EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

EnergyPlex® Park is an industrial park located northwest of Hobbs in Lea County, New Mexico. The park area is 15 square miles (9,600 acres) and is accessible from three major roadways - US 62/180, NM 18 and NM 483. The Park's premier location allows for congestion free highways and a relatively low cost of business development. The park is located 2 miles from the nearest residential or commercial development. Groundbreaking to ribbon cutting, EnergyPlex® Park offers ease of access and privacy for efficient construction. Coupled with Hobbs and Lovington's combined population of over 65,000 less than 10 miles away, Transportation, Technology, Utilities and Skilled Employees are immediately available.

Tracts within EnergyPlex® Park are available in customized sizes to fit the needs of potential clients and can be leased or purchased through an efficient, streamlined process, eliminating groundbreaking delays. All title work is complete, so no unexpected hindrances to property access will occur.

Lea County offers attractive incentive packages that include industrial revenue bonds and assistance with permitting and infrastructure that can be used in conjunction with state job training reimbursements, tax credits and abatement. Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRBs) may be issued to finance privately-operated developed projects by a municipality, county, or the New Mexico Finance Authority. The private party initiates the process by requesting that the government unit issue the bonds (a political process done in accordance with local and state laws). IRBs can be issued for projects over $3 million dollars.

IRB's offer property and gross receipts tax relief to a company. The project financed is actually owned in trust by the governmental issuer of the IRB and leased to the private operator under a finance lease (which allows the private operator to take the depreciation on the project for tax purposes in addition to a deduction for interest paid on the IRBs). Tangible personal property (other than building materials and related construction services) purchased with IRB proceeds is deductible for gross receipts tax purposes because it is being sold to a government purchaser. IRBs of $10 million or less issued to finance manufacturing facilities may also be eligible for exclusion of interest from gross income for federal income tax purposes (effectively lowering the interest rate on the IRB's). Through the Statewide Economic Development Finance Act the Economic Development Department can recommend projects to the New Mexico Finance Authority for issuance of taxable and tax-exempt IRB's.

Lea County's community and government embraces innovation and growth, welcoming a variety of highly innovative and technological companies to the area annually - meaning a company locating in Lea County can be under construction quickly, without planning commission delays or large

permitting hurdles. Manufacturing, energy, nuclear, solar, wind, research and development, fabrication and mining are just a few of the industries we have recently welcomed to the area.

The following report contains the details of a Phase 1 Master Plan and Feasibility Study and includes the following:

- Survey/Title Work
- GIS Information
- Cultural Resource Study
- Reconnaissance Biological Survey
- Phase1 Environmental Site Assessment
- Soils and Mineral Evaluation
- Geology/Seismology Information
- Air Quality/Wetland Information
- Climate/Weather Information
- Infrastructure Capacity Analysis
- Planning Report
- Marketing Brochure
- Flood Plain Study

Overview

Title Work
The entire site has a completed ALTA survey covering fee land, state land research and public records with all existing encumbrances and easements characterized. Full size 24" x 36" plats are available for each section. An 11 x 17 version is included inside this document.

Survey Information
Aerial imagery and LiDar data has been collected and processed for each land section. Topographic surveys are also available by section and are included in both 24" x 36" and 11" x 17" sizes.

GIS Information
The EnergyPlex® Park geographic information system (GIS) is a custom designed database organized into more than 250 layers including the project boundary, sections, gas and electric lines, survey control points, soil classifications, encumbrances, topographic information, imagery and more. A large portion of the layers are comprised of aerial photos, which encompass approximately 200 of the layers and are broken down into quarter-quarter sections for easier viewing. Topographic information is based on LIDAR scans and includes a hi-resolution DEM surface as well as 1' and 5' contours. Within the sections, the encumbrances can easily be viewed and analyzed with html popups. The encumbrances found in the Title research data were plotted on the ALTA survey, exported as shape files, and then imported into ESRI. Once in the database, customized attribute tables were created with information including type of encumbrance, recording information, and any other relevant data available at the time. The supporting documents were then attached using Python scripts and can be viewed as a PDF and saved or printed as needed. With so much data available, the benefits of geospatial technology cross many disciplines and many types of users. Possibly the greatest benefit will come from the cost savings that can be gained from developing projects faster. With encumbrances, flood information, aerial photography and more included in the GIS, a vast amount of data is readily available, reducing the likelihood of last minute complications during development.

