

***THE EDDY-LEA ENERGY ALLIANCE, LLC
GLOBAL NUCLEAR ENERGY PARTNERSHIP
Award Number: DE-FG07-07ID14799
Hobbs Public Participation Meeting
Lea County Special Events Center
March 22, 2007
6:00 p.m.***

Hobbs (Lea County), New Mexico, was the second location of four Public Participation Meetings (PPM) held by the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance LLC (ELEA). These meetings are being held to solicit public opinion regarding the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) siting study, as well as to provide specific information regarding both program and site-specific aspects of the GNEP process and to address the identified local stakeholder concerns, issues, and values.

Public Notice

Public notice appeared in the *Hobbs Sun Newspaper* 10 days prior to the PPM. Newspaper ads ran March 13th and 22nd (*See Attachment A*). A press release was issued by ELEA on March 19th; receipt of the press release was confirmed by Rich Trout, the newspaper's editor. An article concerning the public meetings appeared in *The Hobbs Sun* the day of the scheduled meeting (*See Attachment B*). Hobbs-based radio station KLEA announced the scheduled GNEP meeting and the location during their Community Calendar segment. In addition, *The Hobbs Sun* published an article the following day summarizing attendance and the information provided at the PPM (*See Attachment C*).

Public Outreach

Public outreach was maximized as a result of the cooperative effort of Hobb's local elected officials, community leaders, community activists, and the Economic Development Corporation of Lea County (EDCLC). Community leaders facilitated the

effectiveness of the outreach efforts by the cumulative strength of the leadership as well as their level of involvement with the ELEA. Mayor Monty Newman, ELEA Chair Johnny Cope, and ELEA Secretary Jim Maddox personally contacted numerous individuals in Hobbs and assisted the communications group in developing an agenda to provide stakeholders with comprehensive and detailed information. The Economic Development Corporation of Lea County (EDCLC) was instrumental in assisting the ELEA. They utilized their local expertise and knowledge of local grass roots organizations and community leaders to best determine how to maximize public input and participation in the PPM. To ensure that key members of the EDCLS were contacted and aware of ELEA's efforts, Beth Cunningham worked closely with Shoats and Weaks, Inc.

To further augment our efforts to outreach as thoroughly as possible, Ms. Cunningham distributed an e-mail notifying members of the scheduled PPM in Hobbs (*See Attachment D*). Shoats and Weaks, Inc. followed up by making individual phone calls to key EDCLC members. (*See Attachment E*).

The Public Participation Meeting PPM

As directed by ELEA, Shoats and Weaks, Inc. customized the agenda for the Hobbs Public Participation Meeting (PPM) building on information regarding GNEP provided at the DOE Scoping Meeting offering more in-depth explanations of the technical aspects of GNEP and the existing infrastructure in Lea County, ultimately addressing ELEA's objectives for

the City of Hobbs (*See Attachment F*). Chairman Johnny Cope presented an overview and explanation of the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance LLC, Bob Kehrman and Jim Medford presented the corporate partnership between Washington Group International (WGI) and AREVA, respectively. Dr. Mark Turnbough, ELEA Principle Site Investigator, presented the Technical Parameters of GNEP and The Practical Necessity of Fuel Recycling and The Infrastructure Requirements of GNEP and Marla Shoats, ELEA communication group, facilitated Public Comment.

The meeting began with Marla Shoats highlighting the format of the PPM, informing the participants that the PPM was being transcribed and that a Spanish translator was available, and requesting that all participants sign in (*See Attachment G*).

Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance, LLC

Chairman Johnny Cope welcomed the audience and provided a historical perspective of the development of ELEA utilizing a Power Point presentation (*See Attachment H*). The first slide depicted the 25 percent ownership breakdown between the four partners of the LLC: Eddy County, Lea County, the City of Hobbs, and the City of Carlsbad. He further emphasized the commitment and collaboration present among all four entities and how they have each, equally, invested their commitment to the GNEP project. The subsequent slide emphasized the leadership positions and community involvement of the ELEA Board members: Alliance Chairs Johnny Cope (Lea) and Mayor Bob Forrest (Carlsbad), Secretary and Commissioner Jim Maddox (Hobbs), and Treasurer Janelle Whitlock (Eddy). The community leadership, strength, and commitment of the alternate members for the Alliance board (Former Chairman of the Lea County Board of Commissioners Harry Teague (Lea), State Representative John Heaton (Carlsbad), Mayor Monty Newman (Hobbs), and County Manager Steve Massey

(Eddy)) illustrate the depth of strength the Alliance board holds. The community was also introduced to the ELEA Team: Principle Investigator, Dr. Mark Turnbough; communications consultant Shoats and Weaks; Gordon Environmental; and corporate partners AREVA and WGI. The attendees were then shown the final slide that detailed the ELEA/GNEP site located approximately halfway between Hobbs and Carlsbad on U.S. Highway 62/180 (the WIPP Route).

The Corporate Partnership

Jim Medford, AREVA, described the corporation and its experience and involvement in Nuclear Energy. He then presented a DVD that illustrated AREVA's technology and existing process at La Hague (*AREVA DVD will be submitted with final communications report*). Mr. Medford stressed the fact that the existing AREVA reprocessing system is different from the one proposed for the GNEP.

Bob Kerman from WGI provided an overview of the company's evolution and its involvement with the development of WIPP in New Mexico. The presentation reviewed WGI's involvement with the start-up of the WIPP and described the significant role WGI played in securing the Remote Handled Waste Permit Modification for WIPP from the New Mexico Environment Department. Mr. Kehrman also emphasized WIPP's safety and compliance record. Currently, WGI is the construction management contractor for the LES uranium enrichment facility being built near Eunice, New Mexico. Gordon Environmental prepared 14 color exhibits mounted on foam core boards to illustrate the extensive site-specific information that the site characterization team has collected at the proposed ELEA site. Mr. Kehrman discussed the exhibits and encouraged all attendees to review and ask questions. (*Gordon Environmental Site Characterization exhibits*

will be submitted with the final communications report).

Technical Parameters of GNEP and the Practical Necessity of Fuel Recycling

Dr. Turnbough gave a Power Point presentation that detailed GNEP from a technical perspective (*See Attachment I*). This presentation illustrated the differences between the Open Fuel Cycle system and the Closed Fuel Cycle system. Dr. Turnbough proceeded to discuss the two proposed facilities, the Consolidated Fuel Reprocessing Center (CFRC) and the Advanced Recycling Reactor (ARR); the GNEP proposed time line; and existing worldwide GNEP-related facilities and the experiences of those facilities.

In addition to the Power Point presentation, the attendees were given a series of educational handouts on nuclear energy. They consisted of “*The Future of Nuclear Energy*,” “*The Nuclear Fuel Cycle Fact Sheet*,” “*Managing Used Nuclear Fuel*” and “*Used Nuclear Fuel Treatment and Recycling*” (*See Attachment J*). Dr. Turnbough discussed the benefits of an improved nuclear fuel cycle, the scientific sophistication, the economic and environmental sensibility of expanding the use of nuclear energy. This presentation illustrated how GNEP would address concerns about management of high-level waste, proliferation of transuranics, as well as mitigation of the potential economic and environmental problems that can be attributed to fossil fuels. He indicated that he believed that there are smarter and more environmentally sound ways to use fossil fuels while offsetting the demand for electrical energy with a closed nuclear fuel cycle as proposed by the GNEP.

The Infrastructure Requirements of GNEP

Dr. Turnbough began this agenda item by emphasizing the practicality of locating the

CFRC and the ARR at the ELEY site. He detailed the corridor of innovative and existing facilities that would enhance the location of GNEP at the ELEY site and build on the nuclear expertise that currently exists in the Permian Basin throughout Central and South East New Mexico, as well as West Texas. This corridor extends from WIPP in Carlsbad and The Carlsbad Monitoring and Environmental Research Center (CMERC) to the LES uranium enrichment facility in Eunice, New Mexico, and the site of Waste Control Specialists (WCS) Andrews County, Texas: a disposal site for low-level radioactive waste that will accommodate the depleted uranium waste from LES. In addition, there is a significant amount of academic support in Central and South Eastern New Mexico, as well as West Texas. The New Mexico State Legislature appropriated funds to begin a nuclear research facility in Hobbs, (staffed by New Mexico Tech University), and the University of Texas is planning to construct a research reactor in Andrews County. Work on the research reactor is in concert with Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories.

Dr. Turnbough then discussed the existing characteristics/infrastructure that makes the ELEY site a practical and feasible location for the GNEP facility. Transportation and highway infrastructure were discussed and Dr. Turnbough highlighted the transportation routes that WIPP is currently required to use. The WIPP route is equipped with a GPS tracking system to determine location of vehicles. This portion of the presentation also included brief discussions of the existing rail infrastructure (located 3.8 miles west of the ELEY site), the abundance of available water, accessibility to adequate electrical power, and, ultimately, why the availability of these resources is critical to a project with the magnitude of GNEP.

Public Comment

Ms. Shoats facilitated the Public Comment section. All of those individuals that commented were supportive of the GNEP and the proposed ELEA site. The range of questions and comments were quite diverse.

The public comment section began with some comments about the existing industries that surround the ELEA site. An example given is the potash industry and the potash mines that are in the vicinity of the proposed site. Dr. Turnbough, gave a historical perspective of the communication and due diligence that occurred when selecting the ELEA site. That effort also took into account future potential development that may occur from existing industries.

The Executive Director of the Energy Technology Initiative, Stephanie Sparkman, was very supportive of the location of the GNEP site along the Permian Basin. Ms. Sparkman resides in Midland, Texas. She stated that the combination of the WCS site, LES site, and the WIPP are uniting to form the nation's nuclear corridor and that the GNEP and FutureGen are logical additions to the corridor. She also emphasized her concerns with the United States' dependency on foreign oil and that the residents of the Permian Basin need to unite to educate others about the energy crises and our role and opportunity to be part of the solution.

The elected officials of Eddy County showed their support for the ELEA site. State Senator Carroll Leavell spoke first in strong support of the project and the ELEA site. He emphasized the strength of academic excellence surrounding the community and that academic strength would be a substantial support base for the proposed ELEA/GNEP site. State Senator Gay Kernan provided her support for

the project and thanked Dr. Turnbough for the detailed presentation that addressed a very technical scientific process in a manner that was easy for the general public to understand. She emphasized that the community had the strength and support to participate in an effort to change how the country will meet the future demands of our national energy needs. Ms. Shoats then read letters of support from State Representative Shirley Tyler and State Representative Donald Bratton who were unable to attend (*See Attachment K*). City of Hobbs Mayor Monty Newman stated his support for GNEP and the ELEA site. He emphasized the importance of economic vitality of the area and the concentration and focus on energy related businesses. He stated that this project has the support of the Mayor's office and the City Commission of Hobbs.

Summary

The Public Participation Meeting held in Hobbs on March 22, 2007, was well attended. The PPM presentation enhanced the information provided to the community of Hobbs during the DOE Scoping Meeting. The comments of the participants were positive and supportive of the ELEA site and the GNEP. Participants commented that they appreciated the educational and succinct presentations, and that they now had a better understanding of the magnitude of the project. The participants left the PPM enthusiastic and better informed about the prospects of GNEP. The comments from local elected officials, residents, and business owners were diverse and overwhelmingly supportive of the proposed ELEA site. The transcriptions of this meeting will be included in the final communication report.

Lawmakers say Perry's HPV order doesn't carry weight of law

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry's anti-cancer vaccine order does not carry the weight of law and state health officials are not required to follow it, two prominent lawmakers said Monday after meeting with Attorney General Greg Abbott.

Abbott's informal opinion comes a day before the Texas House is scheduled to vote on a bill that would bar state officials from requiring the human papillomavirus vaccine for school attendance.

Lawmakers were outraged in early February when Perry issued an executive order directing the Texas

Health and Human Services Commission to adopt a rule requiring the vaccine for girls entering the sixth grade as of September 2008.

The vaccine protects girls against strains of HPV that cause most cases of cervical cancer.

Days after Perry issued the order, Republican Sen. Jane Nelson, of Lewisville, and Rep. Jim Keffer, of Eastland, asked Abbott to clarify the governor's authority to issue executive orders and the Legislature's ability to overrule them.

Nelson said she and Keffer met with

Abbott on Thursday and he told them the order "was more like a suggestion to the head of the agency."

Abbott spokesman Jerry Strickland said the attorney general's office does not discuss the content or substance of its discussions with lawmakers.

The governor acknowledged weeks ago that the Legislature has the authority to supersede his mandate. But he has also insisted the requirement is good public policy that will save young women's lives.

"Because Governor Perry's executive order is consistent with current

law, nothing has been issued today that in any way alters the governor's directive," Perry spokesman Robert Black said in a Monday statement.

Some conservatives have said the order contradicts Texas' abstinence-only sex education policies and strays too far into families' lives. Others have balked at the \$360 cost for the vaccine, called Gardasil, and questioned the vaccine's efficacy and safety.

With or without Perry's order, state law gives Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner Albert Hawkins the authority to require

schoolgirls to get the vaccine. Opponents of the mandate have argued that it would be difficult for Hawkins to defy Perry since he's appointed by the governor.

The bill the House is set to debate on Tuesday would add a sentence to the existing law stating that the HPV vaccine is not required for school attendance. With 93 co-sponsors, the proposal is almost sure to pass. An identical bill has been filed in the Senate.

Black said 65 percent fewer women will be vaccinated if lawmakers make the shots optional.

Suspected baby kidnapper arrested

LUBBOCK (AP) — A woman accused of snatching a newborn from a hospital in the middle of the night and hiding her 100 miles away in New Mexico was being taken to Texas on Monday to face a kidnapping charge.

Rayshaun Parson, 21, waived extradition and U.S. marshals expected to have her in Lubbock by evening, said District Attorney Matthew Chandler of Clovis, N.M.

Parson is scheduled for an initial appearance in federal court Tuesday in Lubbock.

Police found Mychael Darthard-Dawodu, then 4 days

old, in Clovis on Sunday, a day after she was taken from Lubbock's Covenant Lakeside Hospital.

The infant didn't utter a peep as her mother, Caisha Darthard, gently stroked her cheek during a news conference in Lubbock Monday.

"We're just happy to have her back," the little girl's grandfather, Darrell Darthard.



Caisha LaShae Darthard cuddles her baby, Mychael Darthard-Dawodu, during a news conference Monday in Lubbock, Texas.

The family took no questions. "It's not that we're not grateful," Darrell Darthard said. "We just want some privacy with the family and to spend some time with her."

Baby Mychael was taken from her mother's hospital early Saturday by a woman posing as a medical worker who walked out of Covenant Lakeside with the infant hidden in her

purse, police said.

Law enforcement officials received information from more than one source that the 5-pound, 7-ounce baby was in Clovis, authorities said. Police the girl in a home with an adult female early Sunday, Lubbock police Lt. Scott Hudgens said. Parson was found at another home, he said.

Parson had told people at an

apartment complex in Clovis that she was pregnant, "but never really was," according to an FBI affidavit describing the statement of a woman who tipped police Saturday.

Phone numbers at Parson's address were disconnected. FBI spokeswoman Lori Bailey in Dallas declined to comment.

Mychael was flown home to her mother and her father, Michael A. Dawodu, after she was evaluated at a New Mexico hospital.

Parson has had dealings with the law before. In May 2004, a protective order was issued against her in a domestic violence incident involving a boyfriend, according to New Mexico online court documents.

In January 2005, she was charged with fraud, according to court documents. A call seeking information about the case was not returned Monday.

Covenant Lakeside says it places identification bands on infants and parents immediately at birth and refers to "a number of other security measures" on its Web site. Gwen Stafford, senior vice president of Covenant Health System, said the hospital plans to further tighten security.

Mother charged in case of bodies found under home

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A 19-year-old mother accused of stashing the bodies of her two young children under her apartment said she was "sorry for everything."

Valerie Lopez was being held on \$10 million bond after being arrested Saturday and charged with capital murder in the death of her 14-month-old daughter Saryiah Garcia.

Police say Lopez admitted to beating the girl to death on Christmas Eve and hiding her body beneath the home.

Two months later, according to police accounts of Lopez's statements, she put the body of her 5-month-old son Sebastian Lopez under the house after she accidentally rolled over him and killed him.

"I'm just sorry, just sorry for everything, because I hurt everybody that I love," Lopez said Sunday in a jailhouse interview with the San Antonio Express-News.

When pressed about her children's deaths, a sobbing Lopez said: "I want to talk to my attorney ... I don't want to talk about anything. All I can say is, my kids mean everything to me."

Bexar County District Attorney Susan Reed said she plans to seek the death penalty against Lopez.

Police had been searching for Lopez and her boyfriend Jerry Salazar since Tuesday night when the children's bodies were found by residents of a triplex who were trying to locate the source of a foul odor they had been smelling for as long as two weeks.

San Antonio Police Department spokesman Joe Rios said the causes of death for the children had not been released, but the Bexar County medical examiner's office has ruled that they were not accidental.

Salazar, 28, was arrested and charged with injury to a child causing serious bodily injury by omission. He was aware Lopez was abusing her children, police said. His bond was set at \$1.1 million, including a warrant for driving with an invalid license.

Lopez said she had been taking medication for bipolar disorder for two years but quit when the doctor visits became too expensive.

Briefs

At least 12 injured in massive Dallas apartment complex fire

DALLAS (AP) — Fire swept through an apartment complex early Monday, killing a man and injuring at least 12 people, including some who jumped from balconies in the three-story building to escape the flames.

All 93 units were damaged when the fire broke out shortly before midnight in the Harvey's Racquet Club Apartments, about a mile south-east of Dallas' Love Field airport.

Fire spokesman Lt. Joel Lavender said no one called 911 until the fire was well under way. Rescuers searched the wreckage for survivors later Monday and found the body of one man, Lavender said. His identity was not immediately released.

