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New Mexico Economic Development Department Announces \$1.4 Million to Help Diversify Economies Around NM Federal Facilities

Community Meetings, Vulnerability Study will Help Protect Against Federal Defense Cutbacks

Santa Fe, NM - Today, the New Mexico Economic Development Department announced \$1.4 million to develop strategies to diversify economies in communities in and around New Mexico's military bases, national laboratories and other federal facilities.

"New Mexico is proud of our military bases and national labs," said New Mexico Economic Development Cabinet Secretary Job Barela. "Yet in the face of persistent challenges from the federal government, we must continue to diversify our economy in communities throughout the state. This funding, along with meetings in affected areas, will help us better support communities in improving their resilience to federal cutbacks."

This federal grant funding from the Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) will provide for a statewide study to identify workforce, technology, and product vulnerabilities, as well as resources that can be used to develop and implement plans and strategies to help those affected communities further adjust and diversify.

NMEDD will also host a series of community meetings in areas to be affected. These meetings are designed to bring stakeholders together to share information and encourage participation to keep communities informed and prepared regarding defense contractors and subcontractors, related service and goods providers, and other businesses and organizations that could be affected by federal defense cuts. State and local leaders and community economic development organizations will also be in attendance.

NMEDD's Defense Industry Adjustment Supply Chain Map and Portal (DIASCMP) will conduct these meetings at the following locations from 9 a.m. to 12 noon:

March 8 - District 1: San Juan College School of Energy - Conference Room
4601 College Boulevard
Farmington, New Mexico 87402

March 9 - District 2: Santa Fe Business Incubator - Conference Room
3900 Paseo del Sol
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507

March 11 - District 4: Eastern Plains Council of Governments - Conference Room
418 Main Street
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

March 16 - District 3: Air Force Research Laboratory – Conference Room
2350 Alamo Ave. SE (one block east of Yale Blvd. on the right)
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

March 22 - District 6: Pecos River Village Conference Center - Classroom
711 Muscatel
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

March 23 - District 6: Flickinger Center for Performing Arts - Small Auditorium
1110 N New York Ave.
Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310

March 24 - District 7: Dona Ana Community College Workforce Center,
Rooms 121 & 123
2345 E. Nevada Ave. (between Walnut & Triviz)
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001

In addition to the meetings and the study, these efforts will include the establishment of a permanent, New Mexico-focused web portal to share information and leverage assets with affected communities.

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