Cultural Resource Study
A cultural resource study was conducted by Marron and Associates in May of 2014. The Caprock in Southeastern New Mexico tends to be sparse for cultural resources. **No indicators** such as aeolian (blow sand) sand dunes, abundant shinnery oak, or abundant mesquite were found in the project area. These species indicators and sand build-up are areas where cultural resources are located in Southeastern New Mexico as the shinnery oak and mesquite were used for food, wood, and other

purposes and therefore **are unlikely to be found here**. The reconnaissance cultural resource investigations did find historic resources relating to homesteading, farming, and ranching. The features noted in the report include an irrigation ditch, windmills, oil industry features (pre-1964), houses/outbuildings, stock tanks, and stock ponds. **A small family cemetery**, which is likely associated with the **homestead in Section 5 of T18S, R37E, should be avoided.** The project area has playas which may have contained water during prehistoric times which tended to draw people to these areas for hunting and collecting such as water, plants, and animals. It is currently unknown whether cultural resources exist around the playas. These playas are typically avoided for development and used for their drainage system value.

Reconnaissance Biological Resources Survey

Six vegetative community types have been defined within the study area: Plains/Mesa Grassland-Uplands, Plains/Mesa Grassland Swales, Plains/Mesa Grasslands Playa's, Desert Grassland Shrub-Mixed Grass Series, Palustrine Wetland, and Disclimax Vegetation. **None of these communities are rare or unusual, nor were there rare or protected plant species, or Class A or B noxious weeds present**. It is recommended that any reseeding in the area use native plants currently found at the site. Such species are easier to establish and maintain, particularly when water is scarce during drought conditions. Thirty-six species of wildlife were found in the area during an early spring survey. This included 26 species of birds, 8 species of mammals and 2 species of reptiles. Among the birds were 2 species of owl (barn owl and western burrowing owl), and 4 other bird-of-prey species (Swainson's hawk, Cooper's hawk, red-tailed hawk and northern harrier). During the course of the reconnaissance survey 25 stick nests (suitable for use by birds-of-prey or large corvids such as crows and ravens) were found scattered across the study area. A 100% survey of the study area would likely document many more. These stick nests were not occupied at the time of the survey, but based on the observation of pairs of raptors in the area, it is likely that at least some nests will be used by birds-of-prey in the 2014 breeding season. There were large numbers of western burrowing owls (54 observed) present within 9 colonies that are scattered throughout the black-tailed prairie dog towns in the study area. It is likely that at least some will produce young during the 2014 breeding season. All birds-of-prey fall under the protection of the Chapter 17 regulations of the NM State Wildlife Conservation Act. Additionally, these larger birds, as well as nearly all other birds at the site also fall under the protection of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. **Recommendations for migratory birds include trying to schedule clearing and grubbing of proposed construction sites outside the breeding season.** This works with the exception of western burrowing owls that can be present in the burrows year-round and require special methods to identify their presence.

If construction must take place during the breeding season, then preconstruction migratory bird surveys are recommended with the understanding that if active nests are found they cannot be removed until the chicks fledge unless they are removed under the authority of a federal permit from USFWS, which allows for removal and subsequent rearing of the chicks. In combination the USFWS and the NMDGF identify 12 species within Lea County that have status with their agencies. Most lacked suitable habitat within the study area. However, 3 of the USFWS species (lesser prairie chicken, Sprague's pipit, and aplomado falcon), and one additional NMDGF species (Baird's sparrow), could occur within the study area at least seasonally. Both the aplomado falcon and lesser prairie chicken could potentially nest in the general study area, but there was no indication of either of these species during the reconnaissance survey. **As development within the industrial park comes on line, surveys for these species will need to be conducted**. The other two species (Sprague's pipit and Baird's sparrow) are both winter migrants into the area. Baird's sparrow is likely only to be a migrant and present only during the fall and early spring. Sprague's pipit may be a winter resident of the area.

Currently it is a candidate species on the USFWS service list and has no statutory protection. Nor currently has the USFWS provided provisions for habitat suitability or survey protocols for this species.

