

Good evening Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Sam Cobb. I am currently serving in my second term as Mayor of Hobbs, NM and am here tonight speaking on behalf of the residents of Hobbs and the Hobbs City Commission.

I want to compliment the WCS organization on its current operation, its corporate partnership with our area and the jobs it provides to some of the residents of Hobbs and Lea County.

However, I understand you are here tonight to gain insight into the WCS Application for Interim Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel not WCS current operations. Furthermore, you want the facts and appropriately the feelings of area residents related to the WCS application.

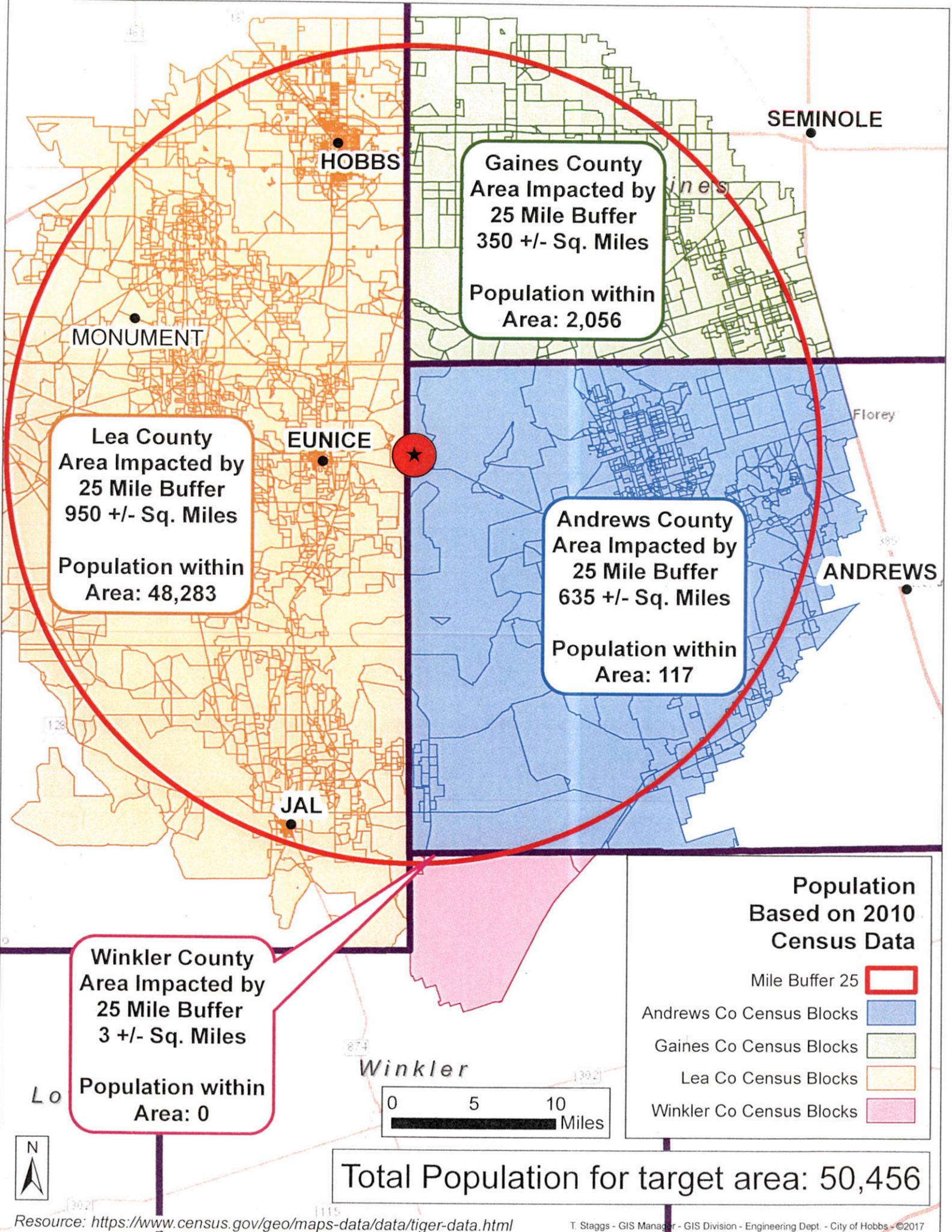
As our delegation understands it, the siting of any interim storage in the United States, a substantial/perhaps overriding consideration as part of the decision making process, should be the consent of the citizens that are within the area and within the state that could be directly affected. As part of my presentation, I offer an aerial map depicting the population within 25 miles of the proposed site. As you can clearly see, the residents of Hobbs, NM, Eunice NM, and Jal, NM are easily the greatest population base as part of the consent based area.

Due to the existing presence of the Urenco facility 18 miles south of Hobbs and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant 35 miles west of Hobbs, our electorate in New Mexico is some of the most knowledgeable citizens in the country regarding the nuclear fuel cycle.

It appears to us that given our proximity to the proposed facility and the need for consent based approval, some consideration should be provided to our communities and the State of New Mexico. As of the date of this presentation, the City of Hobbs nor Lea County has had any conversations in that regard from WCS Leadership. Lea County's Emergency Management Director, Mr. Lorenzo Velasquez is here tonight to represent Lea County. It is clear from the map showing our proximity to the site that those organizations would clearly be the first responders. In addition, because of our existing nuclear facilities in the area and the Memorandums of Understanding that are currently in place with those entities, our organizations have the trained personnel and equipment in place to respond in an appropriate and safe manner.

Our research indicates that there are several systems and providers in the US and the rest of the world for this type of interim storage. Our research further indicates that the particular system that WCS is proposing has some technical issues that we have concerns with and we have some concerns with Areva who is providing the system. Mr. Ron Black, Chairman of the Lea County Commission will be presenting some information relating to those concerns.

At this time, I will stand for any questions that the Commission may have.



Gaines County
 Area Impacted by
 25 Mile Buffer
 350 +/- Sq. Miles
 Population within
 Area: 2,056

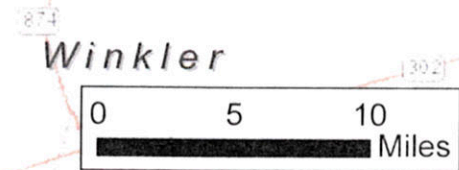
Lea County
 Area Impacted by
 25 Mile Buffer
 950 +/- Sq. Miles
 Population within
 Area: 48,283

Andrews County
 Area Impacted by
 25 Mile Buffer
 635 +/- Sq. Miles
 Population within
 Area: 117

Winkler County
 Area Impacted by
 25 Mile Buffer
 3 +/- Sq. Miles
 Population within
 Area: 0

**Population
 Based on 2010
 Census Data**

- Mile Buffer 25
- Andrews Co Census Blocks
- Gaines Co Census Blocks
- Lea Co Census Blocks
- Winkler Co Census Blocks



Total Population for target area: 50,456

