

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 9, 2025

Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations  
Office of Nuclear Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

**Subject:** Holtec's SMR-300 Tier 1 Application under DE-FOA-0003485

To Whom It May Concern:

We write on behalf of Holtec International's application under DE-FOA-0003485 to deploy Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology at the Palisades site in Covert Township, Michigan. This innovative project represents an unparalleled opportunity to advance America's energy leadership, address national energy needs, ensure grid reliability, and foster significant economic growth in Michigan and our nation.

The deployment of SMRs at Palisades is critical to maintaining dependable baseload generation, especially as advanced manufacturing, electrification, and data storage sectors drive rapid increases in energy consumption. With many older baseload power plants coming offline, the need for investments in advanced nuclear technologies like SMRs is imperative. By securing Palisades as a hub for next-generation energy production, the United States can set the global standard for reliable, clean, and secure energy infrastructure while meeting growing domestic demand and ensuring energy independence.

Our Michigan communities stand to benefit greatly from this application. Holtec's commitment to deploying SMR technology at Palisades is projected to create hundreds of high-paying permanent jobs, many in STEM fields, while also supporting a highly skilled union workforce. The plant will create thousands of skilled trade jobs, both during its construction phase and for ongoing refueling and maintenance operations. Additionally, it will bolster Southwest Michigan's tax base, providing critical support for local infrastructure, education, and community development. Institutions like Lake Michigan College, the Van Buren Intermediate School District, and Market One are already prepared to partner on workforce training and development programs to equip Michigan workers with the skills needed for this cutting-edge technology.

Palisades has long been a cornerstone of Southwest Michigan, delivering reliable baseload energy and driving economic prosperity. Its legacy as a safe and dependable energy provider – as well as that of a good community member – has earned strong state and local support for the deployment of SMRs. Deploying this technology at Palisades promises to build on that foundation and cement Michigan's place as a leader in energy innovation. This project represents an opportunity to leverage Palisades' proven infrastructure and expertise to deliver transformational benefits to the region and reinforce America's position at the forefront of global energy leadership.

We urge the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations to give Holtec's application its full and fair consideration. By supporting this initiative, the Department of Energy can seize a historic opportunity to enhance grid reliability, meet the energy demands of the future, and promote economic growth and energy independence across the nation.

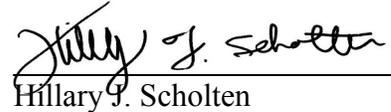
On behalf of the communities we represent, we thank you for your leadership and attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



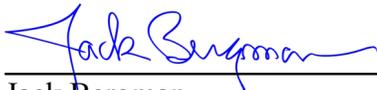
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Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



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Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress



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Jack Bergman  
Member of Congress



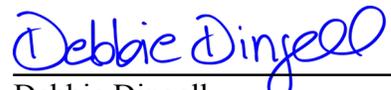
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Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



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Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress



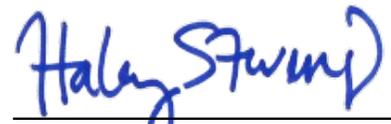
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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



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John R. Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



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John James  
Member of Congress



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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



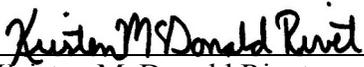
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Lisa C. McClain  
Member of Congress



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Tom Barrett  
Member of Congress

  
Kristen McDonald Rivet  
Member of Congress