

Economic  
Development  
Corporation  
of Lea County

February 2, 2012

Cindy Bladey,  
Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch  
Division of Administrative Services  
Office of Administration  
Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC. 20555-001

Re: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed  
International Isotopes Fluorine Products Facility in Lea County, New Mexico  
**(NRC Docket ID NRC-2010-0143)**

Dear Ms. Bladey,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with comments on the proposed International Isotopes fluorine products facility in Lea County, New Mexico. The Economic Development Corporation of Lea County (EDCLC) is in full support of the International Isotopes (INIS) planned fluorine extraction facility in Lea County. We are confident that this industry will help continue to diversify our economy and create quality jobs for Lea County residents.

INIS has provided comprehensive information to our organization, county leaders, and area residents about their planned project and in turn, representatives of the EDCLC and community leaders have visited their current operations in Idaho. We have found INIS to be forthcoming with their project plans and their leadership to conduct business with integrity. This business will compliment Lea County's uranium enrichment processing plant by providing the safe and environmentally sound treatment of depleted uranium hexafluoride that will ultimately produce important fluoride products for U.S. markets.

The draft Environmental Impact Statement thoroughly reviews all of the potential environmental impacts from the proposed facility and the EDCLC agrees with the conclusions reached by the NRC staff that the impacts would be minimal. It is though the due diligence process of our organization and that of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that EDCLC has been assured that the INIS facility will have a positive impact on the economy of Lea County with little environmental concern.

We hope that you will take our comments of support into consideration during your evaluation process. Without hesitation, the EDCLC supports the construction and licensure of the INIS facility in Lea County. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Lisa Hardison  
Economic Development Corporation of Lea County  
President & CEO  
200 E. Broadway, Suite A201  
575-397-2039  
lisa@edclc.org

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200 E. Broadway, Suite A201  
Hobbs, NM 88240

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P.O. Box 1376  
Hobbs, NM 88241

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(800) 443-2236  
(575) 397-2039

Fax

(575) 392-2300