



# Andrews Industrial Foundation, Inc.

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To: **SOUTH PLAINS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE**  
Re: **A New Era in Energy in the Permian Basin Region**

An outstanding regional opportunity is coming to the Permian Basin. Louisiana Energy Services (LES) is building a \$1.4 billion uranium enrichment facility 5 miles east of Eunice, New Mexico and just yards from Andrews County, Texas.

This new National Enrichment Facility (NEF) will use the world's most advanced, energy-efficient and cost effective uranium enrichment technology. Developed by Urenco Ltd., the technology has been in use for over 30 years. It will be the only facility of its kind in North America. LES is currently requesting an operating license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), which is set for approval in the summer of 2006. The NRC will have primary oversight of this project and all federal regulations will apply. Upon NRC license approval, LES anticipates construction to commence in August 2006. In order to accomplish this, it is essential that LES begin surveying and identifying potential local companies and skills. In addition, with this time frame, local companies have the opportunity to position themselves for consideration.

The project will create 400 to 600 jobs for construction workers. The creation of 210 permanent facility operation employees will also provide opportunities for new housing construction, provision of services, and education. Total payroll during construction will be an estimated \$170 million. This estimate is based on 3,175 job-years or an average of 397 employees. LES will provide extensive training for permanent employees. NEF employment opportunities will range from operations, maintenance and health physics positions to clerical and security-related jobs.

The establishment of the \$1.4 billion NEF in Lea County, NM will have a positive economic impact on the southeastern New Mexico and West Texas economies. The introduction of the NEF will help to diversify the region's current economic base, which relies primarily on energy and extractive industries such as oil and gas production. We encourage you to investigate this regional opportunity and help keep as many of these jobs and dollars as possible here in this region. For more information or to schedule a meeting with NEF project managers, please John Lowther, NEF Contracts Manager at (505) 944-0194 or visit [www.nefnm.com](http://www.nefnm.com).

Sincerely,

DeeDee Wallace  
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