TABLE 1—MERGING THREE NCSES SURVEYS INTO ONE OMB CONTROL NUMBER—Continued

Survey	OMB Control No.	Merging into one OMB Control No.
Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR)	3145–0020	

This integration comes as an effort to reduce respondent burden and streamline collections while continuing to uphold statutory requirements. The consolidated questionnaire has undergone cognitive testing.

The 2027 NTEWS production sample will select new sample members from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2025 American Community Survey (ACS) and the NCSES's 2022–2025 Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), an annual census of research doctorate recipients from U.S. academic institutions. Returning sample members will be selected from the 2022 NTEWS Pilot, 2025 NSCG, and 2023 SDR, which will provide the needed coverage of and estimation reliability for the U.S. adult workforce across all education levels. The U.S. Census Bureau will serve as the data collection contractor for the ACS-based sample, which includes new sample members from the 2025 ACS and returning sample members from the 2022 NTEWS Pilot and the 2025 NSCG. The new sample based on the SED and the returning 2023 SDR sample will be collected under a separate contractual mechanism.

The Census Bureau also will serve as the data collection contractor for a non-production sample included within this information collection request, the SED Bridge Panel. The bridge panel sample will be selected from the SED. It is considered a non-production sample because its data will not be used to generate official statistics. The purpose of the SED Bridge Panel is to examine the feasibility of a single data collection contractor managing the full set of sample components within the integrated design and to explore potential linkages to supplement and complement the survey data collection with the goal of reduced respondent burden.

The survey data collection for both the production sample and non-production bridge panel sample is expected to begin in May 2027 and continue for approximately six months. Respondents will be able to complete the survey in English or Spanish, either by web or paper. Response to the survey will be voluntary. The ACS-based sample portion of the survey, administered by the Census Bureau, will be conducted in conformance with Census Bureau statistical quality standards and will be afforded confidentiality protection under the applicable Census Bureau confidentiality statutes. The sample based on the SED and the returning sample members from the SDR will be afforded confidentiality protection under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA) of 2018.

Use of the Information: As was done with data from the prior three workforce surveys, NCSES intends to use information from the NTEWS for its two congressionally mandated reports: *Science and Engineering Indicators (https://ncses.nsf.gov/indicators)* and *Characteristics of Scientists and Engineers.* Public release files of collected data, designed to protect respondent confidentiality, will be made available on the NCSES website (*https://ncses.nsf.gov/*) and will be accessible through NCSES online data tools (*https://ncses.nsf.gov/explore-data*).

Expected Respondents: For the 2027 NTEWS production sample, a statistical sample of approximately 341,000 individuals will be contacted. There will be approximately 145,000 returning sample members from the 2022 NTEWS Pilot, 2025 NSCG, and 2023 SDR and approximately 196,000 new sample members from the 2025 ACS and the 2022–2025 SED. For the non-production SED Bridge Panel sample, a statistical sample of approximately 15,000 individuals will be contacted. NCSES expects the overall response rate to be 60–65 percent.

Estimate of Burden: The amount of time to complete the 2027 NTEWS questionnaire will vary depending on an individual's educational history and employment status, but NCSES estimates a median completion time of 35 minutes across both web and paper modes. For the production sample, NCSES estimates that the average annual burden for the 2027 NTEWS over the course of the three-year OMB clearance period will be no more than 43,099 hours [(341,000 individuals × 65% response rate × 35 minutes)/3 years]. For the non-production SED Bridge Panel, NCSES estimates that the average annual burden for the 2027 NTEWS over the course of the three-year OMB clearance period will be no more than 1,896 hours [(15,000 individuals × 65% response rate × 35 minutes)/3 years].

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NCSES, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of NCSES's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, use, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: August 25, 2026.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, U.S. National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2026–17556 Filed 8–27–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 11006249; NRC–2017–0054]

UniTech Services Group LLC; Export License Renewal Application

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Opportunity to provide comments, request a hearing, and petition for leave to intervene.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering approval of an export application received on April 9, 2026, from UniTech Services Group LLC (UniTech). In the application, UniTech seeks to renew an existing license, XW023/01, authorizing the export of radioactive waste to Canada. The NRC is providing notice of the opportunity to comment, request a hearing, and petition for leave to intervene on UniTech's application. This action will renew the existing export license for an additional 10 years to expire on April 30, 2036.

DATES: Submit comments by September 28, 2026. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. A request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed by September 28, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods; however, the NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal Rulemaking website:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2017–0054. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Bridget Curran; telephone: 301–415–1003; email: *Bridget.Curran@nrc.gov.* For technical questions, contact the individual(s) listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- *Email comments to:Hearing.Docket@nrc.gov.* If you do not receive an automatic email reply confirming receipt, then contact us at 301–415–1677.
- *Fax comments to:* Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission at 301–415–1101.
- *Mail comments to:* Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.
- *Hand deliver comments to:* 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. eastern time (ET) Federal workdays; telephone: 301–415–1677.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see ''Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments'' in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shannon Doane, Office of International Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001; telephone: 301–415–7000; email: *Shannon.Doane@nrc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2017–0054 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2017–0054.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''Begin ADAMS Public Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov.* The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.
- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

