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From: LES_EIS
To: Doris Mendiola
Date: 3/16/04 6:30PM
Subject: Comment: LES proposed Uranium enrichmentplant in Lea County New Mexico and the DOE

>>> "PHILLIP BARR" <pharb2@msn.com> 12/16/03 02:56PM >>>

In the Dec.9, issue of the Hobbs, News-sun, article states "there will be no disposal or long-term storage (beyond the life of the plant) of uranium by-product cylinders in the state of New Mexico, Ferland said, promising to find an out-of - state disposal path as soon as possible."

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Mr. Hiatt

Ok, one state congressman says the wastes may go to Utah , the NRC says Ky or Ohio. I wonder which one it is?

From the Congressssman's statement the wastes could be here until a deconversion plant is built or be moved in 5 years according to LES if certain conditions exist.

If acommercial conversion and disposal path is not available for Les to ship these wastes to and the energy bill fails, where will the wastes go?

I believe the government will be stuck with a very large bill dealing with these wastes. I believe the energy bill would require the DOE to take responsibility for these wastes immediately, giving LES a enormous break on construction costs. And does anyone know for sure what these disposal costs will be? I believe all this amounts to a taxpayer subsidy of a foreign corporation of questionable reputation, that has been run out of several states already.

Phillip Barr
Hobbs

Here is what Carroll Leavell , state congressman said about the storage of the waste:

"LES must post a bond that assures clean up of the site that will return it at some point in time to a "green site". The Department of Energy and US Enrichment Corporation has a large volume of the "tails" or waste product from uranium enrichment stored in Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. It is my understanding that the Federal Government has requested proposals for a plant to "deconvert" the product to a low grade product that can go to a site in Utah. When a plant is built to handle the product in the other states, LES could contract for the handling of waste at the Eunice plant. This is one possibility, for additional information I would suggest you contact Marshal Colen at telephone 412-638-6798."

You can reach me at 505-390-5705.

Sincerely,

Carroll H. Leavell

Phillip Barr

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