

THE CITY OF

## HOBBS, NEW MEXICO

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR BOBBY WALLACH

March 3, 2004

US Nuclear Regulatory Office of Public Affairs Chairman Nils Diaz Washington, D.C. 2055 :4/1/04 69 F.R. 5374 83) 701 11/16 Pil 3: 39

Dear Chairman Diaz:

I would like to share with you my feeling about the proposed National Enrichment Facility.

While I understand the project would mean many jobs, my feelings toward the plant are not based on economic security. They are based on safety and security. For that reason, I am supporting the construction of the facility.

Like many people in this nation, I have been concerned about our national security since September 11, 2001. I have watched intently as our leaders discuss and debate ways to make us safe. I feel that much of our safety comes from the companies that drive our economy.

From everything I have heard about LES and the uranium enrichment plant, I believe they take safety and security very seriously.

I have attended town meetings where they have talked about plans for coordination of security with local law enforcement and emergency services. I have heard them talk about the safe storage and disposal of the uranium byproduct. Most importantly, I have heard them talk about the safety of the people who will work there - my friends and neighbors.

I feel they are taking the right steps to protect their employees, the community, and our environment. I look forward to having such a responsible neighbor in my community, and I urge you to approve their application quickly.

Sincerely,

THE CITY OF HOBBS, NEW MEXICO

Robert P. Wallach

Mayor

Cole - T. Johnson (Teg)
m. Wong (mew)

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