

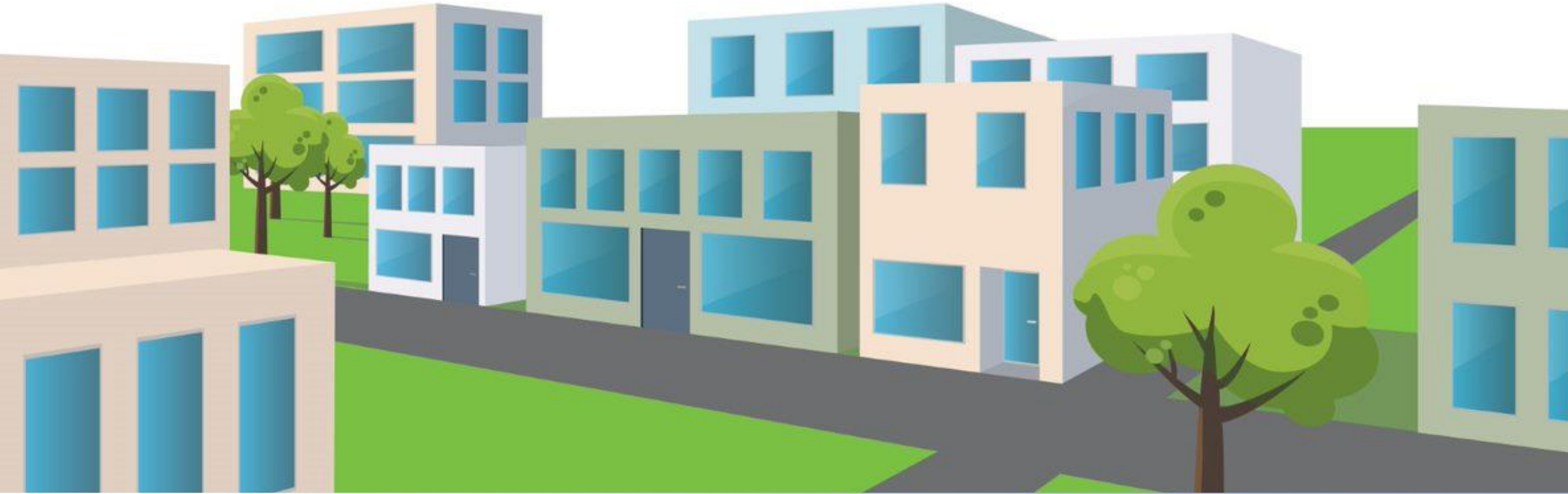
CONSORTIA INTERIM PROGRESS REPORTS

Holtec International



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*Consent-based Siting Consortia – Quarterly Meeting #4
May 22 and 23, 2024*



This project is being funded in part by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
The DOE Nuclear Awardee logo was developed by DOE to indicate receipt of DOE funding. Not an endorsement by DOE.
DOE's Consent-based Siting for Interim Storage Program: DE-FOA-0002575



Overall Project Progress

- Identified two target communities within the State of Arkansas to work with:
 - Ft. Smith
 - Russellville
- Hired a three-person ground team with government affairs, economic development, and grassroots organizing experience.
- Developed project collateral materials.
- Website development in progress.
- Holding meetings with key state-level stakeholders and local community economic development leaders.
- Baseline polling to be conducted end of May/beginning of June 2024.

Key Developments


- Developed one-page project fact sheets for each community and a Q&A one-pager
- Conducted introductory contact via telephone and email to chambers of commerce, workforce boards, local development districts, and city/mayor staff.
- Created an open communication line with Governor Sanders' staff and environmental policy advisor.
 - Very interested in learning more about consent-based siting and constituents' responses to our polling and community engagement.
 - Expressed interest in possible participation or attendance with Governor Sanders and/or her advisors.
 - Continued engagement with the Governor's office has the potential to create a positive perception in the Arkansas River Valley region.

Fort Smith, Arkansas
YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Hosting an interim spent fuel storage facility within Arkansas borders would create over 200 good paying jobs and ensure a steady stream of tax dollars for the community. **But the choice is yours. And that's what this community engagement project seeks to determine.**

Why Fort Smith?