The injured survivors were treated for burns and broken bones.

Two killed when cars swept off road during flooding

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Two people died in Central Texas when their cars were swept off flooded roads after heavy rains, and San Antonio authorities received two dozen calls for high-water rescues, authorities said Monday.

A 24-year-old woman was found dead after the car she was in was swept into a creek.

The woman, identified as Mary Rachel Quest, was from Lubbock, according to Guadalupe County Sheriff Arnold Zwicke.

Authorities were called about 2:20 a.m. Monday with a report of a car going off a road near Highway 123 north of Seguin.

Zwicke said the car, carrying three men and Quest, stalled in several inches of water. One man left to get help, and the two others tried to push the car along the road with the woman behind the wheel, he said. The car began to roll freely, then entered 2 to 3 feet of water crossing the roadway and was swept into the creek.

Zwicke said the woman was able to get out of the car but was swept downstream, where her body was later recovered.

Seguin is about 35 miles east of San Antonio. Zwicke said Quest and the others were in Seguin to visit a friend.

A second woman, identified by the Comal County Sheriff's Office as 52-year-old Gloria Janet Shirk of Canyon Lake, was found Monday a quarter of a mile downstream from her car in Rebecca Creek.

Report says TXU manipulated power market in Texas

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — TXU Corp. manipulated the Texas electric market in 2005, costing consumers \$70 million and giving the utility \$20 million in extra profits, according to an outside expert whose report was released by state regulators Monday.

TXU, the largest power generator in Texas, sold power to the market at inflated prices and caused electricity prices to rise 15.5 percent during a four-month summer stretch, the market expert said.

"Since TXU, in fact, raised prices in the market and profited from its activities, the (monitor) concluded that TXU's behavior constitutes market power abuse," said staff of the state Public Utility Commission.

ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6 PM (\$5.00)

1609 JOE HARVEY BLVD.

***WILD HOGS**
(2:30 4:50) 7:30 9:45 *PG13*

***300**
(2:00 4:30) 7:00 9:30 *R*

BREACH
(2:05 4:30) 7:30 9:45 *PG13*

THE NUMBER 23
(2:00 4:10) 7:05 9:20 *R*

GHOST RIDER
(2:00 4:25) 7:20 9:45 *PG13*

BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA
(2:35 4:45) 7:30 9:30 *R*

NORBIT
(2:15 4:45) 7:00 9:25 *PG13*

No Pass, Discount or Gift Tickets on * Movies

ENGLANDER

Queen Set
Regular \$999
NOW \$599

Now Premier Select Euro Top

the BEDROOM
MATTRESS & FURNITURE shoppe

819 N. Dal Paso • 393-2111 • Hobbs, NM
Mon. - Fri. 9-6 • Sat. 10-5

G&DNA SERVICES, LLC.

Gabriel Arsiaga (505) 441-0741 garsiaga@valornet.com

P.O. Box 2294 Hobbs, NM 88241 License# 350075

In-Ground Swimming Pools Sales & Service

Happy 2nd Birthday

We Love You

Joseph Ray Diaz

The Eunice Special Hospital District Board of Trustee's are requesting a renewal of the 2 Mill Levy. By voting for the 2 mill levy we will be able to continue providing excellent medical care at a reasonable cost. As well as providing medications and x-rays at a competitive cost. As our practice is growing we are considering an expansion of the clinic. For these reasons we are asking you to vote for the 2 Mill Levy on March 13th 2007.

Hobbs, NM

Public Meeting Notice

Notice of Public Participation Meeting: The Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance will hold a public meeting to provide information about the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) process and the potential of locating two major GNEP facilities at the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance Site; which is approximately halfway between Hobbs and Carlsbad on Highway 62/180

Date: Thursday, March 22, 2007
Location: Lea County Special Events Center
Request: The public is invited to participate and provide comment on the proposed project

Time and Place of Hearing:
6-9 PM
Lea County Special Event Center
5101 Lovington-Hobbs Highway
Hobbs, NM

Contact: Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski 505.890.0306
Marla Shoats 505.890.0306

THE "World Famous" LIPIZZANER STALLIONS

THE EQUESTRIAN TREAT OF THE CENTURY!

Presented by White Stallion Productions

DON'T MISS THE DANCING WHITE STALLIONS AND THEIR "AIRS ABOVE THE GROUND" IN "THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF HORSES"®

THIS THURSDAY!
MARCH 15 • 7:30PM

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
AT LEA COUNTY EVENT CENTER TICKET OUTLETS
CHARGE BY PHONE, GROUP DISCOUNTS AND EVENT INFO AT 505-391-2911 OR 800-952-2210.
MORE INFO AT LIPIZZANER.COM
WSP INC • PRODUCER GARY LASHINSKY

Advertising Receipt

Hobbs Daily News-Sun

201 N Thorp
P O Box 850
Hobbs, NM 88241-0850
Phone: (505) 393-2123
Fax: (505) 397-0610

JENNIFER KOZLOWSKI
SHOATS & WEAKS
4801 IRVING BLVD. NW, UNIT 1504
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87114

Customer #: 49101483-000
Ad #: 49654439
Job #: 19126
Phone: (505)259-2550
Date: 03/26/07
Description: PUBLIC MEETING

Run Date	Insertion Number	Sales Person	Description	Ad Type	Size	Rate Code	Total Cost
----------	------------------	--------------	-------------	---------	------	-----------	------------

03/13/07	49654440		07 07 Daily News-Sun	RP	3.00 x 5.00	RE	161.25
03/17/07	49654441	03	07 07 Daily News-Sun	RP	3.00 x 5.00	RE	161.25

Total: 322.50

Tax: 21.56

Prepayment: 0.00

Total Due 344.06



Advertising Receipt

Hobbs Daily News-Sun
 201 N Thorp
 P O Box 850
 Hobbs, NM 88241-0850
 Phone: (505) 393-2123
 Fax: (505) 397-0610

JENNIFER KOZLOWSKI
 SHOATS & WEAKS
 2801 IRVING BLVD. NW
 ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87114

Customer #: 49101483-000
Ad #: 49654439
Job #: 19126
Phone: (505)259-2550
Date: 03/12/07
Description: PUBLIC MEETING

Run Date	Insertion Number	Sales Person	Description	Ad Type	Size	Rate Code	Total Cost
03/13/07	49654440		07 07 Daily News-Sun	RP	3.00 x 5.00	RE	161.25
03/17/07	49654441	03	07 07 Daily News-Sun	RP	3.00 x 5.00	RE	161.25

Total: 322.50

Tax: 21.56

Prepayment: 0.00

Total Due 344.06

NEWSPUBLISHING CORP
 201 THORP
 HOBBS, NM 88240

BATCH: 882
 S-A-L-E-S D-R-A-F-T
 75998976
 347402866554

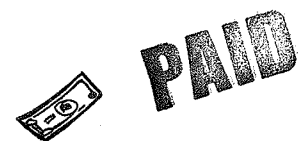
REF: 0013
 CD TYPE: AMEX
 TR TYPE: PURCHASE
 DATE: MAR 12, 07 15:35:33

TOTAL \$344.06*

ACCT: 1006 EXP: **/**
 AP: 119887
 **** IMPRINT CARD ****

CARDMEMBER ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF GOODS AND/OR SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF THE TOTAL SHOWN HEREON AND AGREES TO PERFORM THE OBLIGATIONS SET FORTH BY THE CARDMEMBER'S AGREEMENT WITH THE ISSUER

CUSTOMER COPY



CONTACT:

MEMBER OF:

166	3.00 X 5.00	RE	161.25
166	3.00 X 5.00	RE	161.25

News-Sun

JAL EUNICE HOBBS LOVINGTON TATUM SEMINOLE DENVER CITY



■ PUBLIC MEETING

Alliance to answer questions

RICHARD TROUT
NEWS-SUN

If you have a question about a multibillion dollar spent fuel recycling plant that might end up in or near Lea County, then Thursday is when you'll have the perfect opportunity to ask it.

The Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance is holding a public information meeting at 6 p.m.

Thursday at the Lea County Event Center to discuss the U.S. Department of Energy's spent fuel proposal under the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership.

The alliance is one of two local groups that have received money from the DOE to perform site studies for a recycling plant that could employ up to 5,000 people.

The Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance has a location just north of U.S. Highway 62/180 by State Highway 176 in Lea County. The site for Gandy Marley Inc. of Roswell and Salt Lake City-based EnergySolutions is in Chaves County and west of Tatum.

At the meeting, the Eddy-Lea Alliance will provide information to those in attendance about the scope of GNEP and the potential effects of constructing and operating spent fuel recycling facilities about halfway between Hobbs and Carlsbad.

Washington Group International and Areva are corporate partners with the Eddy-Lea Alliance.

"This is an opportunity for the public to meet with representatives of the alliance, technical reps from WGI and Areva and to learn about the processes, impacts and potential for a major energy recycling project," Mark Turnbough, principal investigator for the alliance, said in a release.

Eleven communities nationwide have been selected to perform site studies for three aspects of GNEP: a nuclear fuel recycling center, an advanced recycling reactor and an advanced research cycle facility. The 90-day timeline to complete the site studies is about halfway over, but Gandy said the DOE may extend the deadline.

In late January the DOE

SEE ALLIANCE, Page 5



KIMBERLY RYAN/NEWS-SUN

Spring cleaning

Mrs. H.J. Ford cleans out a flower bed Tuesday in preparation for spring temperatures on the corner of Leech and Cain. Today is the first day of spring.

Group wants to educate public about oil industry

MICHELLE A. FOX
NEWS-SUN

New Mexico is the No. 2 producer of natural gas and No. 5 in crude oil production in the nation, but many in the general public are not educated about the industry.

Bob Gallagher, president of the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association, appeared Tuesday before the Lea County Commission to outline what his group is doing to not only educate the public but also improve partnerships with the community.

"You all understand how important oil and gas is to the economy of Lea County," Gallagher said. "A lot do not understand that. We have allowed obstructionists to tell outright lies about our industry."

Gallagher said the oil and gas industry has done a terrible job educating the public. With help from the 325 members of NMOGA, that is changing.

The organization recently started an energy education program for sixth- and seventh- graders in

New Mexico.

"It has been certified by the state," Gallagher said. "It is a one week course on oil and gas. It may be scary to think, but in 10 years those sixth- and seventh-graders are could be running for office. We need to educate a whole new generation."

Gallagher also talked about the group's good neighbor program which encourages oil and gas companies to protect the land they work on by doing things such as cleaning up an area when work is done and maintaining right of ways.

"We are not the only ones who use public lands," Gallagher said. "We are not the only ones who use private lands."

"We promise within three days, we will communi-



Gallagher

cate back with you with an answer or facts," Gallagher said. "We want to reach out and have a dialogue with New Mexico."

Local agent with the Bureau of Land Management, Doug Burger, talked about steps the BLM in southeastern New Mexico is taking to work better with surface right owners.

"Our regulations have been modified to where the operator is required to make a good faith effort to notify landowners that they are going to be out there," Burger said. "Drilling requires a plan for the surface, so the surface owners can see what impact it may have."

Commissioner Randy McCormick commented on his thoughts about the BLM when he was first elected and how he feels about the federal agency since he has been working with BLM.

"My perception of BLM when I became a commis-

SEE COUNTY, Page 5

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Accomplishments of women celebrated at tea

MARIE WADSWORTH
NEWS-SUN

Lea County women looked at displays, socialized and drank tea at tables around New Mexico Junior College's Western Heritage Museum and Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame during the fourth annual women's tea Tuesday afternoon.

About 200 women attended the free tea held in honor of Women's History Month. The event, organized by Patty Emmerich, NMJC government and history professor and department chairwoman of social sciences, featured performances by NMJC's show choir The Sensations and guest speaker Ella Turner of Hobbs.

A pre-tea, sponsored by NMJC Democrat group, for two classes of fourth-grade girls from Taylor Elementary in Hobbs was also conducted.

"It's a chance to break away from the work a day world and be proud of who we are as women," Emmerich said. "What I found that was such a fun

experience with this is the amount of camaraderie and friendship among those in attendance is just something you just don't see. It's comforting to know it still exists."

Turner shared words of encouragement and inspiration with those in attendance. She paraphrased Proverb 31 about virtuous women.

"It's our essence for us to be nurturing," Turner said about women. "If we are to achieve the world's balance and harmony, men must step back and learn from the women. If we want to stop the aggression of the world, women must individually and collectively honor themselves."

Women live in a time when crime and violence against women are on the rise, Turner said. She further said women were important and have a responsibility to themselves to reveal the violence committed against them and to heal each other's wounds.

SEE WOMEN, Page 5

■ HOBBS SCHOOLS

Math program chosen

■ Teachers vote 109-70 in favor of new elementary school text

MARIE WADSWORTH
NEWS-SUN

The Hobbs School Board adopted "Investigations" as the kindergarten-fifth grade math textbook at its meeting Tuesday night.

Hobbs Municipal Schools certified staff voted for their choice between two elementary math textbooks, Investigations and Everyday Math. Investigations, a Scott Foresman product, received 109 votes to 70 votes for Everyday Math. One hundred and seventy-nine ballots were returned during the voting for the math textbooks.

According to the Investigations Web site, the textbook, developed by TERC in Cambridge, Mass., is designed to help students understand fundamental ideas of numbers, arithmetic, geometry, data, measurement and early algebra.

"I will say this, though, the number of ballots returned is fantastic," board member Patricia Jones said. "We had a high percentage of returns."

"With the number of returns, I think this is an indication of how much this means to every teacher out there," Hobbs Schools Superintendent Cliff Burch said. "We think that they've chosen an outstanding program and we'll support them in every way we can."

In addition, the board approved changing the two-hour weather delay to a three-hour delay.

"As you know, this has probably been an unusual weather winter we've had in this district since I've been here," Burch said. "It's kind of unique in Hobbs that a lot of our decisions have to be made b

a.m., so we have a two-hour window to get our kids bused to the places they need to be."

Burch said Hobbs may not have another snow day for a long while, but the weather delay needed to go into the student handbooks which would be printed soon.

"Are there any other schools that are doing three-hour delays?" school board member Lance Wiseman asked. "Are most of them two-

SEE SCHOOLS, Page 5

Inside Today

Obituaries	2
Lottery	5
Opinion	6
Weather	8
Sports	9
Classifieds/ Stocks	11
TV	15
Fun & Games	16

OIL PRICES

West Texas intermediate			
Spot	\$56.73	+	.14
Posted	\$53.25	NC	
Sour	\$48.25	NC	
N. Gas	\$6.910	+	.063

www.hobbsnews.com



Earline Johnson sips a cup of tea during the 4th annual Women's Tea - an event sponsored by New Mexico Junior College as part of Women's History Month.

TIMOTHY RIOS
NEWS-SUN



News-Sun

JAL EUNICE HOBBS LOVINGTON TATUM SEMINOLE DENVER CITY



From Sputnik on, HHS graduate Wayne Hale has wanted to be part of the U.S. space program.

Hobbsan at NASA honored

CHARLOTTE MALLOW NEWS-SUN

When Russia launched Sputnik, the first satellite sent into space, N. Wayne Hale Jr. was two years old. His interest in space never faltered after that historical moment.

According to his parents, Norman and Dorothea Hale of Hobbs, Wayne talked about nothing but space and wanted to be a part of the space program in some capacity from that moment on.

On March 7, in Washington D.C., the 1972 Hobbs High School graduate and manager of the Space

Shuttle Program, and along with the STS-121 Shuttle Team were awarded the National Air and Space Museum Trophy in the category of Current Achievement, the museum's highest honor.

And today, he will receive the National Space Club's Astronautics Engineer Award at the 50th Anniversary Goddard Memorial Dinner. The dinner will be held at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Wayne was born in Clovis on July 5, 1954, and raised in Hobbs. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Rice University

in 1976 and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University in 1978. Wayne and his wife, Belinda, live in the Houston area with their two children, Joshua and Elissa.

Wayne has worked for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston since 1978. He worked in Mission Control for more than 20 years.

In 2005, he was promoted to manager of the Space Shuttle Program at NASA.

SEE HALE, Page 5



President of the board for the Boys and Girls Club John Harrison and Xcel Energy community relations manager Ben Jaime go over the deed to the land adjacent to the former Xcel building. Xcel donated the land to the club.

Another donation helps club

■ Xcel Energy gives Boys and Girls Club land near the club

DANIEL RUSSELL NEWS-SUN

The Hobbs Boys & Girls Club grew some more on Thursday.

Xcel Energy officially handed over land adjacent to its former office at the southwest corner of Dunnam and Fowler to the club.

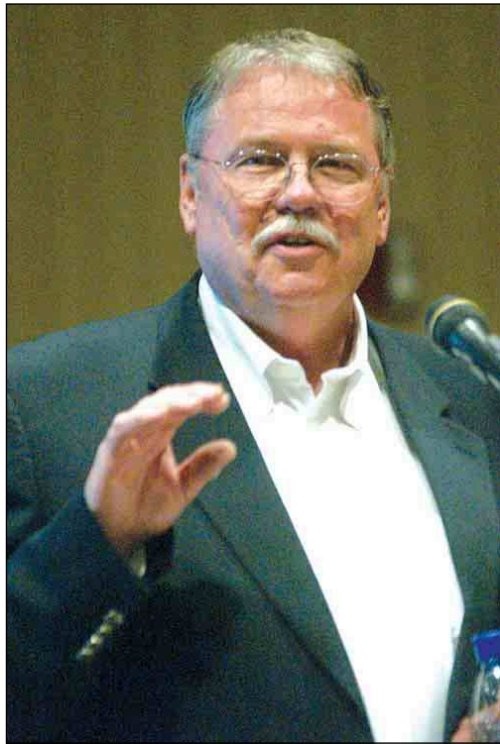
The club plans to use the donated land for a day-care playground and parking.

