1014 (TAC No. L22221)
  2. Holtec Project Nos. 5014 and 71188
  3. Southern Nuclear Operating Company – Plant Hatch (Dockets 50-321 and 50-366)

Dear Sir:

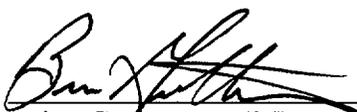
Holtec International has contracted with the Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) to supply several MPC-68 multi-purpose canisters, HI-STORM 100 overpacks, and one HI-TRAC-125 transfer cask for use at the E. I Hatch Nuclear Power Plant under the general license provisions of 10 CFR 72. Plant Hatch's schedule calls for loading of three HI-STORM 100 Systems in April, May, and June, 2001, respectively. In order to meet SNC's schedule for training, dry run performance, and fuel loading, an exemption from the regulations is required to begin fabrication of the HI-STORM overpacks and the HI-TRAC-125 transfer cask prior to issuance of the final Certificate of Compliance. We note that the Multi-Purpose Canisters (MPCs) included for use with the HI-STORM 100 System are identical to those already certified for use with the HI-STAR 100 System.

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 72.7, we therefore request an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 72.234(c) to allow the start of fabrication of three (3) HI-STORM overpacks, and one (1) HI-TRAC-125 transfer cask for SNC in early April, 2000. This is approximately three months prior to the expected issuance of the final HI-STORM SER/CoC. We request that this request be approved and the exemption issued by the NRC no later than March 31, 2000 in order to maintain SNC's fuel loading schedule.

If you have any questions please contact me at (856) 797-0900, extension 668.

Sincerely,

Approved:

  
Brian Gutherman, P.E.  
Licensing Manager

  
K. P. Singh, PhD, P.E.  
President and CEO

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Cc: Dr. Stan Turner, Holtec International  
Mr. Bernard Gilligan, Holtec International  
Mr. Giri Girishankar, Holtec International  
Mr. E. William Brach, USNRC  
Ms. Marissa Bailey, USNRC  
Mr. William Kane, USNRC  
Mr. David Bland, SNC  
Ms. Christen Howard, SNC