

NEW MEXICO JUNIOR COLLEGE

Office of the President

October 14, 2004

Chairman Nils J. Diaz, Ph.D. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Public Affairs (OPA) Washington, D.C. 20555 9/17/04 69 FR 56 104

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Dear Chairman Diaz:

I am writing this letter in continued support of Louisiana Energy Services' (LES) application to build and operate a National Uranium Enrichment Facility in Lea County, New Mexico. I commend the NRC for the detailed draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The draft EIS confirmed that the NEF is safe and important to the economic development of Lea County and the State of New Mexico.

I have found the employees of LES to be extremely dedicated to the development of the project, full of integrity, and willing to openly discuss the issues. I also confirm that New Mexico Junior College has embraced the NEF as an outstanding opportunity to train technicians for many of the potential jobs that will be available. We have been working on the training for over a year, and we are working with the Lea County Public Schools to bring the training initiative to fruition.

Additionally, I think Lea County is positioned to provide the needed infrastructure to support the NEF, and I strongly feel the Lea County municipalities have embraced the idea and are prepared to do the due diligence in regard to the project. The NEF provides less dependency on foreign oil and improves our position for national defense. The facility is safe, and I encourage the NRC to grant Louisiana Energy Services the license to run the National Enrichment Facility.

Sincerely,

Steve McCleery, Ed.D.

Steve To Cleary

President

Cc: Governor Bill Richardson

Secretary Ron Curry

Patricia Madrid, New Mexico Attorney General

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