The donation by Xcel comes on the heels of Zia Natural Gas donating its former office building and yard, located at 110 S. Fowler, to the club. The club plans to make that lot the location for a new club facility. Plans are still in the preliminary stages.

Xcel said it no longer needs the property and opted to donate the lot that is located south of the club to the nonprofit organization.

"This is great for the Boys Club and also for Xcel Energy," said

SEE DONATION, Page 5



Consultant Mark Turnbough spoke at the GNEP meeting Thursday night to discuss Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance's bid for a spent fuel recycling project, part of the federal government's Global Nuclear Energy Partnership.

SPENT FUEL RECYCLING

Alliance's bid touted

■ Consultant hired by Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance says group's site perfect for nuclear facility

RICHARD TROUT NEWS-SUN

If anyone had any doubt the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance would be one of the final groups selected for a spent fuel recycling project, there's a good chance Mark Turnbough erased that doubt Thursday evening.

The site about halfway between Hobbs and Carlsbad meets all the criteria the U.S. Department of Energy outlined in its spent fuel proposal under the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, said Turnbough, principal investigator for the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance.

"It's closer to a field of dreams analogy than anything else," he said.

Turnbough was one of several speakers who addressed about 50 people at the Lea County Event Center regarding the alliance's effort to be selected for two aspects of GNEP: a spent fuel reprocessing facility and an advanced recycling reactor that could result in about 5,000 jobs.

The other speakers included Johnny Cope, chairman of the alliance, Bob Kehrman of Washington Group International and Jim Medford of Areva.

The alliance has partnered with Areva and WGI to build and operate the potential GNEP facility. It is now preparing a site study that's due May 1. The DOE will use the study along with the studies from 11 other applicants in its decision-making process.

Near the end of the 2 1/2-hour meeting, Turnbough reviewed why the alliance site is ideal for the spent fuel recycling project. There is a low seismic risk, the land is flat and has unremarkable characteristics, two major power lines to the north and south and a large supply of water in the Ogallala Aquifer.

"Water is a huge issue for them (DOE) and we can address that," Turnbough said. "This plant will be able to function with the exist-



SEE ALLIANCE, Page 5

Junior college board approves tuition increase

MARIE WADSWORTH NEWS-SUN

New Mexico Junior College Board approved a tuition increase at its meeting Thursday.

The in-district tuition increased by \$4 per credit hour and the out-of-district and out-of-state tuition went up to \$5 per credit hour.

NMJC's tuition, the amount students are charged per hour per number of classes they're taking, will now cost \$28 per credit hour for in-district students; \$46 per credit hour for out of district; and \$50 per credit hour for out of state.

The previous in-district tuition credit was \$24; out of district, \$41; and out of state, \$46.

NMJC president Steve McCleery told the board

that during this legislative session every college in the state had a legislative mandate to hold the line on the tuition increases to no more than 5 percent. The legislature, however, granted NMJC an exemption to that rule because of its low tuition rate.

When the state budgets its dollars for NMJC, the state's says the tuition rate should be \$27.50 per credit hour, meaning the state expects NMJC to be charging at least that amount per tuition hour. By going to \$28, NMJC is now 50 cents ahead of what the state says it should be and gets the college in line for funding in the future.

"I appreciate that from the Legislature," McCleery said. "... If you raise the tuition by \$4, it's going to generate about \$202,000 income. It's not

a huge sum of money. Next year we won't have that option because they'll have that 5 percent tuition credit cap."

In other business, the board:

■ Appointed seven individuals to the Western Heritage Museum advisory board. They are Ray Battaglioni, Edmundo Castaneda, Rinehard Hinterreither, Phillip Jones, Randy McCormick, Charley Smith and Janice Spence.

■ Recognized members of NMJC track team. Sen. Gay Kernan, R-Hobbs, presented a state certificate honoring the accomplishments of the track members who competed in the national championship meet in Lubbock in April. NMJC track team placed fourth overall in the national championship meet.

Inside Today

Obituaries	2
Education	4
Lottery	5
Opinion	6
Weather	8
Classifieds/ Stocks	12
TV	15
Fun & Games	16

OIL PRICES

West Texas Intermediate	
Price Change	
Spot	\$61.69 + 2.08
Posted	\$58.25 + 2.00
Sour	\$53.25 + 2.00
N. Gas	\$7.320 + .730



Senate to return Saturday, but fate of session uncertain

■ House OKs nearly all of Richardson proposals during all-night session



SANTA FE (AP) — Gov. Bill Richardson's hopes for a successful special session will be put to the test when the Senate returns to the Capitol on Saturday.

The House pulled an all-nighter and recessed early Thursday after approving nearly all the proposals sought by the Democratic governor.

Now it's the Senate's turn to consider the measures, and it appears some senators aren't in a mood to reconvene for very long — let alone give final approval to bills passed by the House.

The Senate adjourned a few hours

after the special session started Tuesday.

Under the state Constitution, senators must return by Saturday because the House stayed in session and continued to work.

"We're coming back on Saturday," Sen. John Arthur Smith, D-Deming, said Thursday. "The votes are there to sine die (adjourn) again. And the votes are there to table everything that came across. Those are options that obviously will be discussed."

Senate President Pro Tem Ben

Altamirano, D-Silver City, said he's asked senators to convene Saturday morning.

"I am going to advocate that we take the bull by the horns, and listen to the bills and vote them up or down, which is what the governor has always asked," said Altamirano.

He speculated it could take Saturday and Sunday if the Senate agrees to consider the measures.

"I'm going to tell them, 'Let's do it and get it over with and be done with it,'" said Altamirano.

On Tuesday, senators contended there was no emergency to justify calling lawmakers back to work within days of the end of the 60-day session. The governor has asked lawmakers to pass measures that the House and Senate didn't agree on during the past two months.

Senate GOP Whip Leonard Lee Rawson of Las Cruces said Thursday he detected no change in the Senate from earlier in the week.

"My expectation is that if we do go up on Saturday we'll turn around" and leave, said Rawson. "There is no sense in passing any of it. There is nothing that can't wait."

But there's always a chance the political environment could change if Richardson can persuade enough senators to remain in session and support his legislation.

"The stage is set for the Senate to return to work and give an up-or-down vote to these important initiatives. I plan to meet soon with the Senate leadership to discuss the next steps," Richardson said in a statement.

SEE SESSION, Page 5

Hale

from PAGE 1

Despite his many achievements, Wayne is modest, giving most of the credit for the program's success to his team. "I am a little embarrassed about all this," Wayne said. "I inherited a really great team to work with."

When Wayne took on the job of managing the shuttle program, NASA was struggling to overcome the grief of the 2003 loss of Columbia and its seven member crew. Columbia had broken up on re-entry.

There was a great need for inspiration and a raise in the moral of the 16,000 people working in the shuttle program.

Wayne began sending e-mails to the people working on the shuttle program in which he spoke of risk, responsibility and the values of exploration.

In one of Wayne's messages he used symbolism to compare the task before the shuttle team to the passing the Olympic Torch.

"We - here and now - are called to run our lap with skill, dedication, vigilance, hard work and pride," he wrote.

The shuttle team made changes to the design of the



David Hartman, Wayne Hale and Jack Dailey pose in front of the Wright brothers plane. Hale, a Hobbs High 1972 graduate, recently received the National Space Club's Astronautics Engineer Award.

shuttle and reduced previous shuttle problems, including the shedding of foam insulation from the external tank during launch.

"The people on this team understand the shuttle very well," Wayne said. "They made my job easy, this is a dream come true."

Wayne's mother is thrilled with her son's success. "He has worked very hard," Dorothea said. "He spends a lot of time traveling between Texas and Florida."

Norman is also proud of Wayne's achievements.

"He has made it on his own to his success," Norman said. "We gave him the best education we could, but he did this on his own."

In a quote from another of Wayne's letters to the shuttle team, he offers wisdom everyone can use, either on the shuttle team or in life.

"Do good work. Pay attention. Question everything. Be thorough. Don't end up with regrets."

Alliance

from PAGE 1

ing water sources."

In addition, the site is close to a highway and a rail line and has the benefit of established highway routes with 27 DOE sites thanks to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

"We can safely move transuranic waste," Turnbough said. "We can move it all over the country to WIPP."

Some of the remote-handled waste that WIPP now buries is more radioactive than the spent fuel rods the GNEP facility would handle, he said.

Earlier in the meeting Turnbough reviewed the historical background of GNEP. In 1982 the country passed the National Waste Policy Act, which created the open nuclear fuel cycle the nation has followed since then.

"It was some of the worst policy ever implemented in this country," Turnbough said.

Rather than recycling used fuel rods from nuclear power plants, the act stated that used fuel rods would be disposed of at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. Power plants had to store all their fuel rods on site and Yucca Mountain has been a political disaster that may never take the waste.

In 2005, however, Congress came up with a new approach called the closed fuel cycle. This new approach under the Energy Policy Act stated that used fuel could be recycled to conserve the uranium in fuel rods and to reduce the amount of waste needing to be disposed at Yucca.

Not only is a spent fuel recycling plant important to the United State's energy independence, Turnbough said, but it's important to the rest of the world. In China, for example, he said a new coal-fired plant is built once every 30 days or so. But a spent fuel recycling plant would do the opposite: reduce the amount of carbon emissions harming the atmosphere and contributing to global warming, Turnbough said.

Edmund of Areva said the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance partner is the world leader in nuclear energy with 6,000 employees in the United States and 60,000 worldwide.

"Areva has acquired a number of companies that have been in the nuclear market a long time," he said.

The company also is involved in every part of the nuclear fuel cycle — from creating fuel rods to operating nuclear reactors to recycling nuclear fuel in Europe.

Kehrman of Washington Group International said the company has 24,000 employees and six business units. The energy and environment division of the company will be involved in the GNEP project.

WGI has 10 individuals who are now involved in the field work for the project.

"That team was very instrumental in doing environmental background work for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant," Kehrman said, adding some of the siting work is being done by Areva.

The Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance is composed of Lea and Eddy counties and the cities of Hobbs and Carlsbad.

Donation

from PAGE 1

Ben Jaime, Xcel Energy's manager for community and economic development in Hobbs. "Being an ex-Boys clubber, this mean a whole lot to me."

"This is a step toward our long-range plans," said Mike Clampitt, the club's executive director.

The Boys Club already owns the former Xcel building located on the corner. The building houses the club's GRADS program, designed to teach parenting and life skills to teenage fathers and mothers.

As the program gets more up to speed and agreements are finalized with Hobbs Municipal Schools, the club will be opening a state certified day care to assist ten parents, especially fathers, in getting their education while staying active in their children's lives.

While Xcel vacated the property nearly 10 years ago, it took

this long for both the club and Xcel to make sure the time was right to donate the land.

"Part of it was identifying a need and use of the building," said John Harris, club president.

The club is in the process of renovating the building and

now, with the surrounding land, Clampitt said the club can begin designing and building a spot for the day care's playground.

The Hobbs Boys & Girls Club, a member of the United Way, serves approximately 300 children every day in addition to other after-school programs.

Harvard dropout to give address

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Bill Gates is finally getting his Harvard degree — 32 years after he walked away from the university on the path to becoming the world's wealthiest person.

Gates, billionaire co-founder of Microsoft Corp., philanthropist and college dropout, will receive an honorary degree June 7 when he delivers Harvard University's 356th commencement address.

Gates is considered a member of Harvard's Class of 1977, which celebrates its 30th reunion this year. He first came to the university in 1973 but left in 1975 to devote his time to developing Microsoft, which he founded that year with childhood friend Paul Allen.

Lottery numbers

- N.M. PICK 3**
5-5-1
- ROADRUNNER CASH**
34-5-28-14-21 Bonus 2
- 4 THIS WAY**
5-1-4-2
- TEXAS PICK 3**
3-3-9 (night); 4-2-0 (day)
- CASH FIVE TEXAS**
1-8-11-14-31
- TEXAS TWO STEP**
9-10-16-34 Bonus Ball: 32

Session

from PAGE 1

The governor was to return to New Mexico Thursday night after raising money for his presidential campaign bid during stops in Los Angeles and Phoenix.

The House recessed after passing all but one of the bills sought by Richardson. Members can be called back into session at any time at the request of House Speaker Ben Lujan, D-Santa Fe. If the Senate adjourns again on Saturday, it's possible the House could remain in session — forcing another showdown with the Senate.

The House, in a contentious, seven-hour floor session that started after midnight, passed bill that:

- n Give domestic partners — gay or straight — the same rights as married couples. The vote was 30-25, with critics arguing it opened the door to gay marriage.

- n Provide \$208 million for 118 local and tribal government highway projects, including \$25 million for road work at the southern New Mexico spaceport that GOP critics objected could be the "road to nowhere" if local support for the spaceport doesn't materialize. The vote was 42-16.

- n Increase domestic violence penalties, including mandatory jail time as of a second offense, and mandatory treatment for offenders. The vote was unanimous.

- n Outline procedures for cleaning up former meth labs and creating a registry for them. The vote was unanimous.

- n Expand public financing of elections — which now applies only to the Public Regulation Commission — to include candidates in contested state Court of Appeals and Supreme Court races. The vote was 35-21.

- n Create an ethics commission to investigate complaints against state officials, state employees, judges, government contractors and lobbyists and recommend disciplinary action. The vote was 38-16.

3 DAYS

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY

NO INTEREST UNTIL 2010*

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

Feel The Comfort!

CHOCOLATE FURNITURE, APPLIANCE, ELECTRONICS, CARPET

So Habla Español

403 N. TURNER • HOBBS, NM • 507-3003

MON. - SAT. 9 AM TO 6 PM • SUNDAY 12-5 PM

Lynn Maxon

From: Jennifer L Garcia Kozlowski [jenn@mrabq.com]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2007 12:57 PM
To: Lynn Maxon
Subject: Lovington and Hobbs Email List

This was sent out to the membership list of the Economic Development Corporation of Lea County. The membership list was blind copied

----- Original Message -----

From: "Jennifer L Garcia Kozlowski" <jenn@mrabq.com>
To: <bethe@leaco.net>; "Johnny Cope" <jcope@leaco.net>;
 <marlashoats@comcast.net>; <madlawjm@leaco.net>;
 <turnboughmark@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2007 11:06 AM
Subject: GNEP Public Participation Meetings

- > Please come and support your community. There will be time for public
- > commentary and your opinions are deeply appreciated.
- >
- >
- > Eddy Lea Energy Alliance, LLC
- > Lovington and Hobbs, NM
- > Public Meeting Notice
- >
- > Notice of Public Participation Meeting: The Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance, LLC
- > will hold public meetings to provide information about the Global Nuclear
- > Energy Partnership (GNEP) process and the potential of locating two major
- > GNEP facilities at the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance Site; which is
- > approximately
- > half way between Hobbs and Carlsbad on Highway 62/180
- >
- > ****Date:** Wednesday March 21, 2007
- > **Location:** Troy J Harris City Center
- > **Request:** The public is invited to participate and provide comment on
- > proposed project
- >
- > **Time and Place of Meeting:**
- > 6-9PM
- > Troy J Harris City Center
- > 201 N Main St
- > Lovington, NM
- >
- > ****Date:** Thursday, March 22, 2007
- > **Location:** Lea County Special Events Center
- > **Request:** The public is invited to participate and provide comment on the
- > proposed project

- >
- > Time and Place of Meeting:
 - > 6-9PM
 - > Lea County Special Event Center
 - > 5101 Lovington-Hobbs Highway
 - > Hobbs, NM
- >
- > **Date: Wednesday March 28, 2007
- > Location: Pecos River Village
- > Request: The public is invited to participate and provide comment on the
- > proposed project
- >
- > Time and Place of Meeting:
 - > 6-9PM
 - > Pecos River Village
 - > Carlsbad, NM
- >
- >
- > For further information please contact Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski
- > 505.890.0306 or Marla Shoats 505.890.0306
- Jennifer L Garcia Kozlowski
- 505.259.2550
- jenn@mrabq.com

Company	Last	First	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Fax	Email	Notes
Shows Real Estate	Shows	James A.	2806 Lovington Hwy	Hobbs		88240	397-1775			Rec'd email. Plans on attending, bringing another person
Town of Tatum	Mullins	Donald	P. O. Box 1046	Tatum			398-6519			Spoke w/wife. Left S & W #, gave her the info.
Windstream Communication	Valdez	Chris	320 N. Shipp St.	Hobbs			393-6700			VM left msg
Wallach Concrete, Inc.	Wallach	Robert	P. O. Box 1269	Hobbs			392-5204			Left long msg w/dispatcher & left SW #
Washington TRU Solutions	Raaz	Dick	P. O. Box 2078	Carlsbad			234-7400			Attending
Washington TRU Solutions	Scott	Rose	P. O. Box 2078	Carlsbad			234-7400			Attending
Washington TRU Solutions	Mottel	Phil	P. O. Box 2078	Carlsbad			234-74002			Attending
Watson Truck & Supply Inc.	Smith	Charley	P. O. Box 1046	Hobbs			397-2411 X240			Rec'd email, attending
Watson Truck & Supply Inc.	Smith	Finn	P. O. Box 1046	Hobbs			697-2411 x242			Rec'd email, attending
Wells Fargo Bank NM	Puckett	Joseph	P. O. 1290	Hobbs			391-3600			VM left msg
Western Commerce Bank	Hoyl	Mike	1515 Calle Sur	Hobbs			392-3319			# on sheet disconnected, main # for bank rings w/no pick up
Xcel Energy	Jaime?	Ben	525 E. Bender	Hobbs			391-3251			# confirmed on website, no answer
Zia Natural Gas Co.	South	Seborn	510 E. Bender	Hobbs			392-4277			# confirmed on website, answering service did not know names
Zia Park Race Track	Zigler	Phil	3901 W. Millen Drive	Hobbs			492-7000			VM left msg
CDR Services	Rounds	Stan	2827 N. Dal Paso	Hobbs			391-7768			Answering service unwilling to take msg!
City of Jal	Parker	PJ	PO Drawer 340	Jal			395-3340			VM left msg
Enrichment Technology US Inc.	Linden	Stefan	220 W. Broadway	Hobbs			391-0850			no answer
First Nat'l Bank in Hobbs	Bergman	Zane	600 W. Bender	Hobbs			392-9200			no way to leave message
IT Works LLC	Shaw	Ben	400 W. Gold	Hobbs			738-8117			Will attend, bringing 80 year old father
Klein Security & Safety Sys.	Kleinstaub er	Mark	1601 N. Turner	Hobbs			393-3167			VM left msg
KZOR Radio	Starr	Paul	612 N. Turner	Hobbs			397-4969			VM left msg
McDaniels & Associates	McDaniels	John "Doug"	1501 N. Turner	Hobbs			343-6490			no answer
Phil Millender Agency	Millender	Phil	2702 N. Grimes, Ste A	Hobbs			492-1212			
Ray Betzen Agency	Betzen	Ray	3307 N. Grimes	Hobbs			393-5342			

