



*Hobbs — More Than Meets the Eye*

*✓ Pocket No. 70-3103*

*11/20/04*

*RDB received*  
*[Signature]*

Chairman Nils Diaz  
United States Nuclear Regulatory  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, DC 20555

*9/17/04*  
*69FR 56104*

*(54)*

Dear Chairman Diaz:

Once again we write to you and your offices concerning our support for the National Enrichment Facility to be built outside of Eunice, New Mexico. This is not only an important economic development investment in New Mexico but also a high priority for national security. We support the NRC's time and investigated necessities for proper control and handling of nuclear by-products of the industry, we also see the sense of urgency to protect and keep safe these by-products. The NEF facilities offer that protection and safe disposal of the by-product from our nuclear power plants throughout the country.

The draft Environmental Impact Statement addressed many issues affecting the safe operations and handling by NEF, this report was very positive and reflects no large negative impact on the local resources. This report also made it clear that the NRC was taking the necessary steps to insure a safe environment both for the operator and the communities surrounding the plant.

We are excited about the National Enrichment Facilities being built and safely operated in Lea County, New Mexico. As a related community just north of this proposed NEF facility, we are monitoring your and NRC progress with great interest.

We were pleased with comments of the draft of the Environmental Impact Statement and look forward to the final report.

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
Ray Battaglini  
President

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

**HOBBS** Chamber of  
Commerce

400 N. Marland ♦ Hobbs ♦ NM ♦ 88240  
Phone: (505) 397-3202 ♦ (800) 658-6291

FAX : (505) 397-1689

URL : [www.hobbschamber.org](http://www.hobbschamber.org)

*SESP Review Complete*

*Template = ADM-013*

*F-RFS = ADM-03*

*Call - A. Mosebrook (#HB1)*  
*T. Johnson (TC5)*