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was performed, in conformance with the scope and limitations of ASTM Standard E-1527-05 EPA rule *"Standards and Practices for All Appropriate Inquiries"* (40 CFR Part 312) of the property situated in Lea County, New Mexico. The assessment of EnergyPlex Park, also known as Lea County Industrial Park, was performed by Safety & Environmental Solutions, Inc. on behalf of Pettigrew & Associates. The purpose of the site reconnaissance was to inspect the property for visual signs or indications of environmental conditions that may have an adverse impact on the site. The subject property is an approximately 15 sections located to the northwest of the City of Hobbs, New Mexico. The subject property is situated in an area that is primarily used for agricultural purposes. The property has been used for rangeland with smaller areas having been cultivated at different times in the past. There is limited oil & gas development on the property and around the adjacent property to the southwest. The property is adjoined to other rangeland and/or cultivated and/or dairies. The subject property has numerous water wells and is serviced by caliche roads. The sand and gravel operation located in Section 32, T17S, R37E, formerly operated by Constructors Inc. is addressed in a separate attached report. A summary of the environmental issues that were observed include the following:

- There is an ongoing groundwater remediation project located in Section 3, Township 18 South, Range 37 East. The name of the project is the Plains Pipeline Remediation Site – Kimbrough Sweet 6". The project, because of the impact on groundwater and soils, has been deemed a **Recognized Environmental Concern (REC).**
- There were 6 areas adjacent to pipelines where there was no vegetation:
    - Pipeline 1- Un-vegetated Area Section 33, Township 17 South, 37 East
    - Pipeline 2- Un-vegetated Area Section 33, Township 17 South, 37 East
    - Pipeline 3- Un-vegetated Area Section 33, Township 17 South, 37 East
    - Pipeline 4- Un-vegetated Area Section 3, Township 18 South, 37 East
    - Pipeline 5- Un-vegetated Area Section 5, Township 18 South, 37 East
    - Pipeline 6- Un-vegetated Area Section 5, Township 18 South, 37 East
- There are nine plugged and abandoned (P & A) oil and gas wells on the property that have areas where there is no vegetation:
    - Cactus Drilling Catron STD #1 Section 2, Township 18 South, 36 East
    - Aztec Oil Co. State P001P & A Well Section 3, Township 18 South, 37 East
    - Tenneco Oil Co. Catron C State Com 1 Section 2, Township 18 South, 36 East
    - Aztec Oil & Gas State AJ #1 Section 1, Township 18 South, 36 East
    - Aztec Oil & Gas State AJ # 2 Section 1, Township 18 South, 36 East
    - Aztec Oil & Gas State AJ # 3 Section 1, Township 18 South, 36 East
    - Chevron Garrett Etal # 1P & A Well Section 29, Township 17 South, 37 East
    - Tidewater Oil Company State AS #1 Section 7, Township 17 South, 37 East
    - Mietzel Henderson Oper. Asst. 51 Section 2, Township 18 South, 36 East

These well locations are shown on a GIS Map of the park titled "Recognized Environmental Concerns."

The Environmental Professional (EP) has deemed the areas void of vegetation to be Recognized Environmental Concern (REC) and recommends that all of the areas (identified above) be sampled for possible chloride contamination.

This assessment has revealed evidence of Recognized Environmental Concern (REC) in connection with the property. As a result of these condition/observation set forth above, further investigation or Phase II Environmental Site Assessment is recommended.

Soils and Minerals

Much of the surface of the High Plains is underlain by aeolian and alluvial deposits of the Ogallala Formation and has a resistant caliche caprock. This caprock zone, a secondary carbonate accumulation, is at or near the surface in east-central Lea County (Hawley 1986:27). Geologic material within the project area consists of Quaternary alluvial and aeolian deposits of clayey silty sand that ranges in thickness from 0 to 1 m (3.3 ft) forming the topsoil. Below the topsoil is the Tertiary Ogallala Formation, which is made of nodular caliche and poorly to well-cemented sandstone and limestone gravel. This formation ranges from poorly cemented, soft-carbonate gravel to hard caprock (New Mexico Geological Society 1982.)

