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LOUISIANA

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 5, 1994

Mr. Ivan Selin
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Chairman Selin:

I have been contacted by Mr. J. T. Taylor, President of the Claiborne Economic Development Board, who has sent me a copy of a letter sent to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission expressing support for the license application by Louisiana Energy Services for the Claiborne Enrichment Center.

Please investigate the enclosed information sent to me and provide me with a report which responds to the concerns raised in Mr. Taylor's letter. Any information you could provide me on the status of this application would also be appreciated. Please give Mr. Taylor's views and concerns every appropriate consideration within federal guidelines. Your reply may be forwarded to the attention of David Schryver.

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,


JOHN BREAU

United States Senator

JB:dgs
Enclosure

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PDR ADOCK 07003070
C PDR

CLAIBORNE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

• F.O. BOX 270 •

HOMER, LOUISIANA 71040 •

318-927-6166 •

1994 JAN -4 PM 4:10

December 29, 1993

Senator John B. Breaux
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 2051±0

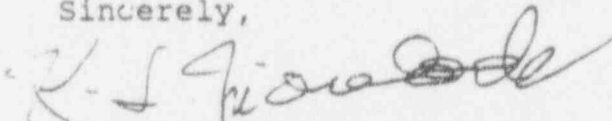
Dear Senator Breaux:

Mr. J. T. Taylor, president of Claiborne Economic Development Board, has asked me to send you the enclosed copy of a letter he has written to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. As you will see, he strongly supports approval of the license application by Louisiana Energy Services for the Claiborne Enrichment Center.

I add my hearty "Amen" to his remarks and will write my own comments to the NRC.

We rely on you to join with others of our Congressional delegation to do all you can to make this licensing and subsequent construction and operation of the plant come about. It is of tremendous importance to the economic welfare of our parish and surrounding area. We appreciate your efforts in our behalf.

Sincerely,



K. L. Morelock
Administrative Director

CLAIBORNE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

• P.O. BOX 270 •

HOMER, LOUISIANA 71040 •

318-927-6166 •

December 21, 1993

Chief, Enrichment Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Mail Stop 4-E-4
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

RE: Comments of support for the Claiborne Enrichment Center following completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Dear Sir:

As president of the Claiborne Economic Development Foundation Board, and on the behalf of our members, I am writing to urge the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to complete its review of the Louisiana Energy Services (LES) license application for the Claiborne Enrichment Center (CEC) in order to enable the construction and operation of facility as soon as possible.

It has been three years since LES submitted its initial application. From the beginning it has been abundantly clear that Claiborne Parish and the surrounding area desperately need the jobs and taxes that would be generated by the location of this facility in Claiborne Parish.

The primary concern has been the potential environmental impacts of the construction, operation and eventual decontamination and decommissioning of the facility. The DEIS, completed in November 1993, clearly allays any fears that might have existed in this area. As related to any radiological impacts, the DEIS states that "Routine operation of CEC would result in negligible radiation doses to individuals and the population. Further, LES would be subject to EPA's applicable standards of 40 CFR Part 190...."

Further, the DEIS concludes: In conclusion, NRC analyses of the potential environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of CEC indicates that the impacts are very small and are primarily confined to the site boundaries. Some of the impacts are beneficial (e.g. socioeconomics)."

Thus, the DEIS itself eliminates the only reason why this plant should not be licensed.

Claiborne Parish is a poor rural area, with few job opportunities for our citizens. In fact, the per capita earnings of the citizens of Claiborne parish is about \$5,800 per year (Louisiana Tech University, 1992) which as the DEIS notes "...makes it one of the poorest regions in the United States as measured by per capita earnings."

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The purpose of the Claiborne Economic Development Board is to foster the creation of new jobs for our citizens. Therefore, it is readily apparent that the 250 construction jobs and the 200 permanent jobs that will be created by the operation of this facility is of vital concern to our Board, in particular, and to the citizens of Claiborne Parish, in general. Simply put, our citizens need these jobs.

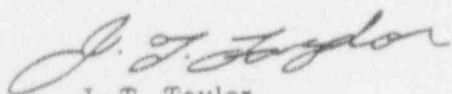
Because of the lack of good jobs in Claiborne Parish, our area has suffered from out-migration for the past generation. Today, a vast majority of our youth are forced to leave the area upon completing their education in order to find gainful employment. The CEC facility will be located in a Louisiana Rural Enterprise Zone which requires that a percentage of the employees must be from the local area. This requirement will help assure that employment opportunities are available to enable more of our young adults to remain here after completion of their schooling.

Additionally, our school system will be greatly enhanced by the taxes that will be paid by LES. Even should LES qualify for the Louisiana 10-Year Tax Exemption program, which absolves manufacturers from paying ad valorem taxes for 10-years, the program does not apply to taxes levied by the school board. Then, too, once the exemption period is completed, other local and state governments will directly benefit by taxes paid by LES.

Beyond the jobs and benefits that will accrue to citizens of Claiborne Parish and the surrounding areas, the DEIS also notes that the construction and operation of this facility — which would be the only privately operated uranium enrichment facility operating in the U.S.— "would provide a means to negate the dependence on foreign suppliers and sources" of enriched uranium for our energy producers. As the DEIS states: "In 1991, the General Accounting Office (GAO) predicted that annual separative work unit (SWU) world capacity producing enriched uranium would exceed the market demand and thus a competitive market would be created. This competitive market is expected to develop as more long-term DOE contracts expire or are terminated and more energy efficient enrichment techniques are employed...In the absence of nationally produced enrichment services, the opportunity would be replaced by foreign sources."

In light of the numerous benefits that would be created by the construction and operation of the facility for the citizens of Claiborne Parish, the State of Louisiana and the nation as a whole — and the limited, manageable impacts that would be expected to affect the environment, I and the members of the Claiborne Economic Development Board, again, respectfully urge the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to proceed as rapidly as possible to conclude its review of the LES application in order to enable the construction and operation of the Claiborne Enrichment Center as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,



J. T. Taylor
President
Claiborne Economic Development Board

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

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CP
1/14/94
*9

NMSS: Ellen Kraus 1/13/94

*See previous concurrence

OFC	*FCEB	C	*FCEB	C	FCSS	FCSS	NMSS	NMSS
NAME	MHorn/ij		JHickey		EQTen Eyck	RFBurnett	Garlotto	REBeckero
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		1/14/94			

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CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SYSTEM
DOCUMENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

This checklist is to be submitted with each document (or group of Qs/As) sent for filing into the CCS.

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) Ltr to Sen. Braxton
2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT _____ Correspondence _____ Hearings (Qs/As)
3. DOCUMENT CONTROL Sensitive (NRC Only) _____ Non-sensitive
4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE and SUBCOMMITTEES (if applicable)

Congressional Committee

Subcommittee
5. SUBJECT CODES
(a) _____
(b) _____
(c) _____
6. SOURCE OF DOCUMENTS
(a) _____ 5520 (document name _____)
(b) Scan- (c) _____ Attachments
(d) _____ Rekey (e) _____ Other _____
7. SYSTEM LOG DATES
(a) 2/18/94 Date OCA sent document to CCS
(b) _____ Date CCS receives document
(c) _____ Date returned to OCA for additional information
(d) _____ Date resubmitted by OCA to CCS
(e) _____ Date entered into CCS by _____
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8. COMMENTS
