

Grants

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Department of Energy Awards \$957,000 to Next Generation Economy Community Reuse Organization

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded \$957,000 in the form of competitive grants to the Next Generation Community Reuse Organization (NextGen). NextGen is the community reuse organization (CRO) for the department's site in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

"The Energy Department is a good neighbor to the communities surrounding our sites," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. "We will continue to work with the NextGen and other community reuse organizations around the country, to retain, expand or create jobs for workers affected by restructuring efforts."

NextGen applied for funding from the department's Office of Worker and Community Transition in the form of competitive grants. Each CRO can apply for funds under the Small Capital Program (small cap) up to \$200,000 and/or the Large Capital Program (large cap) up to one million dollars.

NextGen applied for one large cap and two small cap grants. The large cap grant of \$682,000 will be used to develop a Microsystems fabrication facility. NextGen has been working with the Intel Corporation to receive a complete production line from Intel's local facility. The CRO could potentially receive equipment valued at \$20 million. The funds from this grant will be used to transport the Intel equipment to a secure storage site, and insure the equipment and purchase warranties on each piece of equipment until a fabrication facility is established.

NextGen also applied for two small cap grants. The first is a small cap grant in the amount of \$200,000 that will be used for NextJob New Mexico - a web-based application to better understand the workforce issues in Central New Mexico. The ultimate goal is to stimulate the economy through information about the region's workforce, employers and education, and training institutions. The second small cap grant in the amount of \$75,000 will fund Style New Mexico - a design competition for New Mexico artisans to focus national attention on the depth, breadth, and quality of New Mexican art-orientated business.

These grants are expected to create 50 new jobs.
