

January 21, 1994

The Honorable John Breaux  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Breaux:

I am responding to your January 5, 1994, letter to Chairman Selin, in which you requested consideration of the concerns raised by Mr. J. T. Taylor, regarding a license application by Louisiana Energy Services for the Claiborne Enrichment Center. You also requested information on the status of the application.

Mr. Taylor supports the license application by Louisiana Energy Services to construct and operate an uranium enrichment facility in Homer, Louisiana. He urges the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to complete its review of the license application as soon as possible. Mr. Taylor's letter was submitted to NRC as part of the public comment process on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). His comments, along with other comments received on the DEIS, will be considered in preparing the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on the enrichment facility. The official public comment period closes on January 25, 1994. The current schedule calls for the FEIS to be published this summer. Both Mr. Taylor and your office will be provided copies of the FEIS, on completion.

The staff is in the final stages of its safety review of the license application. The Safety Evaluation Report (SER) will be publicly available by the end of January 1994. On publication, a copy of the report will be provided to your office.

Both the FEIS and the SER will be considered in a hearing to be conducted by an NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB). The hearing process on the safety issues will begin upon publication of the SER; the hearing process on the environmental issues will start after the FEIS is published. Parties to the hearings are Citizens Against Nuclear Trash, Louisiana Energy Services, and the NRC staff. The ASLB will render its decision on licensing the Claiborne Enrichment Center at the conclusion of the two hearings.

I trust that this reply responds to Mr. Taylor's concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
James M. Taylor  
Executive Director  
for Operations

CP  
1/14/94  
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NMSS: Ellen Kraus 1/13/94

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\*See previous concurrence

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NAME	MHorn/ij		JHickey		EQTen E ck	RF Burnett	Garlotto	RE Bernero
DATE	1/12/94		1/13/94		1/14/94	1/14/94	1/17/94	1/18/94
OFC	DEDS		EDO		OCA			
NAME	HLThompson		JMTaylor		DRathburn			
DATE	1/18/94		1/ /94		1/19/94			

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