

writing. All written comments should be submitted via any of the methods provided under **ADDRESSES**.

#### Lead and Cooperating Agencies

NASA is the lead agency for the EIS. The Regents of the University of California will serve as the lead State agency for the EIR. Cooperating agencies have not been identified at this time; however, NASA continues to coordinate with external agencies and may identify one or multiple cooperating agencies during the scoping period.

**Joel Carney,**

*Associate Administrator of the Office of Strategic Infrastructure, Mission Support Directorate, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2024-13756 Filed 6-25-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7510-13-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.  
**ACTION:** Notice of permit applications received.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by July 26, 2024. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 or [ACApermits@nsf.gov](mailto:ACApermits@nsf.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew Titmus, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703-292-4479.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541, 45 CFR 671), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and

designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

#### Application Details

*Permit Application: 2025-003*

1. *Applicant:* Birgitte McDonald, Moss Landing Marine Labs, 8272 Moss Landing Rd. Moss landing, CA 95039

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Take, Harmful Interference, Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area, Import to USA. The applicant requests authorization to enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) No. 124, Cape Crozier, to conduct physiological and ecological studies on emperor penguins (*Aptenodytes forsteri*). The two-part project aims to address fundamental information gaps about the foraging ecology and habitat use of emperor penguins at two stages of their life history. The applicant proposes capturing up to 35 adult breeding emperor penguins as they depart colonies to forage. Penguins will be captured over 100 m away from the colony to minimize disturbance to the colony. Captured penguins will undergo morphological and physiological sampling, including blood, feathers, and guano, and will be fitted with instrumentation used for collecting foraging data. Up to five penguins will also be fitted with a video data logger. Up to 12 penguins would be measured for field metabolic rate using injected sterile doubly labeled water requiring the penguins to be corralled for up to 3.5 hours. Previous experience has shown the penguins remain calm during this period. After penguins return from a foraging trip (~1-3 weeks), they would be recaptured, weighted, measured, and a blood sample collected. An additional 200 guano samples would be collected from penguins at the colony by collecting fresh guano from clean ice or snow at the periphery of the colony.

*Location:* ASPA 124—Cape Crozier, Ross Island.

*Dates of Permitted Activities:* 1 October 2024–31 May 2025.

**Kimiko S. Bowens-Knox,**

*Program Analyst, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2024-13965 Filed 6-25-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

### Sunshine Act Meetings

**TIME AND DATE:** 11:30 a.m., Friday, June 28, 2024.

**PLACE:** via Zoom.

**STATUS:** Parts of this meeting will be open to the public. The rest of the meeting will be closed to the public.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Special Audit Committee of the Board of Directors meeting.

The General Counsel of the Corporation has certified that in her opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2) and (4) permit closure of the following portion(s) of this meeting:

- Executive (Closed) Session

#### Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Sunshine Act Approval of Executive (Closed) Session
- III. Executive Session: Selection of External Auditor
- IV. Executive Session: Quality Assurance Review Update
- V. Action Item: Approval of External Auditor Selection

**PORTIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** Everything except the Executive (Closed) Session.

**PORTIONS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:** Executive (Closed) Session.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Jenna Sylvester, Paralegal, (202) 568-2560; [jsylvester@nw.org](mailto:jsylvester@nw.org).

**Jenna Sylvester,**  
*Paralegal.*

[FR Doc. 2024-14135 Filed 6-24-24; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 7570-01-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 72-1041, 50-498, and 50-499; NRC-2024-0104]

### South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company; South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2; Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) and a

finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for an exemption request submitted by South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) that would permit South Texas Project Electric Generating Station (STP) to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded and load two new 37 multi-purpose canisters (MPC) with continuous basket shims (CBS) in January and March 2025, respectively, in the HI-STORM Flood/Wind (FW) MPC Storage System at its STP Units 1 and 2 independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) in a storage condition where the terms, conditions, and specifications in the Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, are not met.

**DATES:** The EA and FONSI referenced in this document are available on June 26, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2024-0104 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2024-0104. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email: [Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov](mailto:Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, at 301-415-4737, or by email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov). For the convenience of the reader, instructions about obtaining materials referenced in this document are provided in the "Availability of Documents" section.

- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov) or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Yen-Ju Chen, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear

Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555; telephone: 301-415-1018; email: [Yen-Ju.Chen@nrc.gov](mailto:Yen-Ju.Chen@nrc.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Introduction**

The NRC is reviewing an exemption request from STPNOC, dated May 7, 2024, and supplemented on May 15, 2024. STPNOC is requesting an exemption, pursuant to section 72.7 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), in paragraphs 72.212(a)(2), 72.212(b)(3), 72.212(b)(5)(i), 72.212(b)(11), and 72.214 that require STPNOC to comply with the terms, conditions, and specifications of CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2. If approved, the exemption would allow STPNOC to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two MPC-37-CBS in March 2025 in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition where the terms, conditions, and specifications in CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, are not met.

##### **II. Environmental Assessment**

###### *Background*

STP is located in Bay City, Texas. STP occupies a 12,200-acre site west of the Colorado River and approximately 70 miles southwest of Houston. Unit 1 began operating in 1988 and Unit 2 began operating in 1989. STPNOC has been storing spent nuclear fuel in an ISFSI at STP under a general license as authorized by 10 CFR part 72, subpart K, "General License for Storage of Spent Fuel at Power Reactor Sites." STPNOC currently uses the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System under CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, for dry storage of spent nuclear fuel in a specific MPC (*i.e.*, MPC-37) at the STP ISFSI.

###### *Description of the Proposed Action*

The CoC is the NRC approved design for each dry cask storage system. The proposed action would exempt the applicant from the requirements of 10 CFR 72.212(a)(2), 72.212(b)(3), 72.212(b)(5)(i), 72.212(b)(11), and 72.214 only as these requirements pertain to the use of the MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System for the near-term planned shuffling and loading of the systems. The exemption would allow STPNOC to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two new MPC-37-CBS in March 2025 in the

HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition, despite the MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System not being in compliance with the terms, conditions, and specifications in the CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2.

The HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System CoC provides the requirements, conditions, and operating limits necessary for the use of the system to store spent fuel. Holtec International (Holtec), the designer and manufacturer of the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System, developed a variant of the design with CBS for the MPC-37, known as MPC-37-CBS. Holtec originally implemented the CBS variant design under the provisions of 10 CFR 72.48, which allows licensees to make changes to cask designs without a CoC amendment under certain conditions (listed in 10 CFR 72.48(c)). After evaluating the specific changes to the cask designs, the NRC determined that Holtec erred when it implemented the CBS variant design under 10 CFR 72.48, as this was not the type of change allowed without a CoC amendment. For this reason, the NRC issued three Severity Level IV violations to Holtec. STPNOC plans to shuffle (relocate) the 10 loaded MPC-37-CBS canisters on the ISFSI pad in January 2025 and to load two new MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System in March 2025. This exemption considers the relocation of the 10 already loaded canisters and the near-term planned loading of the two canisters with the CBS variant basket design.

###### *Need for the Proposed Action*

STPNOC requested this exemption in order to allow STP to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two new MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition in March 2025.

Approval of the exemption request would allow STPNOC to effectively manage the margin for full core offload in the STP spent nuclear fuel pool to maintain its ability to offload fuel from the reactor and account for unplanned outages and cask storage component fabrication challenges that could drive rescheduling the loading campaign. It would reduce the decay heat removal demand on the spent fuel pool cooling system, and thus reduce the consequence of a design basis accident associated with a loss of spent fuel pool cooling event and the likelihood of a fuel handling accident. Approval of the exemption request would also allow

STPNOC to shuffle already loaded MPC-37-CBS canisters, and thus optimize available space on STP ISFSI pad for cask transporter maneuverability and minimize long-term damage to the STP ISFSI pad and personnel radiation exposure from cask transporter use.

*Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action*

This EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts of granting an exemption from the terms, conditions, and specifications in CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2. The exemption would allow STPNOC to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC-37-CBS in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two new MPC-37-CBS in March 2025 in the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition.