Geology/Seismology

The Hobbs area lies in the Southern High Plains Physiographic Region, also known as Llano Estacado. As part of the Central Basin Platform, most of the concentration of geological data is derived from oil and gas exploration. The Hobbs area consists primarily of sedimentary deposits and is located north and east of the Mescalero Ridge. The Mescalero Ridge is the western escarpment of the Southern High Plains[1]. This ridge is formed from Tertiary aged Caliche (Pliocene) capping Ogallala sand overlying the Triassic-age Dockum group Red Beds[2]. Hobbs area surface soils consist of Quaternary age deposits of clayey silty sands, known as "topsoil", up to 3.3 feet thick. Underlying the topsoil, the caliche serves as a resistant layer or caprock that varies up to 40 feet thick and usually contains 19 to 40 percent impurities[3]. The eolian and alluvial deposits of the Ogallala Formation may range from 0 to 350′ thick while the Red Beds, comprised of sandstone, shale and limestone, are approximately 1500′ thick[4].

Seismic maps and tools are used by Engineers for seismic design. The USGS and organizations such as the Building Seismic Safety Council develop building codes to provide parameters to Engineers[5]. The 2009 International Building Code (IBC) publishes one of these building code reference documents. The IBC defines Site Class as, "the classification assigned to a site based on the types of soils present and their engineering properties as defined in Section 1613.5.2". In accordance with 2009 IBC, Section 1613.5.5 for Seismic Design Parameters, **Site Class C is applicable.** This site class is based upon the average properties of depths explored (80′ nominal) at nearby locations. Site Class C has a soil profile name of very dense soil and soft rock and corresponds to standard penetration resistance (N) > 50[6].

No Quaternary faults or folds (thought to be associated with most earthquakes of moment magnitude 6 or greater over the last 1.6 million years) exist in the southeast *New Mexico/ West Texas*

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1 Tertiary-Quaternary Stratigraphy and Geomorphology of West Texas and Southeastern New Mexico, pg. 115.
2 Bloom, Arthur L. Geomorphology – A Systematic Analysis of Late Cenzoic Landforms, Second Edition, 1991.
3 Bulletin 87: Mineral and Water Resources of NM pg. 352.
4 Chronic, Halka. Roadside Geology of New Mexico, 1997.
5 *Earthquake Hazards Program*. Retrieved from http://earthquake.usgs.gov/hazards/designmaps.
6 2009 International Building Code, pg. 340.

region (http://earthguake.usgs.gov/hazards/gfaults/). Seismic activity in the region appears to be primarily associated with the Central Basin Platform which underlies the oil-rich Permian Basin region. The Central Basin Platform is a long, approximately north-south oriented ridge that divides the Permian Basin into the Delaware Basin to the west and the Midland Basin to the east and has its northern end under Hobbs, NM. **The apparent risk of earthquake damage in Lea County is minimal, although the probability of a significant earthquake increases towards the southeastern corner of the County**. The average time interval between earthquakes having a moment magnitude of 4.5 or greater in New Mexico is six to seven years (Sanford, et.a\. 1998). The expected number of moment magnitude 2.0 or greater earthquakes in New Mexico is 9.1 per year (Sanford, et.a\. 2002).

Air Quality/Wetlands

The New Mexico Environment Department operates 25 air pollutant monitoring sites in 11 of the state's 33 counties with one of these located in Lea County. **In 2013 Lea County had 95% of days with good air quality and 5% of days with moderate air quality. The county had 0% of days with poor or unhealthy air quality. There are no major air pollutant sources in Lea County.**

EnergyPlex® Park contains no natural wetlands. Collapse depressions (playas) collect storm runoff and are wetter than other areas, but none of these areas have sufficient wetland indicators to qualify them as wetlands. There were no wetlands within natural depressions, but one small wetland was discovered in the west-central portion of the study area located at UTM Zone 13 E657851/N3627971. This wetland (dominated by cattails) formed at the outflow of a windmill. Since it was formed by pumped groundwater and does not occur in any drainage or waterway, it should not be considered jurisdictional by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Climate

Lea County has a semi-arid, continental climate characterized by moderate rainfall, warm summers, and cool, dry winters. The wettest months are May through October; June and July has the least precipitation during the rainy season. The wet period rainfall occurs mostly as brief, heavy thunderstorms originating in the Gulf of Mexico. The average annual temperature is 14.3° to 15.4° Celsius (C) (58° to 60° Fahrenheit [F]). The frost-free season is 190 to 205 days. Although winds are light throughout most of the year, averaging 19.6 kilometers (km) (12.2 miles [mi]) per hour, spring is the windy season. The winds are mainly from the southwest from November through April and from the southeast the rest of the year. Winds greater than 74 km (46 mi) per hour are generally from the west. The area averages 320 days of sunshine a year.

