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

Dear Chairman Diaz:

I am writing to express my continued support of the National Enrichment Facility (NEF).

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was very positive for the NEF. I am especially glad that the EIS found that the entire NEF process from construction, operation and decommissioning will have only a small impact on ecological resources. I am also glad that land use and air quality will not be adversely affected.

The NEF is a great opportunity for Lea County and the United States. The Draft EIS concluded that the NEF would help to provide energy independence for America as an additional, reliable, and economical domestic source of enrichment services. According to the EIS, "This facility would contribute to the attainment of national energy security policy objectives by providing an additional source of low-enriched uranium."

This information combined with the fact that the NEF has been found to be safe and environmentally sound should lead to only one conclusion. The NEF should be built and the site outside of Eunice, New Mexico is the perfect place to build it.

We in Lea County are eagerly anticipating the National Enrichment Facility and I encourage the NRC to grant them their license quickly.

Sincerely,

Gary Leaque
Chairman Lea County Commission

cc: Governor Bill Richardson
NMED Secretary Ron Curry
New Mexico Attorney General Patricia Madrid

E-RIDS = ADM-03
Add = A. Bradford (AHB1)
T. Johnson (TCJ)

SISP Review Complete

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