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69 FR 5374
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2004 JUL -1 PM 3:46
Rules and Directives Branch USNRC

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

Dear Chairman Diaz,

The residents of Lea County, New Mexico, are fortunate to have the opportunity for the National Enrichment Facility to be built in their area. The establishment of the $1.2 billion gas centrifuge uranium enrichment facility will have a positive economic impact on the southeastern New Mexico and west Texas communities. Therefore, I support this project 100 percent.

The National Enrichment Facility will be using the world's most advanced, energy-efficient and cost effective technology, a technology that has been in use for over 30 years, and will prove to be both safe and environmentally sound. Nuclear energy supplies approximately 20 percent of the nation's electricity and is the second greatest source of electricity after coal. This facility will provide a sustainable domestic supply of low enriched uranium, thereby substantially reducing the United States relying on the global nuclear fuel marketplace. This will encourage competition within the U.S. market.

This project will create many new jobs that will involve approximately 210 permanent employees with an estimated annual pay of $10 million and an estimated $3.1 million in annual benefits.

The citizens of Lea County will greatly benefit from this project and I support it fully.

Sincerely,

Sharon Clause
Box 461 Eunice, N.M. 88231

CC: Governor Bill Richardson
Secretary Ron Curry

E-RIDS = ADM-03
Add = M. Wong (MCW)
T. Johnson (TCJ)

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