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CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

To: Virgilio, NMSS

Date Printed: Mar 09, 2004 17:09

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-04-0130
ACTION OFFICE: OGC

LOGGING DATE: 03/09/2004

Op: EDO
DEDMRS
DEDH
DEDM
AO
DEDR
RIV

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ADDRESSEE: Nils Diaz

SUBJECT: Letter in Support of Louisiana Energy Services' (LES) Application to build and operate a National Enrichment Facility in Lea Co, NM

ACTION: Appropriate
DISTRIBUTION: Cy RF

LETTER DATE: 02/27/2004

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING: ADAMS for Immediate Release via SECY/EDO/DPC

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE:

DATE SIGNED:



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February 27, 2004

Chairman Nils Diaz
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20555


Dear Chairman Diaz:

Thank you for your consideration of Louisiana Energy Services' (LES) application to build and operate a National Enrichment Facility in Lea County, New Mexico. On behalf of the Lovington Chamber of Commerce I am writing in support of this initiative. After reviewing the facts, we are convinced that the NEF is safe and vital to US welfare. The establishment of the \$1.2 billion NEF in Lea County will have a positive economic impact on the southeastern New Mexico and west Texas economies.

For many years Lea County has relied primarily on energy and extractive industries such as oil and gas production. The introduction of the NEF will help to diversify the region's current economic base. From the projected 400 to 800 short-term construction workers needed, to the creation of 210 new jobs will be critically important to the economic development of Lea County and the State of New Mexico.

The Lovington Chamber and many of the Lovington citizens are very supportive of this project. As a Chamber we look forward to working with LES in their commitment to be a good corporate citizen for the benefit of the people of Lea County. Thank you again for your consideration of Louisiana Energy Services' application.

Sincerely,


Andra Conner
Executive Director

Cc: Governor Bill Richardson
Secretary Ron Curry