



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 15, 2020

The Honorable Lloyd Doggett
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Doggett:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your June 16, 2020, letter requesting that the NRC extend the public comment period on the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Interim Storage Partners, LLC's proposed consolidated interim storage facility in Andrews County, TX. You also asked that public meetings, once resumed, be held on the draft EIS at locations across Texas at least 6 months after the COVID-19 risks are fully resolved.

The 120-day comment period on the draft EIS was scheduled to close on September 4, 2020. Given the continuing COVID-19 public health emergency as well as requests from multiple stakeholders, the NRC staff has decided to extend the public comment period for an additional 60 days until November 3, 2020. A notice of this extension will be published in the *Federal Register*.

The NRC staff plans to hold a nationwide webinar and in-person public meetings in the vicinity of the proposed site during the public comment period to present the staff's preliminary findings and receive public comments. As the COVID-19 public health emergency evolves, the NRC staff will continue to evaluate these plans for engaging the public.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or have your staff contact Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristine L. Svinicki".

Kristine L. Svinicki