

**Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board
Recommendation:
Community Investment as Factor in Contract Proposal Evaluation Process**

Background

Communities across the country have been adversely affected by the legacy of research and development of nuclear capabilities that occurred during the World War II and Cold War eras. The resulting cleanup of contaminated areas in these communities is on-going and managed by the U.S. Department of Energy's Environmental Management Program (DOE EM). To date, billions of dollars have been spent on cleanup activities, and this work by DOE EM contractors will continue far into the future. The EM Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) believes that contractors be encouraged by DOE EM to become good stewards by investing resources back into the communities that serve them.

Observation

Whether it is for scholarships to local students, goods purchased from local stores, resources provided to local food banks, or community development grants, these efforts give back to the community. By investing in affected communities, the DOE EM contractors help revitalize those communities and foster healthy relationships between the DOE and local stakeholders.

Summary

DOE contractors can impact EM communities, and the EM SSAB asks DOE to encourage those practices by making community investment provisions part of the evaluation criteria for cleanup contracts.

Recommendation

The EM SSAB recommends that DOE EM:

- 1) Incorporate "planned investment within the community" as a weighted factor in the proposal evaluation process of all contractors.
- 2) Provide information to local boards on community investment provisions included in Requests for Proposals.