Company	Last	First	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Fax	Email	Notes
SOS Staffing	Trent	Rhonda	2702 N. Grimes, Ste C	Hobbs			392-3959			no VM, just outgoing msg
Spherion Staffing	Winyard	Paula	1819 N. Turner, Ste K	Hobbs			3939675 x223			VM left msg
Superior Printing	Lanler	Bruce	517 E. Broadway	Hobbs			393-3281			Won't be able to attend, told him there will be a mtg in a few weeks
Young's Manufactured Homes	Johnson?	Daniel	4830 Seminole Hwy	Hobbs			393-1525			Couldn't come to the phone, no voice mail.
American Safety Services	Hocker	K			NM		746-1095			call back Monday
B&G Transportation	Whitehead	Mike	PO Box 247	Hobbs	NM	88241	392-8514			yes
American Medical Group	Parkinson	Pam	2410 N Foster	Artesia	NM	88210	390-5115			yes
Bobby Shaw Realty	Shaw	Bobby		Hobbs	NM	88241	392-2023			LM
City of Eunice	Weaver	Ken	PO Box 147	Eunice	NM	88231	394-2576 x106			LM
City of Hobbs	Newman	Monty	300 N Turner	Hobbs	NM	88240	391-7890			NA
City of Lovington	Wise	Pat			NM		398-2684			?
Daniels Insurance	Tinley	Mike	PO Box 1256	Hobbs	NM	88241	393-5191			call back Monday
	Pyeoff	David	1819 N Turner SteB	Hobbs	NM	88241	393-7705			LM
Fordlift Enterprises	Harrison	Clyde	PO Drawer 70	Hobbs	NM	88241	397-6431			LM
Forrest Tire Company	Campbell	Paul	1703 W Turner	Hobbs	NM	88240	393-2186			LM
Haliburton	Palmore	Lynn	5801 N Lovington HWY	Hobbs	NM	88240	392-0753/432-56-1989			LM
Hobbs Municipal Schools	Buth	Cliff	PO Bix 1030	Hobbs	NM	88241	433-0100			LM
Hobbs News Sun	Bearden	Kathi	PO Boc 650	Hobbs	NM	88240	393-2123			yes
Hobbs Rental Corp	Cope	Johnny	PO Box 905		NM	88241	318-6797			yes
Jim Spence Motors	Spence	Janice	800 N Turner	Hobbs	NM	88240	393-1711			call back Monday-Out of town
Johnson, Miller & Co	Rivinoja	Robert			NM		393-2171			Cant Attend (taxseason)
Lasco Construction	Hinshaw	Judy			NM		393-9161			LM
Lea County Electrical Coop	Hurse	Gary			NM		396-35531			LM
Lea County Electrical Coop	Brown	Susie			NM		BAD #			
Lea County State Bank	Duran	Robert			NM		397-6617			LM
Lea Regional Med Ctr	Castaneda	Edmundo			NM		492-5101			# was for Vickie
Leaco	Phipps	Laura			NM		370-5010			LM
Leavell Insurance		Shane			NM		393-2550			LM
Lucky Services	Taylor	Dwayne			NM		392-1547			will try (very supportive)
Maddox & Holloman	Holloman	Scotty			NM		393-0505			LM

Company	Last	First	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Fax	Email	Notes
Miller-Waldrop Furniture	Waldrop	Beckey			NM		392-6508 x115			LM
NM Jr College	McCleary	Steve			NM		392-5004			LM on Asst VM
Newman&CO	Newman	Monty			NM		392-7777			LM
	Shaw	David			NM		Could not get acurate number			
Permian Ford	Gray	Eric			NM		318- 6240/393- 6176			LM w brother; tried cell# but he said it was a wrong number
Pettigrew and Assoc	Hicks	Debra			NM		393-0527			LM
Reagan and Sanchez PA	Reagan	Gary Don			NM		391-6551			LM
RMS Foods	Cobb	Sam			NM		397-1908			LM
Roberson	Roberson	Lee			NM		392-3377			will try (its tax season& they are th accounting firm for the aliance
Shows Real Estate	Shows	Jim			NM		397-1775			LM
	Simms	Leo			NM		393-9024			LM
Teaco Energy Services	Teague	Troy			NM		393-9898			NA

EDDY-LEA ENERGY ALLIANCE, LLC

*Thursday March 22, 2007
Lea County Special Event Center
6PM
5101 Lovington Hobbs Highway
Hobbs, New Mexico*

I. Format of Public Participation Meeting

Marla Shoats

II. Welcome

III. Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance, LLC

Johnny Cope, Chair

IV. Corporate Partnership

Bob Kehrman Washington Group International

Jim Medford AREVA

V. Technical Parameters of GNEP and the Practical Necessity of Fuel Recycling

Mark Turnbough, Ph.D

Public Comment

15 Minute Break

VI. The Infrastructure Requirements of GNEP

Mark Turnbough, Ph.D

Public Comment

ELEA
PO BOX 905
HOBBS NM 99240

Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance Public Meeting

Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP)

March 22, 2007
Hobbs, NM

First Name	Last Name	Company	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	Email
Chaeoll	Lawler	State Dept	Blumen D Box 149	Tal	NM	390-5705	lawler@leo.nm.gov
MATT	WHITE	CITY OF EUBIE	PO Box 550	Eubie NM	394-2576	393-2123	eubie mayor@y4k00.com beandated hehobnews.com
Yathi	Bender	Lea City Energy Comm	P.O. Box 742	Hobbs NM	394-3642	449-5361	Wanna Kozl @ gnm
Lon	Lycauan	CITY OF EUBIE	Box 1348	Eubie NM	392-6561	394-3642	mharis@esw.edu
Bill	Kosarson	Empo Services	College of the Southwest	Halle NM	396-4805	399-0601	lea.comuseum@leao.nm.gov
Mary	Harris	Lea County Museum	Springer NM	Halle NM	394-8293	394-8293	ccarroll@nmsi.edu
Shirley	Cannell	New Mexico So. College	P.O. Box 2014	Halle NM	394-8293	394-8293	stones@wspdrive online.com
Stewart	Tones	WGI	P.O. Box 2558	Hobbs NM	88241	313-6338	bvareid@leao.nm.gov
Bbs	Reid	LECIC		Hobbs NM	88241	313-6338	bvareid@leao.nm.gov

Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance Public Meeting
 Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP)

March 22, 2007
 Hobbs, NM

First Name	Last Name	Company	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	Email
Albra	Hars	EDC		Hobbs	88240	393-9827	dhicks@edc.com
Beth	Cunningham	EDC		Hobbs	88240	318-7547	Beth@leacd.net
Jim	Garnett	Lovington EDC					jimgarnett@lovingfun- nm.com
Jennifer	Jordan	NMTC		Hobbs		492-2781	jordan@nmjc.edu
Stephanie	Sparkman	EDC		Midland		(432) 618-8853	
Maxie	Smith	McFadden	221 N. Main St.	Midland	79701	432 230-8053	hsmith@midland.edu
Paul	Campbell	Forest Fire Co.	1703 N Turner	Hobbs	88240	353-2186	pcampbell@forestfire.com
Sam	Spencer	Lea County St Bank	1017 W. Turner	Hobbs	88240	393-6601	sam.spencer@leabank.com
ANCE	Caviness	EDC		Hobbs	88240	318-7547	lancaviness@leacd.net
Steve	Massay	Eddy County	101 W. Simpson	Carlisle	88220	882-5511	

Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance Public Meeting

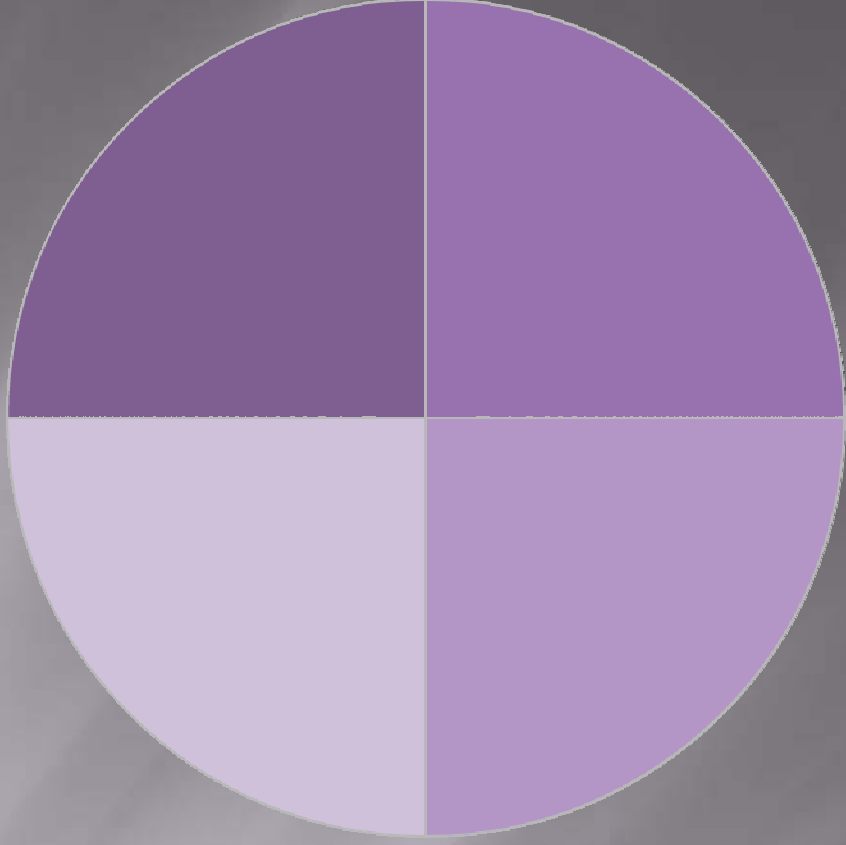
Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP)

March 22, 2007
Hobbs, NM

First Name	Last Name	Company	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	Email
Jaret	Bruehlhart	Lovington High Sch	4631 W. Stiles	Hobbs	NM	396-8828	JretBruehlhart@Hobbs.k12.nm.us
Sharon	Senkins	N M JC	410 W. Silver	Hobbs	NM		sharons@elinib.org
Floyd	Coleman	FRANKS Supply	2119 Phendall	Lovington	NM	690-6618	
NORMA	SMITH	Congressman Steven Pearce	1923 N. Dalfac	Hobbs	NM	392-8325	norma.smith@mail.hobbs.nm.gov
Richard	Moore's	NMJC	501 W. Tars	Hobbs	NM	352-9179	
Larry	Hann	NMJC	101 E Cimarron	Hobbs	NM	393-4030	
Carla	Potter		7712 N. Butler	Hobbs		392-4796	
Curtis	Potter	WTS	7712 N. Butler	Hobbs		392-4796	
Jennie	Anderson	Leaco	2227 N Adobe	Hobbs	NM	399-5011	janderson@leaco.org
STEVE	McCLEERY	NMJC	1744 N. NEBRAD CIRCLE	Hobbs	NM	392-5009	smcleery@nmi.edu

EDDY-LEA ENERGY ALLIANCE, LLC

OWNERSHIP OF LLC PER PUBLIC ENTITY



■ EDDY COUNTY

■ LEA COUNTY

■ CITY OF HOBBS

■ CITY OF CARLSBAD

EDDY-LEA ENERGY ALLIANCE, LLC

BOARD MEMBERS

JOHNNY COPE
CHAIR

(LEA COUNTY)

MAYOR BOB FORREST
VICE-CHAIR

(CITY OF CARLSBAD)

JIM MADDOX
SECRETARY

(CITY OF HOBBS)

COMM. JANELL E. WHITLOCK
TREASURER

(EDDY COUNTY)

ALTERNATES

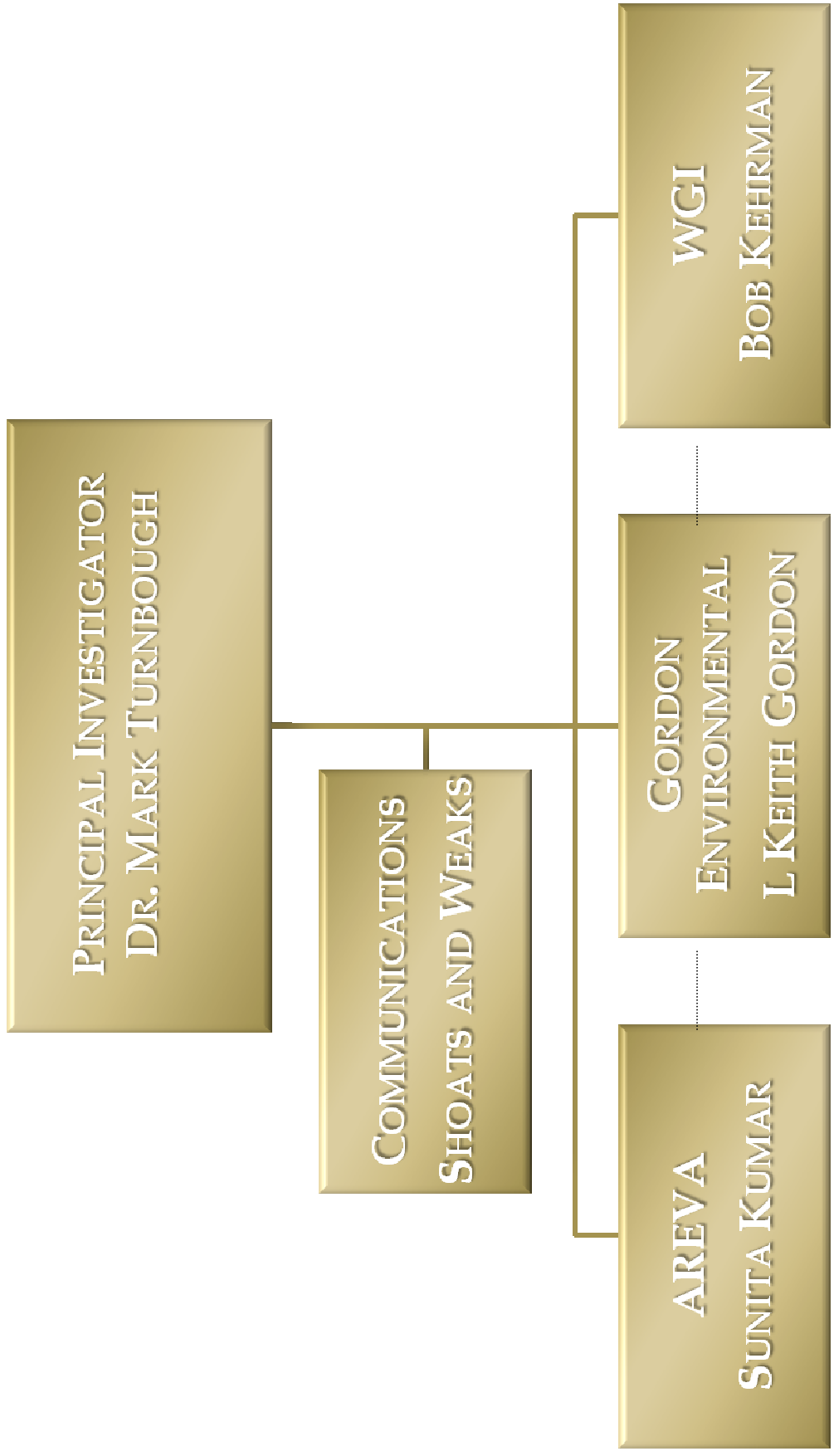
HARRY TEAGUE
(LEA COUNTY)

REP. JOHN HEATON
(CITY OF CARLSBAD)

