

February 27, 2004

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

Dear Chairman Diaz:

I am writing in support of the proposed National Enrichment Facility to be located outside of Eunice, NM. Having lived in Lea County for 26 years, I have witnessed the significant growth and dramatic declines in our economy. Lea County is known for its contribution to the nation through the development and extraction of its rich natural resources of oil and gas. These important and necessary resources provide for the growth and prosperity of the American marketplace.

While we rely heavily on oil and gas, it is important that we consider our role in our nation's economy in the broader context of energy. I believe Lea County is well positioned and desires to have located in our county a uranium enrichment facility as is being proposed by LES. The purpose for this plant is to provide a needed component for our Nuclear Energy Power Plants. Recognizing the significance of the facility to our national energy needs and important jobs to our community, I believe that our community overwhelmingly supports this important endeavor.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my support and your willingness to receive it.

Respectfully,


Monty D. Newman

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