

Twila C. Parker  
513 Kiva  
Hobbs, NM 88240

March 3, 2004

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69 FR 5374  
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Rules and Directives  
Branch  
USNRC

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Chairman Nils Diaz  
US Nuclear Regulatory  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Diaz:

I would like to write to you as a native Hobbsan. I see the National Enrichment Facility (NEF) as a wonderful addition to Lea County, NM. In my studies of rural development, I learned how being dependent in one industry can have disastrous affects on a small community. In the past, our area has been largely dependent on the oil and gas industry. In the fairly recent past, our community has made efforts to diversify our industries with the courting of companies such as Wackenhut, which has a prison located in the county. NEF is just another step in diversifying our economic base that will allow our people to thrive as they always have.

From my own research, I have attained a basic knowledge of the risks and benefits of this facility. I feel comfortable in the research that I have seen and in the ability of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's to ensure our safety through the application process and further regulatory practices through the life of the facility.

Also, through personal experience with the company, I have found them to have great possibility of becoming an active and contributing corporate member of our local communities. The company's officials have been extremely open and willing to discuss issues with groups, the public, and individuals. I feel that they are not here just for profits, but to become a member of the community. This is important to numerous citizens, as they find trust in the company and desire to have access to the company in the future as well as community unity among all community members, individuals and companies.

As far as opposition to the facility is concerned, I would urge your commission to give greater weight to those who live in this area rather than those outside of the area. We as a county have more at stake and are closer to the issue than many others who have entered the arena of debate.

Sincerely,

Twilla C. Parker

Cc: Governor Bill Richardson  
Secretary Ron Curry

Memorandum = ADM-013

F-RTDS = ADM-03  
Add = T. Johnson (TCS)  
M. Wong (mew)