The potential environmental impacts of storing spent nuclear fuel in NRC-approved storage systems have been documented in previous assessments. On July 18, 1990, the NRC amended 10 CFR part 72 to provide for the storage of spent nuclear fuel under a general license in cask designs approved by the NRC. The EA for the 1990 final rule analyzed the potential environmental impacts of using NRC-approved storage casks. The EA for the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System, CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, published on August 23, 2016, tiers off of the EA issued for the July 18, 1990, final rule. "Tiering" off earlier EAs is a standard process encouraged by the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) that entails the use of impact analyses of previous EAs to bound the impacts of a proposed action where appropriate. The Holtec HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System is designed to mitigate the effects of design basis accidents that could occur during storage. Considering the specific design requirements for the accident conditions, the design of the cask would prevent loss of containment, shielding, and criticality control. If there is no loss of containment, shielding, or criticality control, the environmental impacts would not be significant.

The exemptions requested by STPNOC at the STP site as they relate

to CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, for the HI-STORM FW MPC Storage System are limited to the use of the CBS variant basket design only for shuffling the 10 already loaded canisters and near-term planned loading of two canisters utilizing the CBS variant basket design. The staff has determined that this change in the basket would not result in either radiological or non-radiological environmental impacts that significantly differ from the environmental impacts evaluated in the EA supporting the issuance of CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2. If the exemption is granted, there would be no significant change in the types or amounts of any effluents released, no significant increase in individual or cumulative public or occupational radiation exposure, and no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there would be no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

*Alternative to the Proposed Action*

The staff considered the no-action alternative. The no-action alternative (denial of the exemption request) would require STPNOC to keep the spent nuclear fuel in the spent fuel pool until the approved design canisters can be fabricated and delivered to the site in April 2025 which is after the planned March 2025 loading campaign. Because the March 2025 loading campaign was scheduled, budgeted, and planned several years in advance based on planned refueling outages, new fuel receipts, and other enterprise-level projects while considering the availability of specialty resources (equipment, vendors), any delay would have cascading impacts to future new fuel receipt, refueling outage, and other enterprise projects. Delay beyond 2025, if unable to reschedule in 2025, would result in loading these two canisters during the next scheduled loading campaign in 2028. Then, the number of canisters to be loaded could increase even more based on the new criticality analysis for the spent fuel pools to accommodate the planned use of accident tolerant fuel.

Further, if STPNOC does not shuffle the 10 loaded canisters, this could challenge the cask transporter maneuverability on the STP ISFSI pad, and thus increase the use of a cask transporter on the STP ISFSI pad, which could increase the long-term damage to the STP ISFSI pad and result in likely longer personnel radiation exposure from increased transporter use.

The NRC has determined that these potential impacts of the no-action alternative could be avoided by proceeding with the proposed exemption, especially given that the staff has concluded in NRC's Safety Determination Memorandum, issued with respect to the enforcement action against Holtec regarding these violations, that fuel can be stored safely in the MPC-37-CBS canisters.

*Agencies Consulted*

The NRC provided the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) a copy of this draft EA for review by an email dated June 3, 2024. On June 18, 2024, the TDSHS provided its concurrence by email.

**III. Finding of No Significant Impact**

The environmental impacts of the proposed action have been reviewed in accordance with the requirements in 10 CFR part 51, which implement NEPA. Based upon the foregoing EA, the NRC finds that the proposed action of granting the exemption from the regulations in 10 CFR 72.212(a)(2), 72.212(b)(3), 72.212(b)(5)(i), 72.212(b)(11) and 72.214, which require the licensee to comply with the terms, conditions, and specifications of the CoC, would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. The exemption in this case would be limited to the shuffling and near-term loading of specific canisters with the CBS variant basket design. Accordingly, the NRC has determined that a FONSI is appropriate, and an environmental impact statement is not warranted.

**IV. Availability of Documents**

The documents identified in the following table are available to interested persons through ADAMS, as indicated.

Document description	ADAMS Accession No. or Federal Register notice
STPNOC's request for exemption, dated May 7, 2024 .....	ML24128A157.
Supplement to request for exemption, dated May 15, 2024 .....	ML24136A284.
Certificate of Compliance No. 1032, Amendment 2, dated November 7, 2016 .....	ML16280A008 (Package).
Holtec International, Inc.—Notice of Violation; The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Inspection Report No. 07201014/2022–201, EA–23–044, dated January 30, 2024.	ML24016A190.
10 CFR part 72 amendment to allow spent fuel storage in NRC-approved casks, dated July 18, 1990 .....	55 FR 29181.

