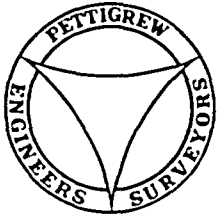


Docket No. 70-3103

DEBRA P. HICKS, P.E./L.S.I.
WILLIAM M. HICKS, III, P.E./P.S.



PETTIGREW and ASSOCIATES

1110 N. GRIMES
HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240
(505) 393-9827

11/22/04 RDB received
[Signature]

14 October 2004

Chairman Nils Diaz
US Nuclear Regulatory
Office of the Public Affairs
Washington, DC 20555

9/17/04
69FR 56104

88

Dear Chairman Diaz:

This letter is in support of LES to obtain a license from the NRC to establish a uranium enrichment facility in Eunice, New Mexico.

As a consulting engineer born and raised in Lea County, I place great value on our natural resources. With findings such as small impact on historical and cultural resources, land use, air quality and water usage, I can place my full support for the proposed National Enrichment Facility (NEF) outside of Eunice, New Mexico.

The NEF is a great opportunity for Lea County and for the United States. The Draft EIS concluded that the NEF would have a positive socioeconomic impact on our local economy. The establishment of this facility is important to the future of Lea County. 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 which will have a direct impact on attaining national energy security policy objectives. In today's global environment, this is vital to all of us.

Lea County has had a long history of supporting the energy needs of our country and the NEF will allow us to continue to contribute in a way that also benefits our local economy.

After reviewing the Draft EIS, I firmly believe that the NEF will be environmentally sound to the citizens of Lea County.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature: Debra P. Hicks]

Debra P. Hicks, PE
President
Pettigrew & Associates, P.A.

SISP Review Complete

Template = ADM-013

CIVIL ENGINEERING, SURVEYING, MATERIALS TESTING & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

*F-RIDS = ADM-03
All = A. Bradford (AABI)*

T. Johnson (TJS)