## Document Metadata:DOE-HQ-2017-0004-DRAFT-0002

#### **Document Details**

**Docket ID:** DOE-HQ-2017-0004 **⑤** 

**Docket Title:** Requests for Information: Approaches Involving Private

Initiatives for Consolidated Interim Storage Facilities \*\square

**Document File:** 

**Docket Phase:** Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR)

Phase Sequence: 1

Original Document ID: DOE\_FRDOC\_0001-DRAFT-0456

Current Document ID: DOE-HQ-2017-0004-DRAFT-0002

Title: Comment on FR Doc # 2016-26018 \( \cdot \)

**Number of Attachments:** 0

**Document Type:** PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS \*

**Document Subtype:** Public Comment §

Comment on Document ID: DOE-HQ-2017-0004-0001 \( \bigcirc

Comment on Document Title: Requests for Information: Approaches Involving Private

Initiatives for Consolidated Interim Storage Facilities (§)

Status: Pending\_Post \( \bigcirc \)

**Received Date:** 01/25/2017 \*0

Date Posted:

**Posting Restriction:** No restrictions **(S)** 

**Submission Type:** Web

Number of Submissions: 1 \*

# **Document Optional Details**

#### **Submitter Info**

**Comment:** DOE has requested information in response to the following

question: 6. What possibilities are there with respect to business models for a PI, and what are the benefits and

disadvantages of those models? Here is our response/comment: A

prior PI that should serve as a cautionary tale was the

Private Fuel Storage, LLC (PFS) targeted at the Skull Valley

Goshutes Indian Reservation in Utah.

<a href="https://web.archive.org/web/2016022002029/http://www.nirs.org/radwaste/scullvalley/skullvalley.htm">https://www.nirs.org/radwaste/scullvalley/skullvalley.htm</a> In addition to being a flagrant radioactive racism violation of environmental justice principles, PFS also serves as a warning about how so-called

interim surface storage facilities can turn into de facto permanent parking lot dumps. PFS was proposed to have stored 40,000 metric tons of commercial irradiated nuclear fuel (the same amount as is proposed at WCS, TX), in Holtec containers (the same model as proposed by the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance in NM). After 20 to 40 years of so-called "interim" storage (which is itself a very long time to refer to as temporary or interim -- in fact, 40 years is 1/6th as long as the entire history of the United States thus far!), the proposal was to then move the highly radioactive wastes to the permanent burial dump at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. However, President Obama wisely canceled the unsuitable, anti-consent-based, radioactively racist and illegal (it is Western Shoshone Indian land by "peace and friendship" treaty rights) Yucca dump in 2009-2010. Thus, if PFS had opened, and irradiated fuel would have been moved there, there would have been no Yucca dump to send it to after 20-40 years. PFS's Plan B was "return to sender." Thus, 50+ Holtec casks from Maine Yankee would have traveled 5,000-miles round-trip, accomplishing absolutely nothing -- but putting countless millions in transport corridor communities across the country at risk of "Mobile Chernobyls" and "Mobile X-ray Machines That Can't Be Turned Off." Fortunately, despite NRC's high-risk rubber-stamp of the PFS construction and operation license, resistance (including that by the nationwide environmental justice movement, led by Native Americans <a href="https://web.archive.org/web/20151020093406/http://www.nirs.or">https://web.archive.org/web/20151020093406/http://www.nirs.or</a> g/radwaste/scullvalley/skullvalleygoshutesgroupltr772005.pdf>) was strong enough to stop the parking lot dump from being built and opened. \*\square

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Representative:

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Government Agency:

Cover Page:

### **Document Optional Details**

**Status Set Date:** 02/13/2017

**Current Assignee:** Bacon, Cuttie (DOE)

**Status Set By:** Freeman, Yohanna (DOE)

Comment Start Date:

Comment Due Date:

**Legacy ID:** 

**Tracking Number:** 1k1-8ud7-yi3b §

1

Total Page Count
Including Attachments:

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