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LEA COUNTY WATER USERS ASSOCIATION

September 29, 2003

To all interested parties:

In the desert, water is life. This fact is ingrained into the minds of every New Mexican and every inhabitant of the dry southwest.

As a result, any proposal for economic development must carefully address the impact on the availability of water in our state and our community.

In the last week there have been several misleading statements regarding water and the National Enrichment Facility (NEF). Some have claimed that the proposed facility will require tremendous amounts of water to operate and have a detrimental effect on the community.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

The estimated water usage for the NEF will be approximately 75 acre-feet of water annually. To put this amount in perspective consider this:

- the 75 acre-feet is the same amount of water allowed for 25 acres of agriculture
- the Eunice Golf course uses 210 acre feet a year
- the Hobbs Country Club uses 283 acre feet a year
- the New Mexico Game Commission uses 170 acre feet a year

These numbers come from the 2000 Lea County Regional Water Plan. When you compare the figures, you quickly see that the NEF water usage is actually very small. We have worked closely with NEF to review their water needs. We can easily meet their requirements. NEF has proven to be a cooperative company that intends to operate efficiently and respectfully when it comes to water usage in New Mexico. As stewards of Lea County and Eunice's water we look forward to working with them.

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Sincerely,

Buster Goff
Buster Goff, Chairman

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Bill Brininstool, member

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Gary Schubert, member

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J.W. Neal, member

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E. A. Woodell, member

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Jim Britton, member

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