

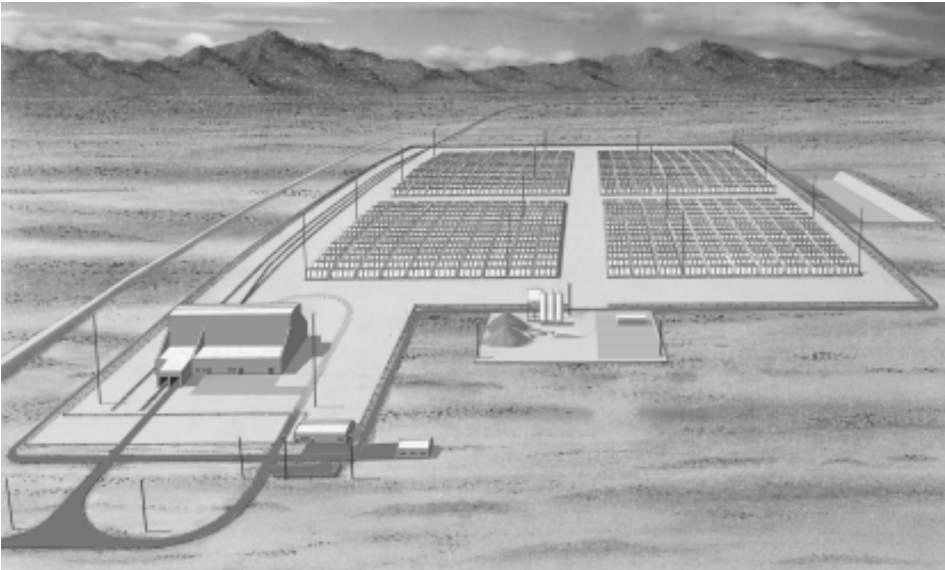
INSIDE LOOK

Business to Business Expo Edition - 2000



Private Fuel Storage

Private Fuel Storage Moving Forward



Artist's concept of how the PFS facility for temporary storage of spent nuclear fuel rods might appear when constructed on the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Reservation in Tooele County, Utah.

Private Fuel Storage (PFS), now more than half way through the lengthy process for obtaining a license for its proposed Skull Valley facility, is moving forward with construction plans. "Even though a licensing decision is still more than a year away, there are many long lead time items that must be addressed this year so that we can be ready for operation in 2003," said Scott Northard, PFS project manager.

For example, orders are expected to be placed this year for the first stainless steel canisters and steel transportation casks in which the spent nuclear fuel rods will be packaged for storage and shipment. Preference will be given to local fabricators. The total value of these items will be up to about \$1.8 billion over the life of the project.

The PFS facility, designed for safe, clean, temporary storage of spent nuclear fuel rods from commercial power plants, will require construction of an access road, railroad tracks and equipment, industrial buildings, and concrete storage pads, as well as the highly specialized storage canisters, transportation casks and storage casks. Most of the work will be advertised for bid by construction firms, including those located in Utah.

Experienced, Skilled Workers Needed

The completed PFS facility will employ about 40-50 people, full time, in well paying jobs like these:

- **Mechanics/Operators** will be responsible for maintaining buildings, fencing, and operating systems, as well as operating cranes, vehicles and other equipment. These employees also will be trained in first aid and fire fighting.

- **Radiation Protection Technicians** will monitor radiation and environmental conditions, per-

form chemical and radiochemical analyses, and package any low-level radioactive waste for off-site disposal.

- **Site Security** will maintain the security of the facility.
- **Quality Assurance** will make sure all procedures are in place and followed as required by the license.
- **Administrative Staff** will make sure hiring standards are followed, and will maintain personnel and business records.

- **Nuclear Engineers** are experts on nuclear engineering and nuclear physics. This position will review facility operating data to ensure safe operation and recommend procedural changes to enhance safety.

- **The Emergency Preparedness Coordinator** will ensure the facility is maintained in a state of readiness for effective emergency response as required in the facility emergency plan.

PFS expects to find qualified candidates for most of these types of jobs in Utah.

Construction of the PFS facility, as well as hiring and training, could begin as early as 2001.