Lea County Average Temperatures*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avg. High	57	60	65	79	86	90	92	91	84	75	63	55
Avg. Low	30	32	40	44	57	65	68	68	58	47	36	29

* source - National Weather Service

Transportation

Roads and Rail

There are multiple highways and roadways that will provide access to the EnergyPlex® Park. The transportation system consists of both a roadway component and a rail component. An east-west route is being designed that will connect NM 483 to NM 18 across the center of the park. In addition, a

north-south route may also be considered adding a second connection to US 62/180. A two-mile rail spur at the eastern boundary of the park is also being planned to connect the park to the Texas-New Mexico Railroad and then to the Union Pacific Line at Monahans, Texas. The existing rail line runs from Lovington adjacent to NM Hwy 18 south to Hobbs, then south to Monahans, Texas. It passes 1.2 miles east of the site.

Airports

The airports located near the EPP site are the Lea County-Zip Franklin Memorial Airport, the Hobbs Industrial Air Park (HIAP), and the Lea County Regional Airport. HIAP is a closed airport used for miscellaneous industrial purposes and soaring. The Lea County Regional Airport is served by three active runways and offers multiple daily round trip United Airlines flights from Hobbs to Houston. The Lea County Regional Airport is expanding with anticipated construction completion in 2016.

Utilities

Water

In the west boundary of the site, an 8" Lea County water line lies along NM 483, extending north from the Joule Unlimited Demonstration Facility to a point approximately 4.5 miles north of the Joule plant. At that point, the water line extends approximately 1.9 miles east into the site. East of the site, the City of Hobbs has two water lines located near the EnergyPlex® Park: a 14" line that extends through HIAP to the Lea County Correctional Facility, and south a 12" line along the north side of US 62/180 that extends approximately 3500 feet west of West County Road. There is an existing Lea County water well within the EnergyPlex® area, on the western side. This well supplies water to the 8" water line along NM 483. Additional water wells in the EnergyPlex® area are planned for the future. Those wells will be located at the northeast and southeast corners of Section 1. The EnergyPlex® site is located near two City of Hobbs Well fields: the HIAP Well Field and the Hydro Well Field. The HIAP Well Field consists of four wells ranging in capacity from 600 to 1,000 gpm. The Hydro Well Field also consists of four wells, with capacities ranging from 450 to 900 gpm. There are also two irrigation wells in use at Ocotillo Golf Course. Detailed information regarding groundwater availability and water rights can be found in the Lea County Master Water Plan.

Sewer

East of the site, the City of Hobbs has two sanitary sewer lines located near the EnergyPlex® Park site. A 10" sewer line extends east from the Lea County Correctional Facility through HIAP to Trunk line F, a 15" line along NM18 which can also be extended towards Kansas and provide a larger connection point to the site. Additionally, there is a 12" sewer line that is installed along the north side of US 62/180 south of the site. From West County Road, the 12" line extends approximately 3500' to the west. The soil located in the park has been deemed capable of supporting large septic systems. For large scale developments on the site, a sewer-lift station will likely be required to connect to the City of Hobbs lines. **Depending on size and location, package treatment plant systems may be more cost effective than constructing lines to connect to the city of Hobbs facilities.**

Electric

Electrical service to the location of the proposed EnergyPlex® Park is provided by Xcel Energy. Currently, there is a 115 kV transmission line that traverses through the EnergyPlex® Park. There is also a 230 kV transmission line that traverses through the site. Additionally, there is a Lea County Electric Coop. (LCEC) transmission line that crosses the EnergyPlex® Park site. However, LCEC does not currently provide electrical service to the area. There are three power stations located near the site: Cunningham Station, Maddox Station, and the Lea Power Partners, LLC Hobbs Generating Station.