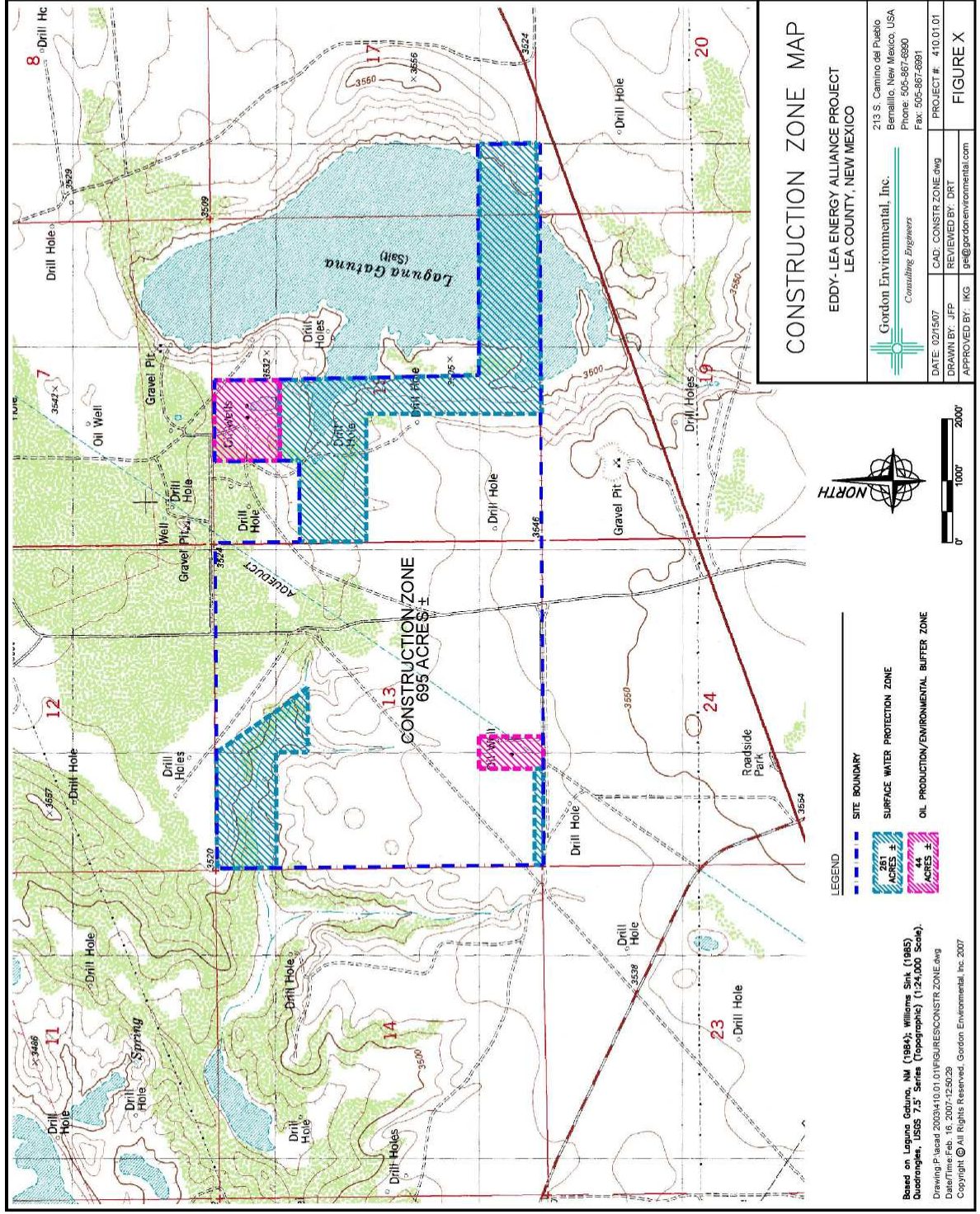
MAYOR MONTY NEWMAN
(CITY OF HOBBS)

STEVE MASSEY
(EDDY COUNTY)

EDDY-LEA ENERGY ALLIANCE, LLC



EDDY-LEA ENERGY ALLIANCE, LLC GNEP SITING STUDIES AREA





Global Nuclear Energy Partnership

EDDY-LEA ENERGY
ALLIANCE, LLC

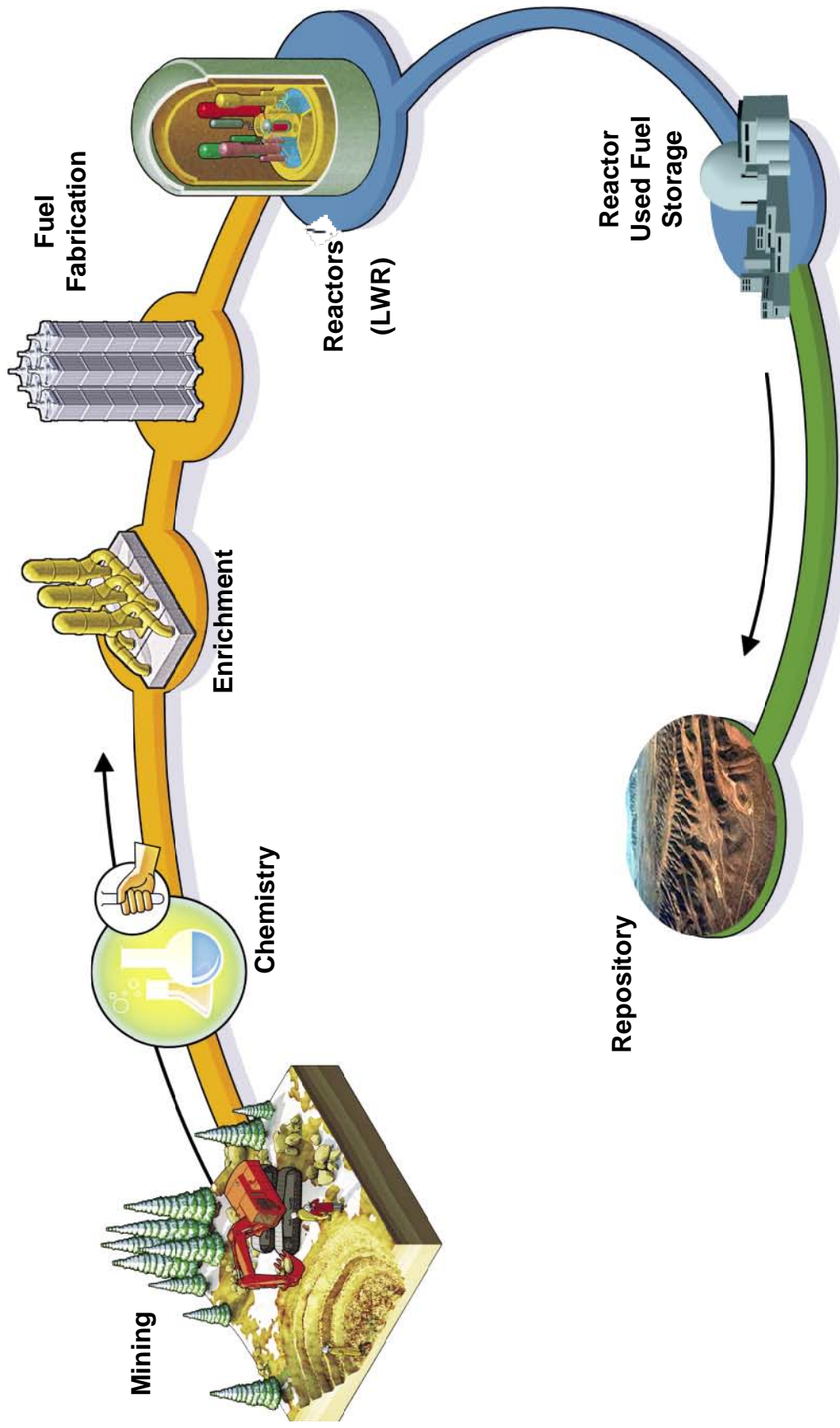
GNEP Technical Overview

Mark Turnbough, PhD.
Principal Site Investigator

GNEP – U.S. Program Goals

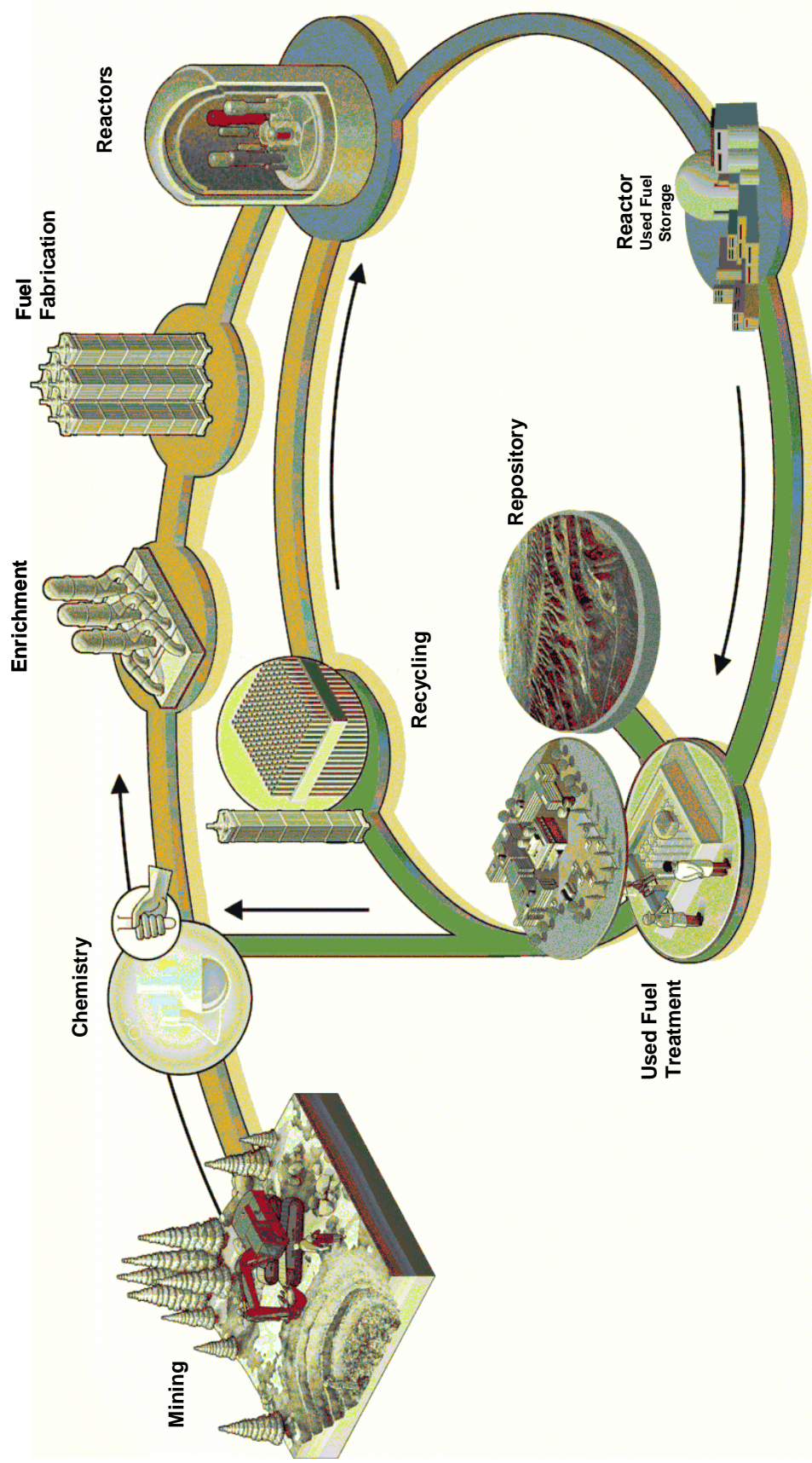
- Encourage expansion of nuclear energy production to meet energy challenges without emitting air pollution or greenhouse gases
- Recycle used nuclear fuel to minimize waste and reduce proliferation concerns
- Combine worldwide commercial fuel cycle industry expertise with DOE national laboratory advanced technologies R&D
- Reduce the number of required U.S. geologic waste repositories to one for the remainder of this century
- Assure maximum energy recovery from still valuable used nuclear fuel
- Encourage international cooperation among GNEP partners
- Enhance nuclear safeguards

Open Fuel Cycle



“Closed” Fuel Cycle

(in Current Recycling Countries)



GNEP-Advanced Recycling combined with Advanced Reactors

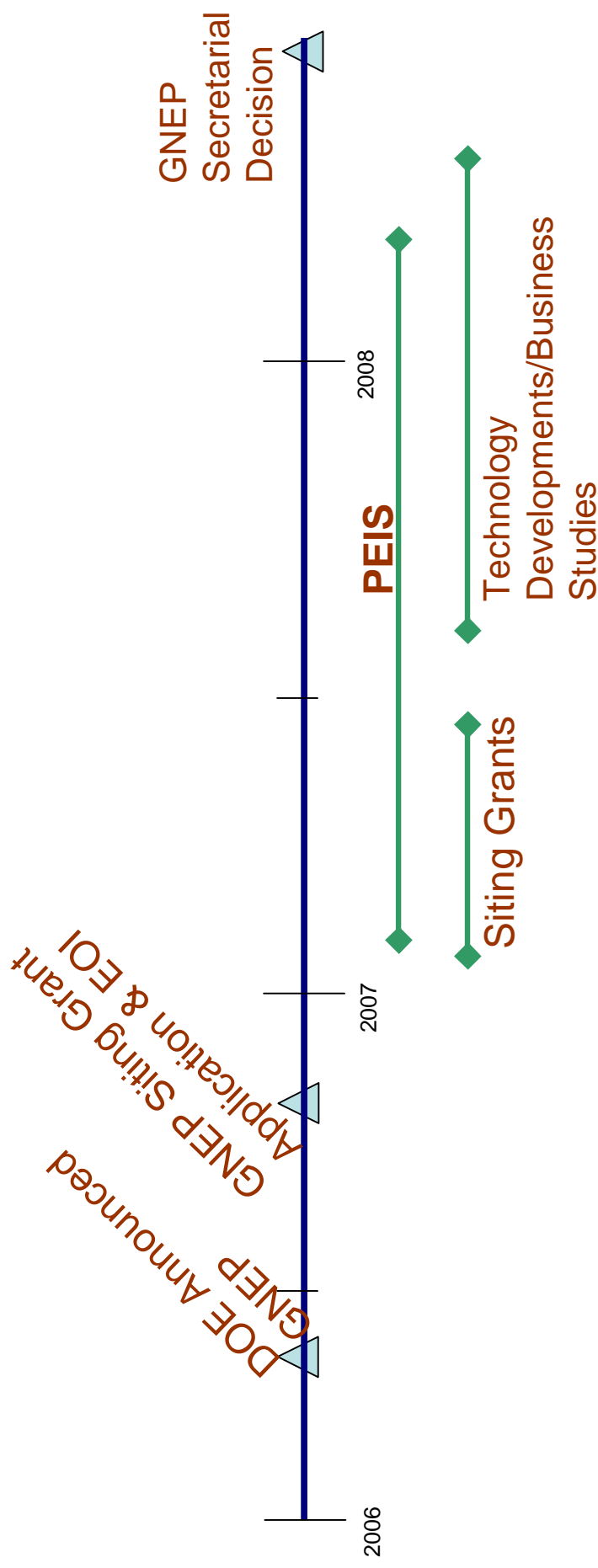
03/20/07

ELEA

Facility Descriptions

- **Nuclear Fuel Recycle Center (CFTC)**
 - Separates used fuel into reusable constituents (uranium and transuranics) and non-reusable constituents without separating pure plutonium
 - Fabricates fuel from transuranics for use in ARR
 - DOE currently analyzing alternative technologies with used fuel throughputs
- **Advanced Recycling Reactor (ARR)**
 - Destroy usable waste products (transuranics) while generating electricity
 - Proposed technology is a sodium-cooled fast reactor
 - DOE currently analyzing alternative power ratings

GNEP Timeline



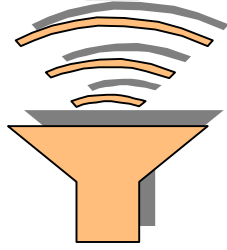
GNEP Facility Timeline

CFTC & ARR Targeted for 2020 - 2025

Summary

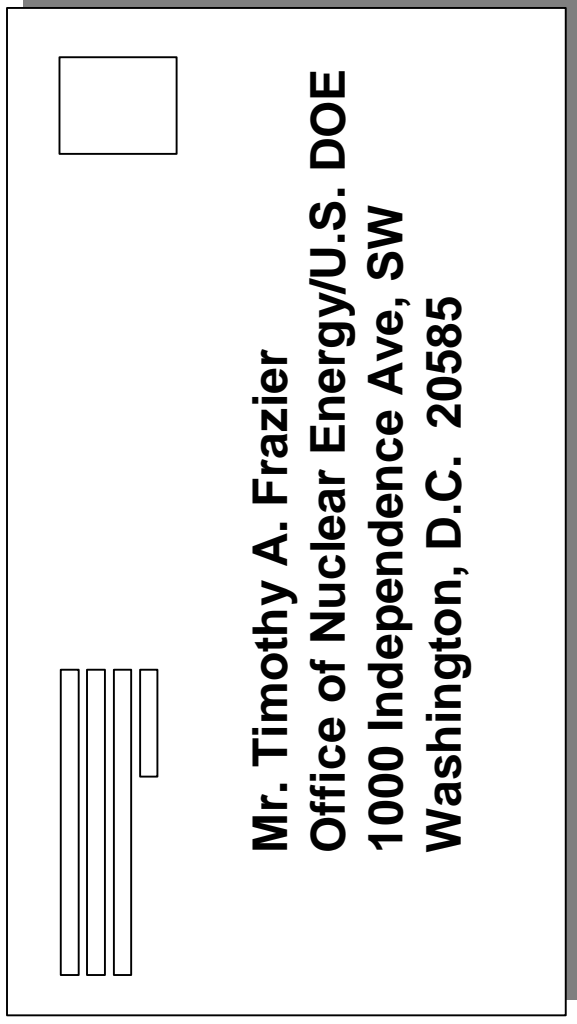
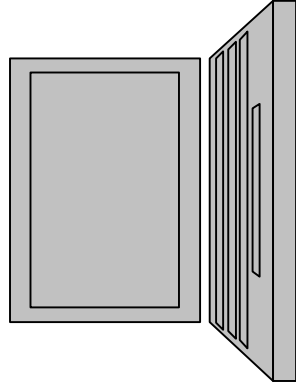
- GNEP promotes clean nuclear energy through maximizing recycling and minimizing waste, while reducing proliferation issues
- GNEP development in early stage
- DOE is encouraging industry and international participation in GNEP to support the Secretary's decision in June of 2008.