Storage Containers Licensed by NRC

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced on April 25 that it has added the Holtec HI-STORM 100 Fuel Storage Cask Design to its list of approved designs that utility companies may use to store spent fuel rods. This means that the cask system meets all NRC regulations designed to protect the public and the environment. This is good news for Private Fuel Storage, which specified the Holtec design as one of two systems to be used at its Skull Valley facility. As the licensing process for the proposed PFS facility continues, the NRC must determine whether the specific conditions at the PFS site match the conditions of use approved for the Holtec storage system. NRC's evaluation of the Holtec casks at the PFS facility will be part of the updated Safety Evaluation Report that is expected to be issued this fall.

PFS and Holtec International are exploring ways to manufacture all or part of the casks, worth up to \$1.8 billion, in Utah.

NRC Announces Public Comment Opportunities

When the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, which oversees the licensing of the PFS facility, comes to Utah in June to hear arguments on PFS's license application, it will also give members of the public a chance to make oral statements related to the proposed facility. The dates and times for public comment are:

June 23, 2000 1-4 p.m. and 7-9:30 p.m. at the Salt Lake Hilton

June 24, 2000 (if requested) 1-4 p.m. at the Salt Lake Hilton

June 30, 2000 1-4 p.m. and 7-9:30 p.m. at Tooele High School Auditorium

July 1, 2000 (if requested) 1-4 p.m. at Tooele High School Auditorium

The time allowed for each limited appearance statement will be five minutes, or less depending on the number of requests to speak. Some sessions may end early if all registered speakers have spoken, and the Saturday sessions may be cancelled if there is no interest.

People who submit written requests to make an oral statement will be given priority. The request should specify the session during which the requestor wishes to speak. The requests must be received by Wednesday, May 31. Requests may be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001; or faxed to 301/415-1101; or by e-mail to hearingdocket@nrc.gov.

In addition, a copy of the written request should be sent by mail to Administrative Judge G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Mail Stop T-3F23, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001; by fax to 301/415-5599; or by e-mail to gpb@nrc.gov.

The Licensing Board will also accept written limited appearance statements submitted at any time. Statements should be sent to the Office of the Secretary, with a copy to Judge Bollwerk, using the above methods.

While in Utah, the Licensing Board will also conduct the evidentiary hearing on certain issues that have been raised in the licensing proceeding. These issues include financial assurance, thermal design, emergency planning, and decommissioning. During the hearing, the Licensing Board will receive testimony and exhibits and allow the cross-examination of witnesses. The public may

observe the hearing except when proprietary or security matters are being discussed.

The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. (MDT) on June 19 in the Hilton Salt Lake City, Wasatch Room, Mezzanine Level, 150 West 500 South, Salt Lake City. It will continue from day-to-day at the same location until concluded.

HOW YOU BENEFIT FROM CLEAN, SAFE NUCLEAR POWER

Even we who live in Utah, where there are no commercial nuclear power plants, benefit from the electricity generated by nuclear power plants in other states. For example,

Did you know...

- ⊙ Nuclear plants reliably supply one fifth of our nation's electricity.
- ⊙ Electricity flows through a nationwide grid from which local utility companies—even in Utah—can draw power as needed.
- ⊙ Nuclear plants are not all in the eastern U.S. In fact, the largest single producer of electricity from nuclear power (or any other fuel, for that matter) is the Palo Verde plant, with three reactors, located near Phoenix and owned by Arizona Public Service.
- ⊙ According to the Nuclear Energy Institute "Nuclear energy is the most eco-efficient of all energy sources because it produces the most electricity in relation to its minimal environmental impact."
- ⊙ Nuclear plants produce no harmful emissions that deplete the ozone layer and contribute to greenhouse gases and acid rain.
- ⊙ In fact, by taking the place of fossil-fueled plants, the operation of our nation's 103 commercial nuclear reactors reduce carbon dioxide emissions by some 165 million tons of carbon each year.
- ⊙ Nuclear power plants set new records in productivity in 1999. According to the Nuclear Energy Institute, the increase in electricity produced by nuclear plants last year "was roughly equivalent to adding six to seven large nuclear reactors to the grid."
- ⊙ Nuclear power plants exceeded safety goals in 1999. The World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) sets challenging benchmarks against which the safety of nuclear plants around the world is measured. Commercial plants in the U.S. exceed their safety goals consistently.
- ⊙ Continued and expanded operation of nuclear power plants is the most cost effective way for the U.S. to meet the stringent requirements of the Clean Air Act.

For further information about PFS and the licensing process, visit our Web site: www.privatefuelstorage.com or call our toll-free comment line:

1-888-701-8585