## LLOYD DOGGETT 35th District, Texas

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 2307 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–4865

> DISTRICT OFFICES: 217 W TRAVIS SAN ANTONIO, TX 78205 (210) 704-1080

300 EAST 8TH STREET, SUITE 763 AUSTIN, TX 78701 (512) 916–5921

June 16, 2020

Annette L. Vietti-Cook Secretary of the Commission U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Stop O-16G4 Washington, DC 20555-0001

James Park Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Docket No. 72-1050; NRC-2016-0231 Interim Storage Partners / Waste Control Specialists LLC's Consolidated Interim Spent Fuel Storage Facility application

Dear Chairman Kristine L. Svinicki, Commissioners Baran, Caputo, Wright and Hanson, Secretary Vietti-Cook and Mr. James Park;

I represent the 35<sup>th</sup> District in Texas, which includes part of Bexar County. The Bexar County Commissioners and the City of San Antonio have passed resolutions expressing opposition to having high-level radioactive waste transported through the San Antonio region. Governmental entities such as Bexar County, as well as the public, need time to fully examine the DEIS and its repercussions.

The Interim Storage Partners' (ISP) license application would allow 40 years of storage in Texas of 5000 metric tons of spent (irradiated) nuclear fuel and Greater-Than-Class C from reactors around the country, and up to 40,000 metric tons of this dangerous waste over time. This would result in decades of massive unprecedented transport of irradiated fuel rods, raising a significant number of serious health and safety concerns.

The May 8, 2020 Federal Register notice of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) announced a public comment period that ends September 4, 2020.

Over 47,000 comments have previously been submitted to NRC regarding the proposed Consolidated Interim Storage project, which appears to be the most ever for a single docket. Yet only one scoping meeting was held in Texas, which is inadequate. It was held in Andrews, an 8 to 10-hour drive for many Texas residents. One was held in Hobbs, NM and one was online, but most Texans throughout the state didn't have a viable in-person meeting opportunity. Please hold in-person public meetings regarding the DEIS in San Antonio, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston, El Paso, Midland and Andrews, Texas. As you are aware, your counterparts in a number of other government agencies have extended various deadlines because of the pandemic. Please schedule these hearings at least six months after the COVID-19 risks are fully resolved and extend the comment period deadline as well.

Sincerely,

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Lloyd Doggett