geshas no funds to run on

United Press International
OKLAHOMA CITY — Saying
e is tired of the Department of ergy's "no action attitude." the dent of an electric car manucturing company has asked ngress to demand an account-of the DOE's handling of ding for alternate energy

Pat Jacobs, president of JMJ ectronics Corp., sent a tele-am to each member of Coness harshly criticizing the

acobs' firm, one of several deloping electric-powered vehi-es, has applied for \$4 million in deral funds. The DOE is prosing paperwork authorizing 700,000 for JMJ, but the funding been caught up in red tape for

MJ Vice President Phil Lyon

is convinced there is "someone in the Department of Energy that wants to see it (electric car con-

Lyon said Tuesday he has talked with representatives of six other electric car manufacturers in the United States and all have

had the same difficulty.

He said JMJ, which has been working on the electric vehicle for more than a year, has received \$10,000 in federal money.

Research and development on the electric car costs an "enormous amount" of money, Lyon said, and the DOE's failure to expedite funding has slowed the

JMJ is turning out an average of one car per week and it should be producing 100 cars a day, he said. In a telegram sent to the more Jacobs said his firm is weary of the "total inadequacy, waste and basic ignorance of the Department of Energy.

'We are tired of spending more than 50 percent of our company's time and money to help solve this nation's energy crisis,

"Had the Department of Energy acted in an expedient manner two years ago to support the electric vehicle industry, we would today be saving thousands of barrels of oil," Jacobs said.

The company purchases small car bodies from Chrysler and equips them with motors powered by several large batteries.

'Two years ago they (DOE) said they wanted to help small industry develop the electric car," Lyon said. "We want them

Electric car industry Carter eyes nuclear waste plan

United Press International WASHINGTON — President Carter Tuesday asked Congress for authority to establish the nation's first comprehensive radiocative waste management program, saying it is needed "to protect the health and safety of all Americans.

In a special message to Congress, Carter requested a go-ahead to purchase a permanent disposal site for dangerous radioactive waste in some geological underground area and a storage pool for burned-out nuclear

Our citizens have a deep concern that the beneficial uses of nuclear technology — including the generation of electricity - not be allowed to imperil public health or safety now or in the future," Carter said.

Carter said he will select by 1985 at least one permanent repository for high-level radioactive wastes from among 11 potential sites and have it operational by the mid-1990s.

Carter also proposed a repository for spent nuclear fuel by 1983, and for legislation by 1981 allowing the

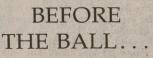
away from reactors for storing spent biological damage. fuel now accumulating at reactors.

Possible sites for this facility are

19 members.

Administration officials said that

among the 11 sites under considera-Barnwell, S.C., Morris, Ill., and tion for a waste depository are the West Valley, N.Y., officials dis-Nevada test site where underground nuclear weapons tests are now con-Carter said he is establishing a ducted; the Hanford, Wash., site State Planning Council. It will have where military nuclear wastes are currently kept and eight under-Nuclear wastes are extremely dan- ground salt domes in Mississippi, gerous because overexposure to Louisiana and Texas.



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Tumbleweeds could solve energy problem, prof says

n's energy woes could be tumbalong with the tumbling tumbed, one researcher says.

r. Garry Hawkins, an assistant Texas-El Paso, says the lowly weed, trash dumps and olded stills may offer a cheaper ion to the gasoline shortage than ohol made from corn and other ensive farm crops. awkins said tumbleweeds, dis-

ed wood, food wastes, paper and mber of other materials buried at I dumps can be converted into he facility was thanol using technology similar to officials evaluate used by bootleggers to foil the

orkers in the Ethanol, the same type of acception of the same type of the except for second at a neighborhood tavern, can except for second of the make gaso-captal nom the mixed with gasoline to make gaso-captal nom the ethanol and at a lower price than ethanol uced from corn, sugar cane or her such cash crops, Hawkins said. cal plant. Then Hawkins is heading a group of TEP researchers who want to tap cal vegetation and other resources use in an El Paso ethanol manuturing plant

The researchers already have ted the idea on a farm near Marfa, sas. The farmer wanted to clear ash and tumbleweeds from about acres he planned to cultivate.

United Press International
L PASO — The answer to the brush and pollute the air, Hawkins said the farmer purchased equipment for his group to use for grinding up the weeds and brush, for extracting sugar from the plant material and ering professor at the Univer- for the still which makes alcohol out

of plant sugar. Really, what we wanted to do is show people how easy it is to make the alcohol," Hawkins said. "It's an immediate solution to the problem, not something that's 500 research

projects down the road. The researcher said he opposes using corn to make gasohol because it is a food staple and Americans ulti-

mately might be forced to choose between driving less or eating less. That is going to do nothing but drive the price (of gasohol) right up,'

This arid West Texas area has little corn, but it does have a bountiful supply of tumbleweeds which heretofore have been in zero demand and require little water to grow.

Hawkins suggests wild tumbleweeds and waste materials can be turned into ethanol at roughly half the current \$1.60 a gallon cost for ethanol produced from corn.

823 tons of trash is dumped at El Paso landfills each working day and Hawkins estimates about one third of the trash contains cellulose, the key to making alcohol.

The scientist projected that 10,473 gallons of ethanol could be produced from the daily load of trash and is attempting to locate about \$50,000 in research funds to join with the city in starting an alcohol demonstration

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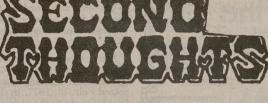
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