

Joint Observations and Lessons Learned

**Fernald and Rocky
Flats Citizens
Advisory Boards**



Fernald and Rocky Flats: Joint Observations and Lessons Learned

- Shared concern about future public involvement after the transition to Legacy Management (LM)
- Process used by LM and Congress to establish the Local Stakeholder Organizations (LSOs) was highly flawed and addressed only the needs of a minor constituency of local governments near Rocky Flats

Fernald and Rocky Flats: Joint Observations and Lessons Learned

- Development of the LSOs should have been more of a bottom-up approach that included all stakeholders
- The LSOs should have been modeled after the EM SSAB
 - Fatal flaw is that they will not have an advisory role
- Emphasis on local governments in the LSOs means the groups will be more political in orientation and will be impacted by turnover through term limits
 - Result will be loss of institutional knowledge and technical expertise

Fernald and Rocky Flats: Joint Observations and Lessons Learned

- LM needs to develop information and support programs to educate the public about the sites' histories and cleanup
- LM needs to be open to SSAB recommendations
- Average community members do not distinguish between EM and LM
 - DOE needs to make the transition more seamless and avoid “turf” issues
- Funding for LM activities may prove problematic in the future if Congressional and DOE priorities change