

Grants

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Department of Energy Awards \$300,000 to Albuquerque's Next Generation Economy Community Reuse Organization

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Department of Energy (DOE) today announced that it will award \$300,000 to the Next Generation Economy Community Reuse Organization (NextGen) located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This block grant will enable NextGen to continue to work for a strong, export-based private sector to include a Microsystems Fabrication Facility, and a web-based database for workforce development in the Albuquerque area.

"The Energy Department is a good neighbor to the communities surrounding our sites," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. "Working with NextGen and other community reuse organizations around the country, the Department has retained, expanded or created over 27,000 jobs for workers affected by restructuring efforts at DOE sites."

NextGen was established in 2000 to assist the Central New Mexico region with possible job losses resulting from downsizing of the Sandia National Laboratory. The organization's goal is to diversify the regional economy, increase the number of quality jobs in the region and the state, and reduce the region's economic dependence on the federal government.

The DOE's Office of Worker and Community Transition and NextGen have created or retained 594 new economy jobs, and estimate that 2,010 jobs will be created or retained by 2005.

For more information please sign-on to the Office of Worker and Community Transition's website: www.wct.doe.gov.
