

San Juan County

MONTICELLO, UTAH 84535

COUNTY OFFICERS

EDWARD S. BOYLE, Commission Chairman
CALVIN BLACK, Commissioner
DAVID L. GUYMON, Commissioner
CLYTIE BARBER, Clerk and Auditor
ARVILLA E. WARREN, Recorder
BARBARA MONTELLA, Assessor
MARIAN BAYLES, Treasurer
S. RIGBY WRIGHT, Sheriff
F. BENNION REDD, Attorney
DOUGLAS PETERSON, Surveyor

(NRC PUBLIC DOCUMENT ROOM)

October 12, 1978



United States Nuclear
Regulatory Commission
7915 Eastern Avenue
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910

Attention: Mr. Jack Martin

Gentlemen:

We are writing in support of the application of Energy Fuels Nuclear, Inc. ("Energy Fuels") for a Source of Materials License with respect to its proposed uranium mill to be located in southeastern Utah near Blanding. Historically, the economy of southeastern Utah has been almost totally dependent upon the vicissitudes of the mining industry. Over the past 30 years, the area has experienced periods of intense mining activity followed by periods in which almost no such activity has taken place. Unlike most mining areas in this country, the industry is not dominated by major mining companies. On the contrary, the mining industry in this area is comprised of independent miners whose livelihood is dependent upon his individual resolve, a bit of luck and a ready market for the fruits of his labor.

Until Energy Fuels announced its intention to construct a mill in the Blanding area and began purchasing uranium ore, the mining industry in this area and consequently the general economy had been depressed for many years. The sons and daughters of our long-time residents were leaving the area for jobs in the large metropolitan areas of the west since they were unable to find jobs locally. The activities of Energy Fuels have revitalized our economy and given us hope that the direct and indirect effects of a mill operation will stabilize our economy and create jobs attractive to the talents of our young people.

Unfortunately, a company such as Energy Fuels cannot continue to purchase ore indefinitely with no expectation that the ore will ultimately be concentrated into a salable product. We are fearful that government red tap and bureaucracy will jeopardize the viability of this project and the hope it provides for our community. Therefore, it is extremely

781102 0391

FREE EXEMPT

San Juan County

MONTICELLO, UTAH 84535

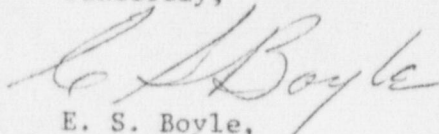
COUNTY OFFICERS

EDWARD S. BOYLE, Commission Chairman
CALVIN BLACK, Commissioner
DAVID L. GUYMON, Commissioner
CLYTIE BARBER, Clerk and Auditor
ARVILLA E. WARREN, Recorder
BARBARA MONTELLA, Assessor
MARIAN BAYLES, Treasurer
S. RIGBY WRIGHT, Sheriff
F. BENNION REDD, Attorney
DOUGLAS PEHRSON, Surveyor

important that Energy Fuels receive from your agency the authority to initiate construction and operation of the mill at the earliest possible moment. We ask that you and your staff devote the time and energy required to process the application and issue the license in record time.

Energy Fuels has demonstrated itself to be an ideal industrial neighbor. It is a small, experienced company and, therefore, sensitive to the needs of our community. It has initiated a program to provide quality housing for its employees and has kept us well apprised of its plans -- thus facilitating community planning capable of responding to the growth expected as a result of mill operation. Moreover, we are impressed with the company's dedication to its environmental, health and safety responsibilities. Its present operations are conducted with due regard for the environment even though in many cases, neither state nor local law requires the company to do anything. It would indeed be unfortunate if the plans of Energy Fuels were not realized because of delay in obtaining necessary permits and licenses. If we can be of any assistance in the processing of the company's application, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



E. S. Boyle,
Commission Chairman

ESB:kf