

3.1 AGRICULTURE continued

62.4 percent came from meat animals and livestock. In the area of the proposed project the only agricultural activity present is that of cattle grazing.

3.2 MANUFACTURING

In 1976 there were 44 manufacturing companies in Eddy County and 47 in Lea County. Employment in manufacturing in Eddy County was approximately 930 in 1976, while employment in manufacturing in Lea County was close to 950. According to the latest information available, income from manufacturing in Eddy County in 1974 was between \$8.7 and 8.8 million, while in Lea County income derived from manufacturing amounted to between \$10.2 and \$10.3 million. In 1974 manufacturing accounted for the second highest amount of income generated from "basic" type industry.

3.3 MINING

Mining is the major industry in both Eddy and Lea Counties. In Eddy County in 1976, mining employed approximately 5,200; in Lea County mining employed between 3,400 and 3,500. In both counties, employment in the mining sector was substantially larger than in any other identified industrial sector.

In Eddy County, potash mining is the primary mining industry; more than nine out of ten persons employed in mining work in the area of potash mining. Potash from Eddy County supplies a very large portion of total potash production in the United States. While recent figures have not been disclosed, in 1965 potash from New Mexico supplied 90 percent of total potash deliveries in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. At that time point, mining employment in Eddy County was somewhat larger than it is today.