



New Mexico State Senate

State Capitol
Santa Fe

COMMITTEES:

MEMBER:
Finance

SENATOR CARROLL H. LEAVELL
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March 4, 2004

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2004 MAR 16 PM 3:35
Rules and Directives
Branch
FBI/DOJ

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C.

re: Louisiana Energy Service, Inc.

I am writing to express my support for the planned National Enrichment Facility.

As a State Senator, I have an obligation to my constituents, and the state as a whole, to do what I feel is best for New Mexico. Supporting the construction of a uranium enrichment facility near Eunice is in line with that obligation.

Our state relies heavily on federal and tourism dollars to remain afloat. Southeast New Mexico has for too long, depended almost solely on oil and natural gas production. It is time we diversify our economy and begin to attract more jobs that do not rely on the government, tourism, or the price of oil and gas.

By supporting the construction of this facility, I am supporting the creation of 210 permanent jobs at the facility with annual payroll and benefits exceeding thirteen million dollars. I am also supporting the creation of 400 to 800 short term construction jobs that will be part of a \$1.2 billion project to build the National Enrichment Facility.

Southeast New Mexico needs these jobs, and we need an economic plan that recognizes a role for responsible commercial entities and a broader economic base.

I am pleased to continue my strong support of the National Enrichment Facility.

Sincerely,

Carroll H. Leavell

F-RIDS=ADM-03
Add=J. Johnson (RJ)
M. Wong (MCW)

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