La Hague Facility Video



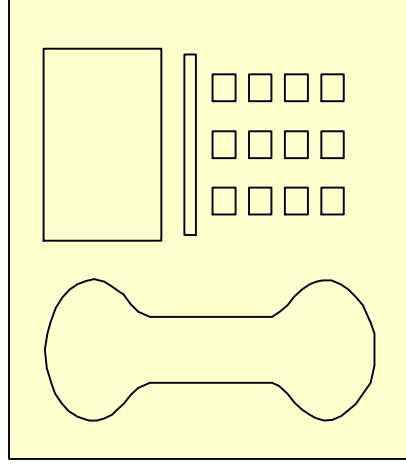
How to Submit Comments to DOE?

- **By US Mail to:**



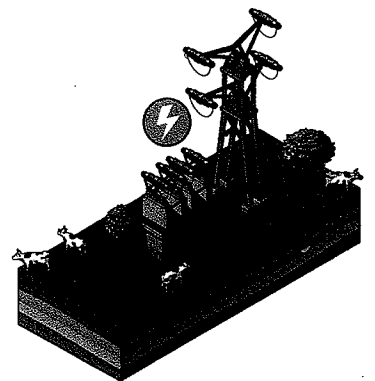
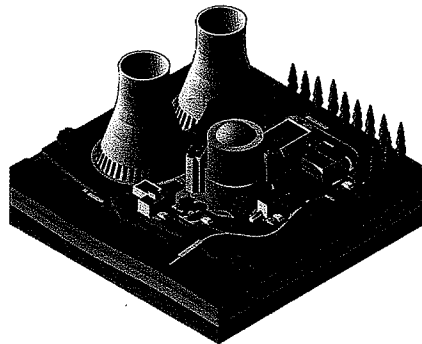
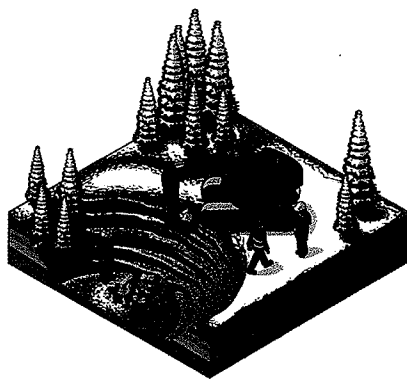
- **By email:** GNEP-PEIS@nuclear.energy.gov
- **By phone:** Toll free 866-645-7803
- **By fax:** Toll free 866-645-7807

COMMENT PERIOD ENDS APRIL 4, 2007



15-Minute Break

A new generation for energy generation **AREVA in the U.S.**





Did you know the following 10 facts about our company?

AREVA ...

1. Ranks as the No. 1 U.S. supplier in the following areas:
 - Nuclear energy products and services,
 - Energy management and energy market systems.
2. Generated \$1.8 billion in U.S. revenues in 2005.
3. Employs some 5,000 people at 40 locations throughout the U.S.
4. Designed the U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor (U.S. EPR), a Generation III+ nuclear reactor, to be built in the U.S. by American employees with U.S. resources.
5. Develops advanced nuclear fuel cycle technologies from uranium mining and fuel fabrication to used-fuel management.
6. With Constellation Energy, launched the Unistar Nuclear joint venture, which offers customers a new business model to license, build, own and operate a U.S. EPR as part of a standardized fleet.
7. Designs and develops instrumentation systems and services for radiation detection and monitoring, including U.S. homeland security solutions.
8. Provides dispatching systems that control 40 percent of the energy flowing in the U.S.
9. Supplies network products to two-thirds of all U.S. utilities.

AND Fortune Magazine

10. Designated AREVA as a Global 500 Company and reported in 2005 that AREVA was The Most Admired Global Energy Company.

AREVA Products and Services

FRONT END

Mining, Chemistry, Enrichment, Fuel

The Front End businesses are involved in producing nuclear fuel for electric power generation: uranium mining, concentration, conversion and enrichment, and nuclear fuel fabrication.

REACTORS AND SERVICES

Reactors, Equipment, Nuclear Services, Nuclear Measurement, Consulting and Information Systems, Technicatome

The Reactors and Services division designs and builds pressurized water reactors (PWR), boiling water reactors (BWR) and research reactors. AREVA also offers products and services to operate and maintain every type of nuclear facility, as well as nuclear safety solutions for homeland security.

BACK END

Treatment-Recycling, Engineering, Cleanup, Logistics

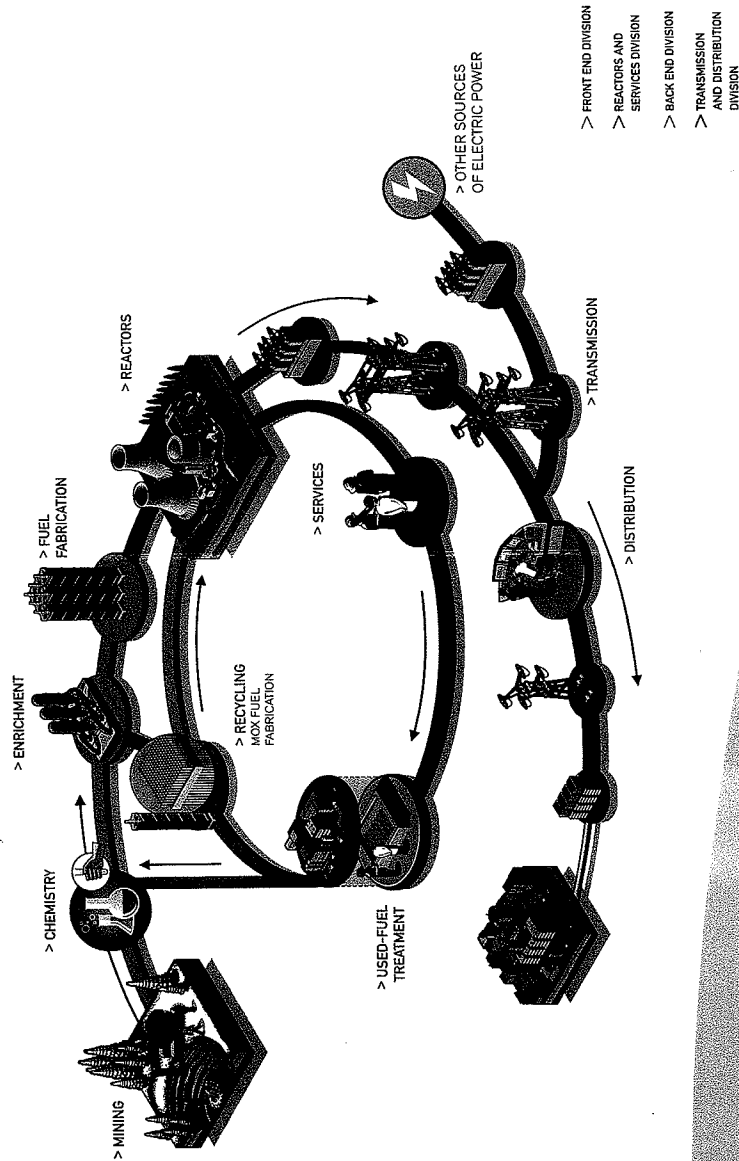
This division provides used-fuel management services after the nuclear fuel has been discharged from the reactor. AREVA is the leading U.S. provider of interim storage solutions for used nuclear fuel to customers opting for this approach.

TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

Products, Systems, Services and Automation

The Transmission and Distribution division offers products, systems, services, automation and information systems for the medium- and high-voltage electricity markets. Our products are used to transmit and distribute electricity from the generator to the large end-user.

World-Class Technology Proven Solutions



Key Figures for 2005

5,000 employees across the U.S.
 \$1.8 billion generated in U.S. revenues

AREVA Products and Services

FRONT END

Mining, Chemistry, Enrichment, Fuel
 The front end businesses are involved in processing nuclear fuel to become power generation fuel through enrichment, conversion and enrichment and nuclear fuel fabrication.

REACTORS AND SERVICES

Reactors, Equipment, Nuclear Services, Nuclear Measurement, Consulting and Information Systems, Technicom

The Reactors and Services division designs and builds pressurized water reactors (PWR) and boiling water reactors (BWR) and research reactors. AREVA also offers products and services to operate and maintain every type of nuclear facility, as well as nuclear safety solutions for homeland security.

BACK END

Treatment, Recycling, Engineering, Cleanup, Logistics

This division provides used fuel management services around the world. It has been a leader in spent fuel management. AREVA is the leading U.S. provider of long-term storage solutions for used nuclear fuel to customers operating in this specialty.

TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

Products, Systems, Services and Automation

The Transmission and Distribution division offers products, systems, services, automation and information systems for the medium- and high-voltage electricity markets. Our products are used to transmit and distribute electricity from the generator to the large end-user.



40 Locations

AREVA Inc. headquarters
Bethesda, MD

in 20 States

As the leading U.S. nuclear vendor and a key player in the electricity transmission and distribution sector, AREVA — with its 5,000 American employees — is committed to serving the nation and paving the way for the future of the electricity market.

With 40 locations across the nation and \$1.8 billion in revenues generated in 2005, AREVA, through its subsidiaries, combines homegrown leadership, access to worldwide expertise and a proven track record of performance.

In the U.S. and in over 100 countries around the world, AREVA is engaged in the 21st century's greatest challenges: making energy available to all, protecting the planet, and acting responsibly towards future generations. AREVA Inc. is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland.

www.us.areva.com

AREVA Inc.

4800 Hampden Lane
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Tel: 301-841-1600

Fax: 301-841-1611

www.us.areva.com

July 2006

THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

Nuclear Power: A Key Contributor To U.S. Energy

Nuclear power's operational reliability, cost efficiency and minimal effects on the environment are just a few of the many benefits that will make this energy source an important part of America's future. U.S. nuclear power generating companies currently operate 103 power reactors that produce nearly 20 percent of the nation's electricity. By 2015, an additional four nuclear power units are expected to be in operation, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. To ensure that this important energy source remains a part of a balanced energy mix, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides incentives for investment in new nuclear power plant construction. These incentives include financial insurance covering delays for the first six units ordered, a production tax credit for the initial eight years' operation of the first 6,000 megawatts of new generation, and loan guarantees for construction costs.

Environmentally Friendly

Many environmental experts now agree that nuclear power has less effect on the environment than other energy sources. Consider these facts:

- Nuclear reactors produce clean energy. They do not emit harmful gases that can cause acid rain or greenhouse gases that can affect climate change.
- Through emissions trading, nuclear power plants help states meet clean-air standards.
- Electricity production by nuclear power prevented 3.32 million tons of sulfur dioxide, 1.05 million tons of nitrogen oxide, and 681.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide from

entering the earth's atmosphere in 2005.

- Unlike any other industry, the nuclear energy industry isolates its used fuel from the environment using U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission-approved containers.

Cost Effective

The favorable economics of nuclear power are essential to sustaining or increasing growth in the industry. Resource availability, reliability, predictability, and public policies factor into nuclear affordability. Nuclear power, achieving the lowest production cost of the major sources of electricity, provides a cost effective choice for the American energy mix.

- The most recent data, published in 2005, states that, for the sixth consecutive year, a nuclear power plant's baseload production cost of 1.72 cents per kilowatt-hour was lower than coal, oil and natural gas. (Coal was reported at 2.21 cents, oil 8.09 cents, and natural gas 7.51 cents.)
- Nuclear power avoids costly fossil fuel energy imports and helps ensure the long-term stability of prices.
- In 2004, the University of Chicago completed the first exhaustive study examining the economic competitiveness of nuclear power, considering the internalized expenses such as the cost of managing waste, managing long term repositories and decommissioning the plant at the end of its life. The study shows that the future cost associated with nuclear power production is comparable with gas and coal-based energy generation.

Reliable

- Nuclear power is one of the two major sources of baseload generation, which essentially runs year-round to provide the electricity that powers the American economy.
- Nuclear power plants are designed for endurance and can run for about 540 to 730 days between refueling shutdowns.
- U.S. reactors produced energy 89.7 percent of their running time in 2005. In 2004, the U.S. nuclear power industry set a record with an efficiency rate of 90.5 percent.

Exceptional Performance

The nuclear industry's performance record in the last ten years shows the exceptional operation of nuclear power plants. Since 1996 – the year the last new reactor went into operation – U.S. nuclear power plants have increased the amount of electricity they produce by 17,000 megawatts. This amazing performance is the result of a combination of license renewals, power uprates and shorter, more efficient outages.

- License renewals have been granted for 46 units, and applications for an additional 35 units are pending. These renewed licenses represent about three-quarters of all U.S. reactors.
- Uprates – increases in the power level at which a nuclear plant can operate – have added 4,845 megawatts of electricity to the U.S. electricity supply.
- Strong management of refueling outages have reduced the average time it takes for this key operation from three months to one,

substantially increasing the time that reactors are producing electricity.

- The capacity factor (a measure of the amount of power produced compared with a unit's theoretical maximum) of U.S. nuclear power plants has risen from 66 percent in 1980 to 89.6 percent in 2005.

As a result of these activities, the same number of nuclear plants is producing considerably more electric power.

Supported By U.S. Energy Policy

U.S. energy policy vigorously supports the continued development of safe, clean nuclear power plants. • The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) established the Nuclear Power 2010 Program, which calls for the addition of 50,000 megawatts of nuclear power generation by 2020 based on estimates of growing electricity demand in the U.S.

- The Energy Policy Act of 2005 renews for 20 years the Price-Anderson Nuclear Industries Indemnity Act, which provides insurance to cover the cost of possible radiological accidents and includes provisions to encourage the development of advanced modular reactors.
- President Bush's Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) seeks to develop an international consensus on expanding the use of nuclear power to meet the growing demand for electricity around the world, while creating the systems and technologies that limit proliferation.

Aging Reactors Mean The U.S. May Need Many More Nuclear Power Plants

By 2036, the original licenses for all U.S. nuclear units will expire. Some question if the current nuclear initiatives will be enough to meet the rising energy demands in

the U.S. If 20-year extensions were granted for all expiring licenses, in just over 50 years, every unit would have to be replaced, and that is without taking into consideration increased demand. DOE's Energy Information Administration (DOE EIA) estimated at the end of 2005 that 6,000 megawatts of new nuclear capacity would occur between now and 2030, largely as a result of the incentives included in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The Nuclear Energy Institute, the industry trade organization, maintains that new plant construction will "increase substantially from 2020 to 2030" beyond EIA's projection.

Rising Uranium Costs Make Recycling Economic

Fresh uranium for the once-through fuel cycle is a finite natural resource. Although current supplies meet the needs of the nuclear industry, the quality decreases as more and more uranium is mined. Mining also becomes more difficult as quantities of uranium ore decrease. The limited amounts of this resource can restrict supply and could lead to price increases, which can make recycling used nuclear fuel economically sensible.

Uranium consumption has surpassed the amount mined for the past 20 years. In 2005, production was 108 million pounds U3O8, while consumption was 175 million pounds U3O8. In 2005, the United States produced only 3 million pounds U3O8. Canada was the largest producer at 30 million pounds, followed by Australia at 25 million and Africa at 18 million. Since 2001, uranium prices have climbed from under \$10 to \$60 (November 2006) per pound U3O8. Between 2003 and 2005, spot market uranium prices increased nearly 260 percent, and near-term supply is limited.

Advanced Recycling Technologies Can Make The Critical Difference

Advancements in nuclear technology are meeting the needs caused by future energy growth. Yet, these technologies require development and deployment of reactor and used fuel treatment/recycling technologies. Five of six reactors in DOE's "Generation IV" development program involve closed fuel cycles with recycling capabilities. These so called "fast reactors" can burn plutonium combined with other isotopes efficiently. These units can function as burners, with the capability to close the nuclear fuel cycle with chemical separation technology, or they can function as breeders, units that can produce more fuel than they consume, without separating out weapon-usable plutonium.

The recent rise in the price of many fossil fuels has demonstrated how important a diverse energy portfolio is for providing the reliable, cost-effective electricity that fuels the U.S. economy. Nuclear plants provide economical, reliable baseload power without emitting greenhouse gases. The nation continues to invest in nuclear technologies that will meet today's energy needs and develop the advanced nuclear power technologies that secure our energy supplies for the future.

THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE FACT SHEET

What Is The Nuclear Fuel Cycle?

The nuclear fuel cycle, pictured above, is a term used to describe the mining of uranium and the various processes it undergoes so that it can be (1) turned into reactor fuel, (2) removed from the reactor after its use, and (3) either recycled or disposed of.

The front end of the cycle covers the processes that enable the uranium to be fabricated into fuel. The back end of the cycle covers the processes that enable the used fuel to be either recycled to make more fuel or stored while awaiting final disposal. The term "closed fuel cycle" describes a cycle in which used fuel is recycled. An "open fuel cycle" refers to a cycle that does not involve recycling used fuel. Some refer to the open fuel cycle as the "once through" approach or direct disposal.

The US GNEP program, Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, involves possible approaches for waste disposal and non-proliferation and includes initiatives in the back end of the fuel cycle. Decisions made concerning this part of the cycle may affect the nuclear renaissance.

The Front End Or "Pre-Reactor Phase"

Mining and Ore Processing

Open pit or underground operations are used to extract uranium ore from the ground. Automation can be used for high-grade (more radioactive) ore so that miners do not come into contact with it. Extracted ore is processed at the mine into a concentrated form, called yellow cake.

Conversion

Yellow cake does not contain enough of the isotope needed for the chain reaction that creates energy. The uranium (yellow cake) needs to be enriched to increase this isotope. To be enriched, the uranium must undergo conversion to uranium hexafluoride, a gaseous form.