Fort Smith has a long history of being home to multiple good job-creating industries and government facilities. In addition, its location in the center of the United States as well as its position along the Arkansas River and Arkansas-Missouri freight rail line and its expansive



Russellville, Arkansas
YOUR VOICE MATTERS


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Why Russellville?


Russellville is well known for many things – outdoor resources, arts scene, and history. And the growth opportunities around the I-40 corridor and its regional rail and riverways make Russellville an attractive location to do business. But it's Russellville's spirit of collaboration that this project will rely on. By spending the next several months actively engaging with the community we hope to learn about your vision for Russellville and determine if a new industrial facility may fit in.

The State of Arkansas is also in the process of exploring the development of a spent nuclear fuel reprocessing facility. An interim spent nuclear fuel storage facility would be a complementary enterprise.

Visit www.website.com to learn more about the Russellville Consent-Based Siting community engagement project.



CONSENT-BASED SITING
The core principles and guiding values



HEALTH & SAFETY
Protecting public health and safety and the environment.

TRUST & CONFIDENCE
Focusing on committees to build and sustain trust and confidence in the nation's obligation to nuclear stewardship.


JUSTICE & EQUITY
Prioritize environmental justice and social equity while enabling broad community participation.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Office of NUCLEAR ENERGY | CONSENT-BASED SITING

The US Department of Energy (US DOE) is conducting a research project to learn the best practices of engaging with people and communities on siting an interim storage facility for spent nuclear fuel.

Officially called "consent-based siting," this approach prioritizes the participation and needs of people and communities and seeks their willing and informed consent to accept a project in their community.

The US DOE has selected twelve grantees to conduct this research effort. They are currently working with communities across the nation, including Fort Smith, to participate in this project.



energy.gov/oe/consent-based-siting

Key Developments Continued

- **Polling and surveying** will soon be conducted in both communities (and potentially surrounding areas) to garner a baseline understanding of individuals knowledge of spent nuclear fuel, consent-based siting, and consolidated interim storage facilities. **Additional surveying** will be conducted to gauge any changes in the communities' sentiments regarding these elements and the impacts they may bring.
- Attended committee meetings with **state legislators** to make introductions and briefly describe the project before us and how their support can bring positive impacts to their constituents and communities.
- Existing **media relationships** have been utilized to soft-launch the upcoming project and our intention to work together on press releases, op-eds, advertorials, and other opportunities for media engagement that may be feasible.

Key Observations

- Russellville is home to Entergy's Nuclear One station which has two pressurized water reactors. For more than 40 years, it has provided low-cost power to Arkansas customers.
 - Most Arkansans' baseline knowledge of nuclear power is centered around Nuclear One.
 - In 2013, there were two incidents: An industrial accident in a "non-radiation area" at the facility's Unit One that killed 1 person and injured 8 other workers with no risk to public health and safety (March 31). Unit Two was taken offline due to a transformer fire in the site switchboard. The fire was contained without injuries or threats to safety (December 9).
- Arkansas is "The Natural State" and people are very conscious of the environment and conservation as well as the positive economic impacts brought about by adventure travel and tourism throughout Arkansas.
- Addressing environmental and safety concerns from the beginning is paramount.
- Fort Smith and Russellville both (within the Arkansas River Valley) are considered economic hubs for jobs, healthcare, higher education, entertainment, and more. Both cities are also within a transportation hub consisting of Interstate 40, the Arkansas River, railways, and regional airports.