Depending on the electrical loads of the industries that develop in the EPP, a new substation may need to be constructed to service the industrial park. This endeavor is an 18 month to two year process. Another solution includes dividing the load requirements of the park developments among the four substations that currently feed the distribution lines serving the area (Buckeye, Monument, W. Bender, and Millen), assuming capacity is available in those substations. **Currently these four substations are providing 63.4 MVA of a total capacity of 86.8 MVA leaving 20.4 MVA available**. This amount is fluctuating with current loads and growth and suggests that the four substations and existing distribution lines serving the area are nearing capacity. When demand is known, the existing individual distribution lines and substations in the area of the park will need to be analyzed for current load versus capacity to determine if they are available for additional load.

Significant additional loads will likely require additional infrastructure be constructed. The two 115kV and 230 kV Transmission lines traversing the park are available for long term growth power needs.

Fiber Optic/Telecom

Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative currently has fiber optic lines that extend from the company warehouse at 5616 N. Lovington Hwy to 10 W. First Street in Tatum, NM. In the near future, the lines will be extended to Crossroads, NM. The Leaco lines are located on both sides of NM HWY 18, allowing for the creation of a redundant ring for customers in the EnergyPlex® Park. A 288-count fiber is located on the east side of the highway, and a 24-count fiber is located on the west side of the highway. For businesses, the fastest connection speeds currently advertised by Leaco are 30 Mbps downstream and 5 Mbps upstream, but customized packages up to 1 Gbps can be offered. Windstream has a 48-count fiber optic line that extends from Carlsbad, along US 62/180, along West County Road, and terminates at the intersection of Bender Blvd. and Bensing Rd. A fiber switch is located at the intersection of US 62/180 and NM 483. The switch is fiber fed, and fiber can be run directly out of it. At this time, there are no Windstream fiber optic cables running along NM 483. The fastest package that Windstream advertises is 40 Mbps downstream and 4 Mbps upstream. However, they can offer personalized quotes for speeds up to 1 Gbps. PVT has a 144-count fiber optic cable located on US 62/180. The line originates in Artesia, travels through Carlsbad, and extends along the highway to Hobbs, where it terminates.

Verizon, AT&T and Sprint have 4G/LTE networks covering Lea County with retail stores located in Hobbs and Lovington. Leaco also provides 3G services throughout the area. Multiple prepaid wireless providers have services in Lea County as well.

Natural Gas

Currently, natural gas service is provided to the area in and around the EPP site by two providers, Zia Natural Gas Company and New Mexico Gas Company. The EPP site as situated crosses the boundary of service territories for Zia Gas Company and New Mexico Gas Company. The approximate boundary is the township line between T17S and T18S which is also the location of Kansas Avenue, with Zia Gas typically serving south of Kansas and New Mexico Gas typically serving north of Kansas. New connections to Zia Gas east and south of the site are accessible. New connections to the New Mexico Gas Transmission line that traverses the western third of the site and their other service facilities are also accessible. **Each of these nearby natural gas lines contain adequate capacity to provide service to businesses in the EPP.**

Demographic Information

Lea County, NM

Located in the southeastern corner of New Mexico, Lea County is positioned both west and north of the Texas state line. The county is 4,394 square miles and is a diverse area known for innovative industrial development, oil and gas production, farming, ranching and recreation. Small and large game hunts are prevalent throughout the county, in addition to cycling, running, softball, bowling, a wide variety of equestrian activities, sky diving, soaring, fishing, hunting and golfing. The largest city in Lea County is Hobbs, followed by Lovington, Eunice, Jal and Tatum.

Hobbs, NM

Hobbs is the largest city in southeastern NM, and serves as the retail center for an area encompassing some 125,000 residents within a 55-mile radius. With a current population of over 44,000, Hobbs has grown more than 16% since the last census and is rapidly attracting new retail and industrial growth. New companies that have located in Hobbs include: Joule Unlimited, Bloom Retail Center, United Airlines, Lowes, Hibbet Sports, Intercontinental Potash Corporation, Nova Mud, Buffalo Wild Wings, Rosa's Cantina, and a host of retail and accommodation facilities. The largest employers in Hobbs are: Hobbs Municipal Schools, Lea Regional Medical Center, Halliburton, Walmart, RWI Construction, Zia Racetrack and Blackgold Casino, Geo Group and New Mexico Junior College. Recreational opportunities in Hobbs: gaming, horse racing, drag racing, sky diving, soaring, parks, pools with waterslides, dog park, two golf courses, walking trails, fishing, hunting, Western Heritage Museum, community theater, teen center, community events, concerts, rodeo and equestrian activities.

