



AMERICA'S NUCLEAR SOLUTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Chuck McDonald
512-658-5958

WCS Files License Application with Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to Operate a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) for Used Nuclear Fuel

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 28, 2016) - Waste Control Specialists LLC (WCS) submitted an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a license to construct and operate a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) for used nuclear fuel. The filing comes after a year of pre-application meetings with NRC and maintains the timeline WCS outlined in February 2015.

The application is being led by WCS, along with its partners AREVA and NAC International, both global industry leaders in the transportation and storage of used nuclear fuel.

“It’s been a busy but productive year since we made our announcement in Washington in 2015 so I am very pleased that we are on time and on target, said WCS president & CEO Rod Baltzer.

“Thanks to the hard work of our partners at AREVA and NAC International, and input from NRC, we were able to deliver a very thorough, detailed license application this morning. As a result, I am confident that we will have a final license in approximately three years. This is a critical first step and I hope that legislative and DOE contractual matters can also be resolved in that period.”

Baltzer said the license submittal puts WCS on track for completion of a CISF as early as 2021, if such steps are accomplished within our expected timeline.

Timely solutions for the used nuclear fuel challenge in the U.S. have proved elusive for more than 40 years. Now a private sector solution for secure storage has been proposed by a company with a proven track record for licensing success.

WCS is the only privately-owned and operated facility in the United States that has been licensed to treat, store and dispose of Class A, B and C low-level radioactive waste (LLRW). Located in an arid, isolated part of west Texas, WCS offers one of the most geologically characterized locations in the United States as a result of the multi-year licensing process for that facility.

(more)

www.WCSstorage.com

“We believe we can provide a safe interim solution for this used nuclear fuel, which has been accumulating at nuclear power plants across the country and for which our nation has been struggling to develop a comprehensive waste management system,” said Baltzer.

“What we are proposing is an initial 40 year storage license for 40,000 metric tons of heavy metal (MTHM) to be built in eight phases. Each of the eight storage systems will be able to accommodate 5,000 MTHM for an eventual capacity of 40,000 MTHM. Our proposal includes opportunities for 20 year renewals after the initial license period,” added Baltzer.

The primary operations performed at the site will be transferring the sealed canisters of used fuel from a transportation cask into an engineered interim fuel storage system where it will be monitored until its departure to an offsite permanent disposal location.

“Consolidated interim storage would provide system-wide benefits and flexibilities to strengthen the U.S. Used Nuclear Fuel Management Program and help advance a permanent geologic disposal program.

It creates a robust opportunity to develop and deploy the repackaging technology to prepare the used nuclear fuel currently in dry storage for final offsite disposal in a geologic repository.” said Baltzer

Other benefits of consolidated interim storage include the opportunity to reduce the risk of further degradation of on-site infrastructure at permanently shut down reactor sites and to address public concerns about transportation by demonstrating successful transport of this material.

Another chief benefit of an accelerated schedule for moving fuel away from shutdown sites is to reduce the liability to taxpayers. The taxpayer supported Judgment Fund is the source of payment of judgements against the federal government for failing to meet its contractual obligations to dispose of this material.

###

WCS is a subsidiary of Valhi, Inc. (NYSE: VHI). Valhi, Inc. is engaged in the titanium dioxide pigments, component products (security products and high performance marine components), waste management, and real estate management and development industries.

Statements in this release that are not historical in nature are forward-looking in nature that represent the Company's beliefs and assumptions based on currently available information. In some cases, these forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of words such as “believes,” “intends,” “may,” “should,” “could,” “anticipates,” “expected” or comparable terminology. Although the Company believes the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, the Company does not know if these expectations will be correct. Forward-looking statements by their nature involve substantial risks and uncertainties that could significantly impact expected results. Actual future results could differ materially from those predicted. Among the factors that could cause the Company's actual future results to differ materially from those described herein are the risks and uncertainties described from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.