Enrichment

The enrichment process isolates the needed isotope by passing the gas through a porous surface or a centrifuge. Being lighter than the other atoms, the required isotope can pass through the porous surface more easily than the other atoms or collect in a different part of the centrifuge.

Fuel Fabrication

After enrichment, the gas is defluorinated, and the uranium is turned into an oxide powder that is pressed under very high pressure to make small cylindrical pellets, which are sealed inside fuel rods. The rods are bundled into a fuel assembly and then placed in the reactor.

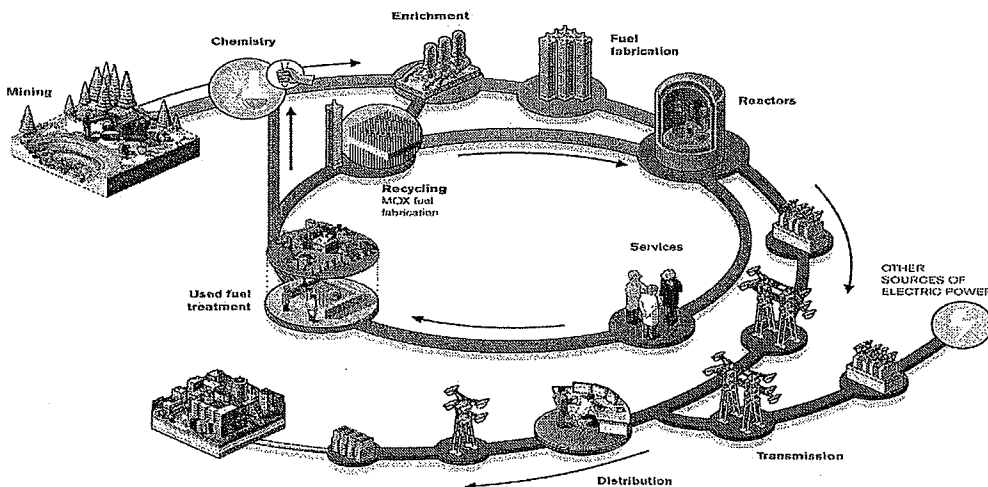
The Back End Or "Post-Reactor Phase"

Used-Fuel Disposal

Disposal involves first removing the used fuel from the reactor and transferring it to temporary "wet" storage (in a pool) and later to "dry" storage. The used fuel is aged to lessen its radioactivity before it is shipped to a repository for disposal. The storage and shipping packages are specially designed for maximum safety and approved for use by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Used-Fuel Recycling

After cooling, the used fuel is treated chemically to separate its contents. The energy-producing components are converted into powder form, pressed under very high pressure to make pellets, and inserted into fuel rods (see "Fuel Fabrication" above). Final waste materials are vitrified in a highly stable glass form -- nearly the chemical equivalent to obsidian lava that can be found intact in the oldest volcanoes -- and disposed of in specially designed containers.



MANAGING USED NUCLEAR FUEL

Renewed Interest In A Renewable Resource

With renewed interest in nuclear energy in the U.S. and significant international interest, leaders in government, research and local communities have intensified debate around possible nuclear waste management and disposal solutions. The options available to manage used nuclear fuel have continued to evolve technologically, but they remain consistent in terms of affecting the "life cycle" of nuclear power generation.

From its earliest conception, the goal of the U.S. nuclear power industry was to close the fuel cycle by treating and reusing nuclear fuel until the energy it contained was essentially exhausted. Called reprocessing, this treatment strategy remained relevant from the mid-1950s through the mid-1970s, when uranium resources were thought to be limited and prices were high. During this time, recycling of fuel offered a prudent,

conservative policy.

Beginning in the early 1970s, discovery and development of new resources brought the price of uranium down. The cost for conversion and enrichment services gradually followed, and direct disposal was considered a better strategy for managing used fuel than reprocessing.

These changes, coupled with nonproliferation concerns about possible diversion of weapons-usable materials, began to change U.S. government policy on the closed nuclear fuel cycle. American policy became focused solely on nonproliferation concerns, and President Jimmy Carter banned commercial spent fuel reprocessing while acknowledging the rights of other nations to operate a closed fuel cycle.

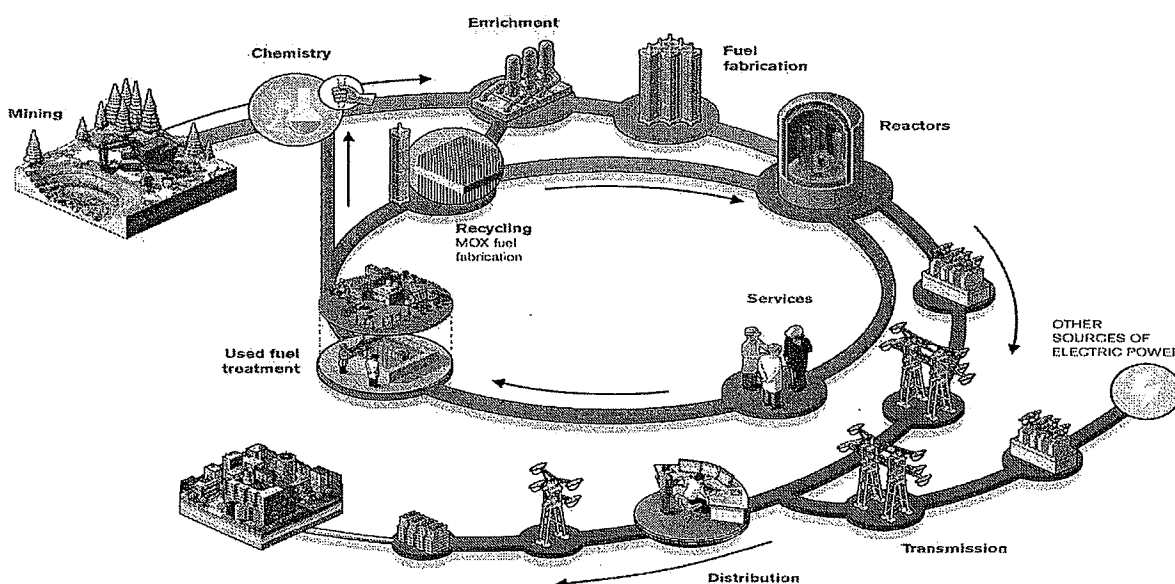
Although President Reagan lifted the ban on reprocessing in the 1980s, by then, utilities considered it uneconomic. Interest in a new generation of nuclear power plants is a result

of the record of reliable and efficient electricity production by the existing U.S. nuclear fleet coupled with growing concerns about energy security and global warming. Nuclear power provides solutions to these issues, but unless we close the fuel cycle by recycling used fuel, it is likely that a new generation of nuclear reactors would have to rely on a second repository under an exclusive once-through fuel cycle policy.

Higher uranium costs, tighter fuel cycle supplies, continued schedule difficulties at the Yucca Mountain repository have brought U.S. fuel cycle policy back to the forefront of the nuclear debate.

Direct Disposal: The Open Nuclear Fuel Cycle

Direct disposal at Yucca Mountain has remained the U.S. policy for managing used nuclear fuel. In 1982, Congress passed the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA), establishing the once-through fuel cycle as



U.S. nuclear policy. The law declared used fuel to be waste and called for the siting of two national underground geologic repositories for permanent disposal of spent fuel and other nuclear waste. DOE and nuclear utilities entered contracts under which the utilities paid a fee per kilowatt-hour. In return for these fees, DOE would move their spent fuel to a repository.

In 1987 the NWPA was amended to eliminate a second repository and to focus solely on a site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. With an open cycle or with a closed cycle as proposed in the GNEP program, there is a need for a geological repository.

Used Nuclear Fuel Treatment And Recycling: Closing The Fuel Cycle

Some countries recycle their used nuclear fuel. After cooling at the reactor and at the treatment plant, the used fuel assemblies are treated chemically to separate their contents. The energy-producing components (uranium and plutonium) are recycled to make uranium oxide (UOX) fuel and mixed oxide (MOX) fuel. There are benefits to this recycling process:

- Recycling could eliminate need for additional repositories this century
- The process offers energy security by making the best use of existing fuel
- The economics of reprocessing and recycling can be comparable to those of the once-through fuel cycle
- Waste materials, with significantly reduced radiotoxicity and volume, are vitrified in a highly stable glass form for disposal in a national repository in Europe, no diversion of plutonium from any safeguarded civilian commercial facility has taken place.

The U.S. is exploring the benefits of recycling through the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP). President Bush seeks to develop an international consensus on expanding the use of nuclear power to meet the growing demand for clean power around the world while limiting proliferation.

One element of the program is to develop nuclear fuel treatment technologies that do not separate pure plutonium out of used fuel. GNEP would simultaneously increase fuel supply while reducing some major challenges to the Yucca Mountain repository.

Recycling in advanced burner reactors would address technical issues in licensing the repository by reducing the heat generation, radiotoxicity and volume of waste materials. As a result, GNEP would extend Yucca Mountain's capacity. The Yucca Mountain repository will continue to be the key component of the nation's nuclear waste management strategy, whether the nation decides to maintain its current open fuel cycle or to close the nuclear fuel cycle through recycling and treatment.

USED NUCLEAR FUEL TREATMENT AND RECYCLING

Recycling – A Used Fuel Strategy To Do More With Less

Recycling describes the series of processes that recover the energy-producing elements of uranium and plutonium from used nuclear fuel. The process separates waste products that can be packaged for disposal and recovers the remaining material to make more commercial reactor fuel. Recycling of used fuel means less uranium must be supplied as more nuclear fuel will be available.

How Is Recycling Done?

Current method

When used fuel leaves the reactor, it contains elements that still have energy potential. To collect this material, chemical treatment of the used fuel isolates or separates uranium and plutonium from the other transuranic elements and the fission products. Once separated, the uranium can be converted to a gas called uranium hexafluoride (UF₆), re-enriched and fabricated into a type of nuclear fuel called uranium oxide (UOX) fuel. Recyclable materials can be further treated and combined with depleted uranium to make a new fuel.

The elements from the used fuel that are not recycled constitute the waste materials from chemical treatment. The volume and radiotoxicity of these waste materials have been reduced significantly. They are vitrified in a highly stable glass form for disposal in a national repository.

Future methods for recycling

U.S. scientists are currently researching advanced treatment methods. Learning from the existing recycling programs in France, the United Kingdom, Russia and Japan, researchers are exploring new technologies to

develop advanced treatment methods that will not isolate pure plutonium, in order to reduce perceived proliferation concerns. One method – called UREX+ – uses innovative separation processes to keep the transuranic elements, including plutonium, together. This method would enable the elimination of transuranics in advanced burner reactors. Scientists have demonstrated this process on a laboratory scale, successfully isolating pure uranium and keeping the transuranic elements together. The next step will be to carry out a larger scale demonstration to obtain cost and performance information.

Treatment And Recycling Facilities Are Operated Internationally

The closed fuel cycle offers demonstrated success. Large-scale industrial treatment facilities exist in France, United Kingdom, Russia, and Japan. France's commercial used-fuel treatment facility has processed over 20,000 metric tons of used fuel over the past 20 years and has been certified compliant with the environmental standard, ISO 14001. The international community is working with the U.S. to advance recycling technology.

Recycling Delivers Major Benefits

The global nuclear industry has operated both open and closed fuel cycles over the last fifty years. Recycling offers specific benefits:

- The current recycling method significantly reduces waste volumes by enabling a substantial amount of the used fuel to be treated to produce more energy.
- Recycling produces extremely stable waste products that can

be disposed of safely and securely.

- Early treatment of used fuel further optimizes repositories like Yucca Mountain by reducing the heat generation and radiotoxicity of the waste. With additional research and development, engineers will refine this process to optimize Yucca Mountain even further.
- Treatment and recycling of used nuclear fuel means that the U.S. may not need a second repository in this century.
- Treatment and recycling of UOX and transuranics fuel in a fleet of light water reactors can hedge against rising fuel costs.
- Challenges like energy security and climate change require consideration of diverse and creative solutions – nuclear fuel treatment and recycling offer important options to expand our energy mix and meet growing energy needs.

THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

Nuclear Power: A Key Contributor To U.S. Energy

Nuclear power's operational reliability, cost efficiency and minimal effects on the environment are just a few of the many benefits that will make this energy source an important part of America's future. U.S. nuclear power generating companies currently operate 103 power reactors that produce nearly 20 percent of the nation's electricity. By 2015, an additional four nuclear power units are expected to be in operation, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. To ensure that this important energy source remains a part of a balanced energy mix, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides incentives for investment in new nuclear power plant construction. These incentives include financial insurance covering delays for the first six units ordered, a production tax credit for the initial eight years' operation of the first 6,000 megawatts of new generation, and loan guarantees for construction costs.

Environmentally Friendly

Many environmental experts now agree that nuclear power has less effect on the environment than other energy sources. Consider these facts:

- Nuclear reactors produce clean energy. They do not emit harmful gases that can cause acid rain or greenhouse gases that can affect climate change.
- Through emissions trading, nuclear power plants help states meet clean-air standards.
- Electricity production by nuclear power prevented 3.32 million tons of sulfur dioxide, 1.05 million tons of nitrogen oxide, and 681.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide from

entering the earth's atmosphere in 2005.

- Unlike any other industry, the nuclear energy industry isolates its used fuel from the environment using U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission-approved containers.

Cost Effective

The favorable economics of nuclear power are essential to sustaining or increasing growth in the industry. Resource availability, reliability, predictability, and public policies factor into nuclear affordability. Nuclear power, achieving the lowest production cost of the major sources of electricity, provides a cost effective choice for the American energy mix.

- The most recent data, published in 2005, states that, for the sixth consecutive year, a nuclear power plant's baseload production cost of 1.72 cents per kilowatt-hour was lower than coal, oil and natural gas. (Coal was reported at 2.21 cents, oil 8.09 cents, and natural gas 7.51 cents.)
- Nuclear power avoids costly fossil fuel energy imports and helps ensure the long-term stability of prices.
- In 2004, the University of Chicago completed the first exhaustive study examining the economic competitiveness of nuclear power, considering the internalized expenses such as the cost of managing waste, managing long term repositories and decommissioning the plant at the end of its life. The study shows that the future cost associated with nuclear power production is comparable with gas and coal-based energy generation.

Reliable

- Nuclear power is one of the two major sources of baseload generation, which essentially runs year-round to provide the electricity that powers the American economy.
- Nuclear power plants are designed for endurance and can run for about 540 to 730 days between refueling shutdowns.
- U.S. reactors produced energy 89.7 percent of their running time in 2005. In 2004, the U.S. nuclear power industry set a record with an efficiency rate of 90.5 percent.

Exceptional Performance

The nuclear industry's performance record in the last ten years shows the exceptional operation of nuclear power plants. Since 1996 – the year the last new reactor went into operation – U.S. nuclear power plants have increased the amount of electricity they produce by 17,000 megawatts. This amazing performance is the result of a combination of license renewals, power uprates and shorter, more efficient outages.

- License renewals have been granted for 46 units, and applications for an additional 35 units are pending. These renewed licenses represent about three-quarters of all U.S. reactors.
- Uprates – increases in the power level at which a nuclear plant can operate – have added 4,845 megawatts of electricity to the U.S. electricity supply.
- Strong management of refueling outages have reduced the average time it takes for this key operation from three months to one,

substantially increasing the time that reactors are producing electricity.

- The capacity factor (a measure of the amount of power produced compared with a unit's theoretical maximum) of U.S. nuclear power plants has risen from 66 percent in 1980 to 89.6 percent in 2005.

As a result of these activities, the same number of nuclear plants is producing considerably more electric power.

Supported By U.S. Energy Policy

U.S. energy policy vigorously supports the continued development of safe, clean nuclear power plants. • The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) established the Nuclear Power 2010 Program, which calls for the addition of 50,000 megawatts of nuclear power generation by 2020 based on estimates of growing electricity demand in the U.S.

- The Energy Policy Act of 2005 renews for 20 years the Price-Anderson Nuclear Industries Indemnity Act, which provides insurance to cover the cost of possible radiological accidents and includes provisions to encourage the development of advanced modular reactors.
- President Bush's Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) seeks to develop an international consensus on expanding the use of nuclear power to meet the growing demand for electricity around the world, while creating the systems and technologies that limit proliferation.

Aging Reactors Mean The U.S. May Need Many More Nuclear Power Plants

By 2036, the original licenses for all U.S. nuclear units will expire. Some question if the current nuclear initiatives will be enough to meet the rising energy demands in

the U.S. If 20-year extensions were granted for all expiring licenses, in just over 50 years, every unit would have to be replaced, and that is without taking into consideration increased demand. DOE's Energy Information Administration (DOE EIA) estimated at the end of 2005 that 6,000 megawatts of new nuclear capacity would occur between now and 2030, largely as a result of the incentives included in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The Nuclear Energy Institute, the industry trade organization, maintains that new plant construction will "increase substantially from 2020 to 2030" beyond EIA's projection.

Rising Uranium Costs Make Recycling Economic

Fresh uranium for the once-through fuel cycle is a finite natural resource. Although current supplies meet the needs of the nuclear industry, the quality decreases as more and more uranium is mined. Mining also becomes more difficult as quantities of uranium ore decrease. The limited amounts of this resource can restrict supply and could lead to price increases, which can make recycling used nuclear fuel economically sensible.

Uranium consumption has surpassed the amount mined for the past 20 years. In 2005, production was 108 million pounds U3O8, while consumption was 175 million pounds U3O8. In 2005, the United States produced only 3 million pounds U3O8. Canada was the largest producer at 30 million pounds, followed by Australia at 25 million and Africa at 18 million. Since 2001, uranium prices have climbed from under \$10 to \$60 (November 2006) per pound U3O8. Between 2003 and 2005, spot market uranium prices increased nearly 260 percent, and near-term supply is limited.