Lovington, NM

Lovington is the county seat and has a population of 15,059 which is an increase of 16% since the last census. Several new businesses have located or opened additional offices in Lovington including LEACO, Gebo's, Wildcat Wind, and Exelon Energy. The largest employers in Lovington are: Lovington Public Schools, Nor Lea Hospital, Ferguson Construction Company, Lea County Electric Cooperative, Gandy Oilfield Services, Gilbert Lease Services, Caprock Pipe and Supply, LEACO, and Navajo Refinery. Recreational opportunities in Lovington: Chaparral Park, Lea County Fair, pool and waterslides, fishing, skate park, Lea County Museum, historic Lea Theater, 18-hole golf course, teen center, rodeo, "World's Greatest Lizard Race", electric light parade and other community events.

Eunice, NM

Eunice grew 11% since the last census and has a current population of 3,255 people. Home to URENCO USA's National Enrichment Facility, Eunice's business friendly environment is creating a resurgence of new business development with the addition of Outlaw Grill, H&R Block, JP Stone Bank, Palenteria Azteca, Michael's Pharmacy, and Parker Energy to the Community. The Eunice Municipal School District recently completed additions to their schools and has record enrollment numbers for the 2013-2014 school year. The largest employers in Eunice: URENCO USA, B&H Construction, Chaparral Service Inc, Chevron USA INC, Eunice Well Servicing Company, Family Dollar Store, Transwestern Pipeline Company, and Eunice Municipal Schools. Recreation opportunities in Eunice: city parks, Teen Center, Senior Center, golf course, City Pool and waterslides, community events, and many more.

2014 Demographics*

	Eunice	Hobbs	Jal	Lovington	Tatum	Lea County
Population						
Total Population	3,210	44,044	2,179	15,059	1,189	68,062
Female Population	1,511	21,330	1,077	7,425	584	35,027
Male Population	1,699	22,714	1,102	7,634	605	33,035
Total Households	1,438	16,564	1,013	5,244	649	24,898
Median Age	37	32	41	29	40	32
Educational Attainment						
Total Population Age 25+	2,087	26,754	1,455	8,633	880	40,930
High School Graduate	26.2%	29.4%	31.6%	27.8%	27.2%	26.7%
Associates Degree	5.3%	7.9%	5.8%	6.2%	6.9%	8.2%
Bachelor's Degree	6.9%	9.7%	6.0%	4.7%	12.5%	6.8%
Graduate Degree	7.2%	5.1%	4.7%	4.0%	3.5%	6.4%
Some College, No Degree	26.5%	21.5%	22.5%	20.4%	24.0%	26.0%

* Source: Buxton, Fannie Mae, Bureau of Economic Analysis – updated 12/2014

Flood Plain Study and Mapping

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) map number 35025C1165D with an effective date of December 16, 2008 covers approximately 320 acres within the southeast corner at the downstream portion of the EnergyPlex® site. Approximately 100 acres are designated Zone AO with a depth of 1 foot while the remaining area is designated Zone X. The area outside the limit of study within the EnergyPlex® Park site is considered a Zone D. According to the Flood Insurance Rate Map published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the property is located primarily in Flood Zone D. The Zone D designation is used for areas where there are possible but undetermined flood hazards, as no analysis of flood hazards has been conducted by FEMA. The designation of Zone D is also used when a community incorporates portions of another community's area where no map has been prepared. Pettigrew & Associates has prepared a drainage study for the entire site showing estimated inundation patterns and depths for a 25 year and 100 year storm event. To avoid flooding and minimize property damage, Pettigrew & Associates recommends the establishment of finished floor elevations for future developments to be at least 18 inches above the water surface elevation determined at the site. In the enclosed floodplain study, complete drainage analysis and mapping can be found for the entire 17 sections of the park.