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December 26, 1993

John W. N. Hickey, Chief  
Enrichment Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety & Safeguards  
Office of Nuclear Material & Safeguards  
Mailstop 4-E-4  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Hickey;

After reviewing the recently published NRC "Draft Environmental Impact Statement" on the construction and operation of the proposed uranium enrichment center to be located within Claiborne Parish in Northern Louisiana, I would urge the NRC to support its findings and to expedite the licensing process for that facility.

The DEIS brought to light some factors that are positive and make the construction of the facility worthwhile, such as:

1. It would provide a competitive and reliable national source of uranium enrichment services to U.S. customers and would contribute to our independence from foreign sources of this sensitive service.
2. It would be a competitive supplier for this service to commercial utilities and would complement existing sources.
3. Much of the required labor pool is available locally for the construction and operation of the facility thereby contributing substantially to the local economy. The result of a no-action alternative would be a continuation of the depressed economic conditions in this area and the likely outmigration of skilled and higher income workers.
4. No impact on buildings from severe weather (heavy rainfall and cyclonic events) and seismic events can be anticipated. Claiborne Parish is one of the lowest seismic-risk areas in the country and is located within a zone that experiences a peak wind speed of less than 75 mph.
5. Through the combined result of plant and process design, protective and administrative controls, operation of the facility does not pose a significant threat to public health and safety.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Truly yours

*William P. Ackendorf*

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