Engagement

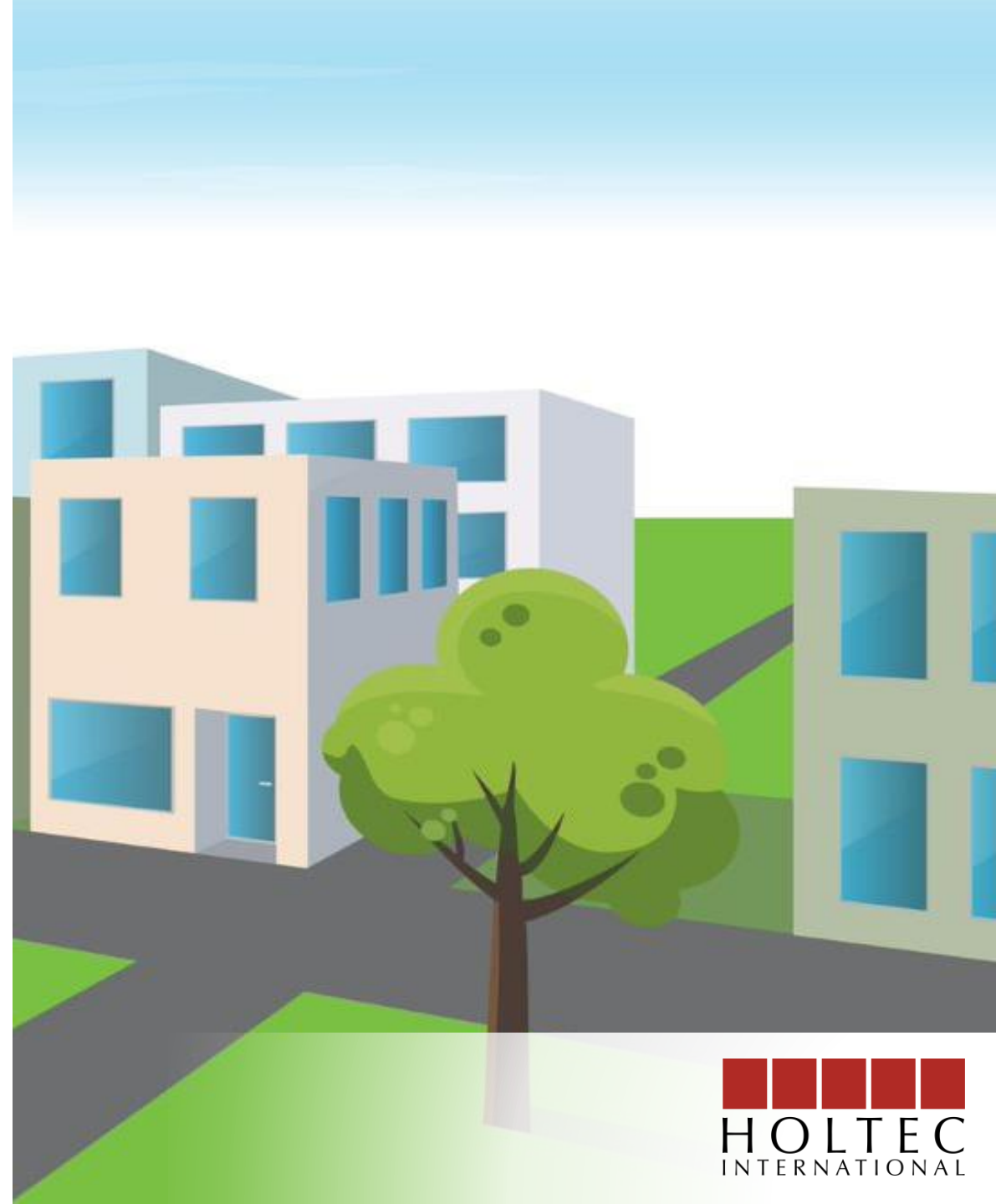
- Initial engagement began with city councils, chambers of commerce, workforce boards, local development districts, colleges/universities, and emergency response departments.
- Presentations are currently under development for in-person small group meetings, large meetings (annual meetings, civic and professional meetings, etc.).
- Virtual meeting and webinar formats will also be available to engage with individuals unable to attend in-person events.

Engagement Details

What is the engagement?	Date	Location	Brief description (if not in previous slides)	# of Participants
City Council Meetings	Monthly	Fort Smith & Russellville	Meetings and engagements are currently tentative.	30-50
Civic Service Meetings	Monthly	Fort Smith & Russellville	Presented by the local fire departments	30+
Chamber of Commerce	TBD			150-250
State Legislators & Staff	TBD			10-25

Next Steps

- Conduct polling, evaluate results and align outreach and engagement efforts, as necessary.
- Complete website.
- Finalize local outreach and engagement communication plans.
- Create social media presence to compliment online information and broad communication efforts.
- Summer 2024 – conduct meetings with city officials, civic and professional groups, emergency responders, and those in economic development spaces.





For questions or comments related to this consortium, please contact:

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For more information, visit us at energy.gov/consentbasedsiting