Document description	ADAMS Accession No. or Federal Register notice
EA for part 72 amendment to allow spent fuel storage in NRC-approved casks, dated March 8, 1989 .....	ML051230231.
Direct Final Rule for List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: Holtec International HI-STORM Flood/Wind Multipurpose Canister Storage System, Amendment 2, dated August 23, 2016.	81 FR 57442.
Safety Determination of a Potential Structural Failure of the Fuel Basket During Accident Conditions for the HI-STORM 100 and HI-STORM Flood/Wind Dry Cask Storage Systems, dated January 31, 2024.	ML24018A085.
NRC email to TDSHS requesting review of EA/FONSI for STP Exemption, dated June 3, 2024 .....	ML24170A886.
TDSHS email response regarding review of EA/FONSI for TSP Exemption, dated June 18, 2024 .....	ML24170A887.

Dated: June 21, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Yoira Diaz-Sanabria,**

Chief, Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch, Division of Fuel Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 2024-13978 Filed 6-25-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 030-00001; License No. 24-04206-01; EA-21-055; NRC-2024-0109]

### In the Matter of Curium US LLC; Confirmatory Order Modifying License

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing a Confirmatory Order to Curium US LLC to memorialize the agreement reached during an alternative dispute resolution mediation session held on March 5-6, 2024. The Confirmatory Order contains commitments made to resolve 10 apparent violations of NRC requirements relating to an August 2019 contamination incident involving molybdenum-99 and technetium-99m. The commitments include actions by Curium US LLC to enhance its operating procedures, corrective action program, employee training, and safety culture. The Confirmatory Order is effective upon issuance.

**DATES:** The Confirmatory Order was issued on June 13, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2024-0109 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2024-0109. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email: [Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov](mailto:Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individual listed

in the “**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**” section of this document.

- *NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, at 301-415-4737, or by email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov). The NRC Reactive Inspection Report No. 03000001/2019003(DRSS)—Curium US LLC. is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML24005A060.

- *NRC’s PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov) or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Diana Betancourt-Roldan, Region III, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, telephone: 630-810-4373; email: [Diana.Betancourt-Roldan@nrc.gov](mailto:Diana.Betancourt-Roldan@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The text of the order is attached.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**John B. Giessner,**

Regional Administrator, Region III.

### Attachment—Confirmatory Order

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*In the Matter of:* Curium US LLC,  
Docket No. 030-00001, License No.  
24-04206-01, EA-21-055

### Confirmatory Order Modifying License (Effective Upon Issuance)

#### I

Curium US LLC holds Materials License No. 24-04206-01 issued on May 18, 2023 (Amendment No. 105), by

the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) pursuant to Part 30 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR). At the time of the events that led to the NRC’s October 2019 reactive inspection, Curium conducted operations under Amendment 99 of License No. 24-04206-01, which was issued on July 2, 2019. The license authorizes the use of byproduct material, as described in the application dated December 22, 2011, in accordance with conditions specified in the license.

This Confirmatory Order is the result of an agreement reached during an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mediation session conducted on March 5-6, 2024, in Lisle, Illinois.

#### II

On October 29-30, 2019, the NRC conducted a reactive inspection with continued in-office review through December 21, 2023. On January 11, 2024, the NRC issued Inspection Report 03000001/2019003 to Curium US LLC which documented the identification of 10 apparent violations that occurred at the Maryland Heights, Missouri facility as the result of a contamination event on August 19, 2019. The apparent violations were being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy. The apparent violations involved the failure to: (1) report, within 24 hours of discovery, an event that involved loss of control of licensed material that caused the release of radioactive material, so that, had an individual been present for 24 hours in the area, the individual could have received an intake in excess of one occupational annual limit on intake, as required by 10 CFR 20.2202(b)(2); (2) notify the NRC within 24 hours after the discovery of an unplanned contamination event as required by 10 CFR 30.50(b)(1); (3) assess dose to determine the compliance with occupational dose equivalent limits by taking suitable and timely measurements of concentrations of radioactive materials in air in the work area, quantities of radionuclides in the body, or quantities of radionuclides