Advanced Recycling Technologies Can Make The Critical Difference

Advancements in nuclear technology are meeting the needs caused by future energy growth. Yet, these technologies require development and deployment of reactor and used fuel treatment/recycling technologies. Five of six reactors in DOE's "Generation IV" development program involve closed fuel cycles with recycling capabilities. These so called "fast reactors" can burn plutonium combined with other isotopes efficiently. These units can function as burners, with the capability to close the nuclear fuel cycle with chemical separation technology, or they can function as breeders, units that can produce more fuel than they consume, without separating out weapon-usable plutonium.

The recent rise in the price of many fossil fuels has demonstrated how important a diverse energy portfolio is for providing the reliable, cost-effective electricity that fuels the U.S. economy. Nuclear plants provide economical, reliable baseload power without emitting greenhouse gases. The nation continues to invest in nuclear technologies that will meet today's energy needs and develop the advanced nuclear power technologies that secure our energy supplies for the future.

THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE FACT SHEET

What Is The Nuclear Fuel Cycle?

The nuclear fuel cycle, pictured above, is a term used to describe the mining of uranium and the various processes it undergoes so that it can be (1) turned into reactor fuel, (2) removed from the reactor after its use, and (3) either recycled or disposed of.

The front end of the cycle covers the processes that enable the uranium to be fabricated into fuel. The back end of the cycle covers the processes that enable the used fuel to be either recycled to make more fuel or stored while awaiting final disposal. The term "closed fuel cycle" describes a cycle in which used fuel is recycled. An "open fuel cycle" refers to a cycle that does not involve recycling used fuel. Some refer to the open fuel cycle as the "once through" approach or direct disposal.

The US GNEP program, Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, involves possible approaches for waste disposal and non-proliferation and includes initiatives in the back end of the fuel cycle. Decisions made concerning this part of the cycle may affect the nuclear renaissance.

The Front End Or "Pre-Reactor Phase"

Mining and Ore Processing

Open pit or underground operations are used to extract uranium ore from the ground. Automation can be used for high-grade (more radioactive) ore so that miners do not come into contact with it. Extracted ore is processed at the mine into a concentrated form, called yellow cake.

Conversion

Yellow cake does not contain enough of the isotope needed for the chain reaction that creates energy. The uranium (yellow cake) needs to be enriched to increase this isotope. To be enriched, the uranium must undergo conversion to uranium hexafluoride, a gaseous form.

Enrichment

The enrichment process isolates the needed isotope by passing the gas through a porous surface or a centrifuge. Being lighter than the other atoms, the required isotope can pass through the porous surface more easily than the other atoms or collect in a different part of the centrifuge.

Fuel Fabrication

After enrichment, the gas is defluorinated, and the uranium is turned into an oxide powder that is pressed under very high pressure to make small cylindrical pellets, which are sealed inside fuel rods. The rods are bundled into a fuel assembly and then placed in the reactor.

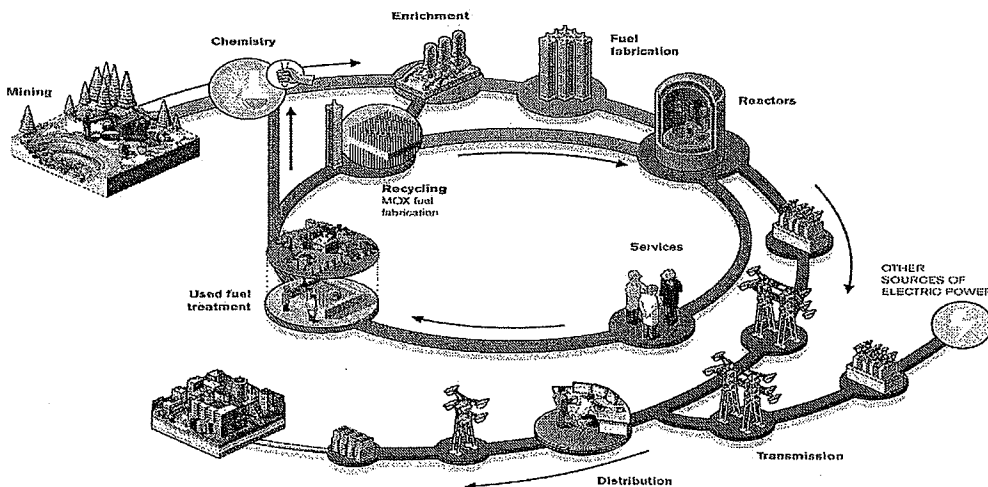
The Back End Or "Post-Reactor Phase"

Used-Fuel Disposal

Disposal involves first removing the used fuel from the reactor and transferring it to temporary "wet" storage (in a pool) and later to "dry" storage. The used fuel is aged to lessen its radioactivity before it is shipped to a repository for disposal. The storage and shipping packages are specially designed for maximum safety and approved for use by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Used-Fuel Recycling

After cooling, the used fuel is treated chemically to separate its contents. The energy-producing components are converted into powder form, pressed under very high pressure to make pellets, and inserted into fuel rods (see "Fuel Fabrication" above). Final waste materials are vitrified in a highly stable glass form -- nearly the chemical equivalent to obsidian lava that can be found intact in the oldest volcanoes -- and disposed of in specially designed containers.



MANAGING USED NUCLEAR FUEL

Renewed Interest In A Renewable Resource

With renewed interest in nuclear energy in the U.S. and significant international interest, leaders in government, research and local communities have intensified debate around possible nuclear waste management and disposal solutions. The options available to manage used nuclear fuel have continued to evolve technologically, but they remain consistent in terms of affecting the "life cycle" of nuclear power generation.

From its earliest conception, the goal of the U.S. nuclear power industry was to close the fuel cycle by treating and reusing nuclear fuel until the energy it contained was essentially exhausted. Called reprocessing, this treatment strategy remained relevant from the mid-1950s through the mid-1970s, when uranium resources were thought to be limited and prices were high. During this time, recycling of fuel offered a prudent,

conservative policy.

Beginning in the early 1970s, discovery and development of new resources brought the price of uranium down. The cost for conversion and enrichment services gradually followed, and direct disposal was considered a better strategy for managing used fuel than reprocessing.

These changes, coupled with nonproliferation concerns about possible diversion of weapons-usable materials, began to change U.S. government policy on the closed nuclear fuel cycle. American policy became focused solely on nonproliferation concerns, and President Jimmy Carter banned commercial spent fuel reprocessing while acknowledging the rights of other nations to operate a closed fuel cycle.

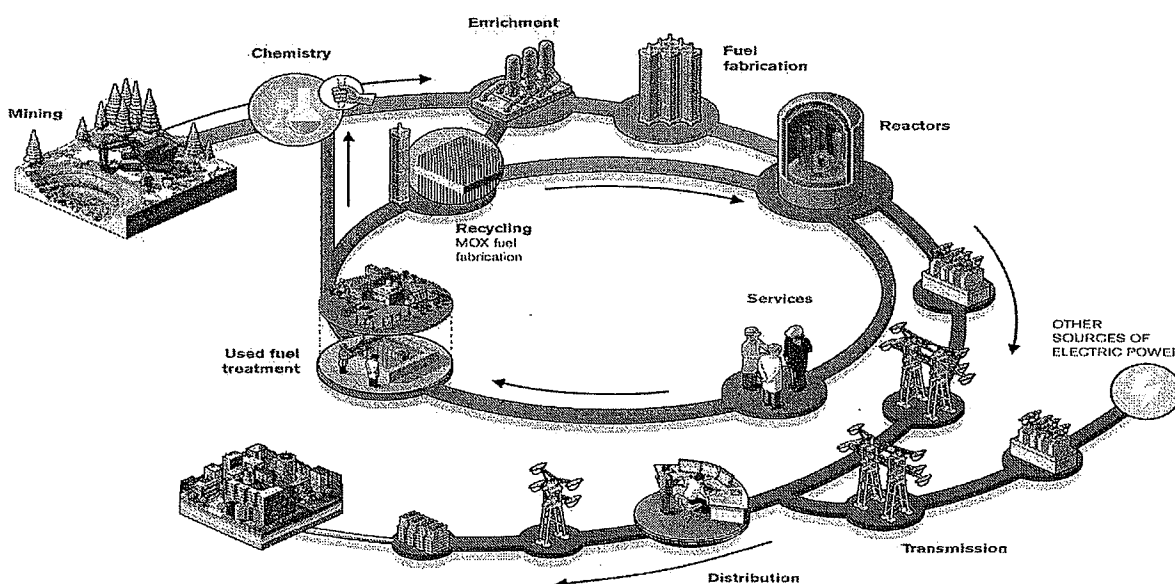
Although President Reagan lifted the ban on reprocessing in the 1980s, by then, utilities considered it uneconomic. Interest in a new generation of nuclear power plants is a result

of the record of reliable and efficient electricity production by the existing U.S. nuclear fleet coupled with growing concerns about energy security and global warming. Nuclear power provides solutions to these issues, but unless we close the fuel cycle by recycling used fuel, it is likely that a new generation of nuclear reactors would have to rely on a second repository under an exclusive once-through fuel cycle policy.

Higher uranium costs, tighter fuel cycle supplies, continued schedule difficulties at the Yucca Mountain repository have brought U.S. fuel cycle policy back to the forefront of the nuclear debate.

Direct Disposal: The Open Nuclear Fuel Cycle

Direct disposal at Yucca Mountain has remained the U.S. policy for managing used nuclear fuel. In 1982, Congress passed the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA), establishing the once-through fuel cycle as



U.S. nuclear policy. The law declared used fuel to be waste and called for the siting of two national underground geologic repositories for permanent disposal of spent fuel and other nuclear waste. DOE and nuclear utilities entered contracts under which the utilities paid a fee per kilowatt-hour. In return for these fees, DOE would move their spent fuel to a repository.

In 1987 the NWPA was amended to eliminate a second repository and to focus solely on a site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. With an open cycle or with a closed cycle as proposed in the GNEP program, there is a need for a geological repository.

Used Nuclear Fuel Treatment And Recycling: Closing The Fuel Cycle

Some countries recycle their used nuclear fuel. After cooling at the reactor and at the treatment plant, the used fuel assemblies are treated chemically to separate their contents. The energy-producing components (uranium and plutonium) are recycled to make uranium oxide (UOX) fuel and mixed oxide (MOX) fuel. There are benefits to this recycling process:

- Recycling could eliminate need for additional repositories this century
- The process offers energy security by making the best use of existing fuel
- The economics of reprocessing and recycling can be comparable to those of the once-through fuel cycle
- Waste materials, with significantly reduced radiotoxicity and volume, are vitrified in a highly stable glass form for disposal in a national repository in Europe, no diversion of plutonium from any safeguarded civilian commercial facility has taken place.

The U.S. is exploring the benefits of recycling through the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP). President Bush seeks to develop an international consensus on expanding the use of nuclear power to meet the growing demand for clean power around the world while limiting proliferation.

One element of the program is to develop nuclear fuel treatment technologies that do not separate pure plutonium out of used fuel. GNEP would simultaneously increase fuel supply while reducing some major challenges to the Yucca Mountain repository.

Recycling in advanced burner reactors would address technical issues in licensing the repository by reducing the heat generation, radiotoxicity and volume of waste materials. As a result, GNEP would extend Yucca Mountain's capacity. The Yucca Mountain repository will continue to be the key component of the nation's nuclear waste management strategy, whether the nation decides to maintain its current open fuel cycle or to close the nuclear fuel cycle through recycling and treatment.

USED NUCLEAR FUEL TREATMENT AND RECYCLING

Recycling – A Used Fuel Strategy To Do More With Less

Recycling describes the series of processes that recover the energy-producing elements of uranium and plutonium from used nuclear fuel. The process separates waste products that can be packaged for disposal and recovers the remaining material to make more commercial reactor fuel. Recycling of used fuel means less uranium must be supplied as more nuclear fuel will be available.

How Is Recycling Done?

Current method

When used fuel leaves the reactor, it contains elements that still have energy potential. To collect this material, chemical treatment of the used fuel isolates or separates uranium and plutonium from the other transuranic elements and the fission products. Once separated, the uranium can be converted to a gas called uranium hexafluoride (UF₆), re-enriched and fabricated into a type of nuclear fuel called uranium oxide (UOX) fuel. Recyclable materials can be further treated and combined with depleted uranium to make a new fuel.

The elements from the used fuel that are not recycled constitute the waste materials from chemical treatment. The volume and radiotoxicity of these waste materials have been reduced significantly. They are vitrified in a highly stable glass form for disposal in a national repository.

Future methods for recycling

U.S. scientists are currently researching advanced treatment methods. Learning from the existing recycling programs in France, the United Kingdom, Russia and Japan, researchers are exploring new technologies to

develop advanced treatment methods that will not isolate pure plutonium, in order to reduce perceived proliferation concerns. One method – called UREX+ – uses innovative separation processes to keep the transuranic elements, including plutonium, together. This method would enable the elimination of transuranics in advanced burner reactors. Scientists have demonstrated this process on a laboratory scale, successfully isolating pure uranium and keeping the transuranic elements together. The next step will be to carry out a larger scale demonstration to obtain cost and performance information.

Treatment And Recycling Facilities Are Operated Internationally

The closed fuel cycle offers demonstrated success. Large-scale industrial treatment facilities exist in France, United Kingdom, Russia, and Japan. France's commercial used-fuel treatment facility has processed over 20,000 metric tons of used fuel over the past 20 years and has been certified compliant with the environmental standard, ISO 14001. The international community is working with the U.S. to advance recycling technology.

Recycling Delivers Major Benefits

The global nuclear industry has operated both open and closed fuel cycles over the last fifty years. Recycling offers specific benefits:

- The current recycling method significantly reduces waste volumes by enabling a substantial amount of the used fuel to be treated to produce more energy.
- Recycling produces extremely stable waste products that can

be disposed of safely and securely.

- Early treatment of used fuel further optimizes repositories like Yucca Mountain by reducing the heat generation and radiotoxicity of the waste. With additional research and development, engineers will refine this process to optimize Yucca Mountain even further.
- Treatment and recycling of used nuclear fuel means that the U.S. may not need a second repository in this century.
- Treatment and recycling of UOX and transuranics fuel in a fleet of light water reactors can hedge against rising fuel costs.
- Challenges like energy security and climate change require consideration of diverse and creative solutions – nuclear fuel treatment and recycling offer important options to expand our energy mix and meet growing energy needs.



State of New Mexico
House of Representatives
Santa Fe

March 20, 2007

DONALD E. BRATTON

R - Lea
District 62

2012 North McKinley
Hobbs, NM 88240
Business Phone: (505) 393-5325
Home Phone: (505) 397-4093

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations & Finance
Energy & Natural Resources

INTERIM COMMITTEES:
Legislative Council
(Special Advisory Member)
Investment & Pensions Oversight
Legislative Structure & Process Study Task Force
(Advisory Member)
Radioactive & Hazardous Materials
Revenue Stabilization & Tax Policy
(Designee)

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Bodman:

I am writing today to encourage your consideration of the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance site in southeastern New Mexico as the site for construction and operation of the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) facilities.

Governor Richardson has called for a Special Session which is commencing on March 20th, 2006. Therefore, as a Representative of the New Mexico State Legislature I must be in Santa Fe to represent House District 62. Otherwise, I would show my support personally at the Public Participation Meetings being held in Lovington and Hobbs on March 21st and March 22nd.

The Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance represents several important county and local governments that have a long and successful history of hosting unique nuclear facilities; Lea and Eddy counties, and the cities of Hobbs and Carlsbad. All have provided critical support to advanced nuclear programs undertaken by industry and the Energy Department (WIPP, LES and WCS) to promote national defense and energy security. In supporting these programs, members of the Alliance have evaluated and ensured that comprehensive safety and environmental protection programs were implemented. The Alliance's proposal to offer a site in Lea County for GNEP facilities builds on this history.

I fully support the Alliance's effort. I encourage the Energy Department to seriously consider the site in Lea County, as well as the unique capabilities of the workforce in the State of New Mexico to successfully site, construct and operate advanced nuclear facilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald Bratton".

Rep. Donald Bratton



State of New Mexico
House of Representatives
Santa Fe
March 20, 2007

SHIRLEY A. TYLER
R - Lea County
District 61

1004 West Avenue F
Lovington, NM 88260
Home Phone: (505) 396-2638
E-Mail: sntyler@valornet.com

COMMITTEES:
Labor & Human Resources
Voters & Elections
Enrolling & Engrossing (A)

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Bodman:

I am writing today to encourage your consideration of the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance site in southeastern New Mexico as the site for construction and operation of the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) facilities.

Governor Richardson has called for a Special Session which is commencing on March 20th, 2006. Therefore, as a Representative of the New Mexico State Legislature I must be in Santa Fe to represent House District 61. Otherwise, I would show my support personally at the Public Participation Meetings being held in Lovington and Hobbs on March 21st and March 22nd.

The Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance represents several important county and local governments that have a long and successful history of hosting unique nuclear facilities: Lea and Eddy counties, and the cities of Hobbs and Carlsbad. All have provided critical support to advanced nuclear programs undertaken by industry and the Energy Department (WIPP, LES and WCS) to promote national defense and energy security. In supporting these programs, members of the Alliance have evaluated and ensured that comprehensive safety and environmental protection programs were implemented. The Alliance's proposal to offer a site in Lea County for GNEP facilities builds on this history.

I fully support the Alliance's effort. I encourage the Energy Department to seriously consider the site in Lea County, as well as the unique capabilities of the workforce in the State of New Mexico to successfully site, construct and operate advanced nuclear facilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley A. Tyler".

Rep. Shirley Tyler