B. Submitting Comments

The NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal Rulemaking website (*https://www.regulations.gov*). Please include Docket ID NRC–2017–0054 in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment submissions at *https://www.regulations.gov* as well as enter the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

II. Discussion

UniTech was issued export license XW023 on April 30, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18121A326), which expired on April 30, 2026. Export license XW023 authorized the export to Canada of up to 10,000 metric tons of tools, metals, and other solid materials contaminated with byproduct materials. Following the license's expiration, an administrative amendment was issued to amend the licensee's name and consent to the indirect transfer of control of UniTech's ultimate parent company, UniFirst Corporation, to Cintas Corporation. The administrative amendment, XW023/01, preserved the original expiration date of April 30, 2026, and did not modify the license's period of validity (ADAMS Accession No. ML26182A188). Following issuance of XW023/01, on July 7, 2026, the NRC accepted UniTech's export license application XW023/02, requesting to renew the former export license authorizing the export of Canadian-origin radioactive waste from UniTech facilities in the State of Massachusetts to Canada (ADAMS Accession No. ML26182A182).

III. Opportunity To Comment

The NRC is providing notice of the receipt of the application; providing the opportunity to submit written comments concerning the application; and providing the opportunity to request a hearing or petition for leave to intervene, for a period of 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, persons may submit written comments concerning actions in this notice, as provided in section 110.81 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), ''Written comments.'' The NRC will consider and, if appropriate, respond to these comments, but such comments will not otherwise constitute part of the decisional record. Comments should be submitted as described in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

IV. Opportunity To Request a Hearing and Petition for Leave To Intervene

Within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice any person may file a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene with respect to the actions in this notice. A hearing request or petition for leave to intervene must include the information specified in 10 CFR 110.82(b). Any request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene shall be served by the requestor or petitioner in accordance with 10 CFR 110.89(a), either by delivery, by mail, or filed with the NRC electronically in accordance with the NRC's E-Filing rule (72 FR 49139; August 28, 2007, as amended at 77 FR 46562; August 3, 2012). Detailed guidance on electronic submissions may be found in the ''Guidance for Electronic Submissions to the NRC'' (ADAMS Accession No. ML13031A056) and on the NRC's public website

(*https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html*).

To comply with the procedural requirements of E-Filing, at least 10 days prior to the filing deadline, the participant should contact the Office of the Secretary by email at *Hearing.Docket@nrc.gov,* or by telephone at 301–415–1677, to (1) request a digital identification (ID) certificate, which allows the participant (or its counsel or representative) to digitally sign submissions and access the E-Filing system for any proceeding in which it is participating; and (2) advise the Secretary that the participant will be submitting a petition or other adjudicatory document (even in instances in which the participant, or its counsel or representative, already holds an NRC-issued digital ID certificate). Based upon this information, the Secretary will establish an electronic docket for the proceeding if the Secretary has not already established an electronic docket.

The information concerning this application for an export license follows.

NRC EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION

Application Information	
Name of Applicant	UniTech Services Group LLC.
Date of Application	April 9, 2026.
Date Accepted	July 7, 2026.
Application No	XW023/02.
Docket No	11006249.
ADAMS Accession No	ML26182A182.
Description of Material	
Material Type	Tools, metals, and other solid materials contaminated with byproduct materials.
Total Quantity	10,000 tons.
End Use	Disposal in Canada.
Country of Destination	Canada.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*

Dated: August 26, 2026.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

David Skeen,

Director, Office of International Programs.

[FR Doc. 2026–17646 Filed 8–27–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–616 and 50–617; NRC–2026–0265]

SMR, LLC; Palisades SMR, LLC; Pioneer Units 1 and 2; Exemption

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued an exemption in response to a request dated December 31, 2025, from SMR, LLC, on behalf of Palisades SMR, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holtec International (collectively, Holtec) for approval to allow construction of permanent support of excavation walls prior to the issuance of a limited work authorization for Pioneer Units 1 and 2. The support of excavation walls will remain in place after construction is complete.

DATES: The exemption was issued on August 28, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2026–0265 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2026–0265. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Bridget Curran; telephone: 301–415–1003; email: *Bridget.Curran@nrc.gov.* For technical questions, contact the individual(s) listed in the For **FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''Begin ADAMS Public Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov.* The ADAMS Accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.
- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Huckabay, telephone: 301–415–5183, email: *Victoria.Huckabay@nrc.gov* and Jason Lising, telephone 301–415–1119; email: *Jason.Lising@nrc.gov.* Both are staff of the Office of Advanced Reactors at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the exemption is attached.

(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*)

Dated: August 26, 2026.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Victoria Huckabay,

Senior Project Manager, Advanced Reactor Licensing Branch 2, Division of Advanced Reactor Licensing, Office of Advanced Reactors.

Attachment—Exemption

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–616 and 50–617; NRC–2026–0265] SMR, LLC; Palisades SMR, LLC; Pioneer Units 1 and 2; Exemption

1.0 Background

By letter dated December 31, 2025 (Agency wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML25365A983), SMR, LLC, on behalf of Palisades SMR, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holtec International (collectively, Holtec) submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) the first part of a phased construction permit (CP) application, including a limited work authorization (LWA) request, for a dual-unit