

**CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION
CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
A G E N D A**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2003 5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM, 250 N. 5TH STREET**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LAB CLOSURE**

[Attach 1](#)

The DOE is considering closing the analytical lab at its Grand Junction Office. This laboratory is recognized as an important economic driver for the Community. The RTC is asking the City to request the DOE to explore opportunities for privatizing the lab to preserve the jobs and revenues for the community before making a decision to close the lab.

Resolution No. 107-03 – A Resolution to Request the Department of Energy's Consideration of Privatization of the Grand Junction Office Laboratory

®Action: *Adopt Resolution No. 107-03*

Presentation: Bernie Buescher, Riverview Technology Corporation President

**Attach 1
DOE Lab Closure**

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA						
Subject	Riverview Technology Corp. & Dept. of Energy Analytical Lab					
Meeting Date	Special Meeting 11/12/03					
Date Prepared	11/10/03				File #	
Author	Bernie Buescher		RTC President			
Presenter Name	Bernie Buescher		RTC President			
Report results back to Council		No		Yes	When	
Citizen Presentation		Yes		No	Name	
	Workshop	X	Formal Agenda		Consent	X Individual Consideration

Summary:

The DOE is considering closing the analytical lab at its Grand Junction Office. This laboratory is recognized as an important economic driver for the Community. We are asking the City to request the DOE to explore opportunities for privatizing the lab to preserve the jobs and revenues for the Community before making a decision to close the lab.

Budget:

No dollars involved

Action Requested/Recommendation:

Adopt the attached Resolution requesting the DOE to consider and negotiate privatization of the lab.

Attachments: Resolution

Background Information:

In 1991, the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County created the Riverview Technology Corp., (RTC) as a non-profit corporation for the purpose of taking ownership of the DOE compound located on Orchard Mesa. The purpose of the transition was to decrease the occupancy costs for the DOE and thereby encourage the DOE to maintain its presence in Grand Junction. Since the transition, the RTC has continually worked to improve and upgrade the site. One function at the DOE site is the analytical laboratory. It is currently operated by Teledyne Brown Corp. as a subcontractor to Stoller Corp. and currently employs 16 FTE at an average annual wage of \$52K. The DOE may close the analytical laboratory. Teledyne Brown has

made an unsolicited proposal to privatize the laboratory. The RTC is willing to negotiate with DOE and Teledyne Brown, or any other qualified operator, to facilitate the privatization of the lab rather than the closing of it.

RESOLUTION NO. 107-03

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO DISCUSS
OPTIONS THAT WOULD ALLOW THE LAB AT THE DOE COMPOUND TO REMAIN
OPEN**

WHEREAS, in 2001, Mesa County and the City of Grand Junction created Riverview Technology Corporation, as a non profit corporation for the purpose of taking ownership of the Department of Energy compound located at 2691 B ¾ Road, Grand Junction. The purpose of this transaction was to decrease the occupancy costs for the Department of Energy and thereby encourage the Department of Energy to maintain its presence in Grand Junction; and

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2001, the transition of the site to ownership by RTC was successfully completed, and since that date, the RTC has continually worked to improve and upgrade the site. The property is now owned by Riverview Technology Corporation and leased by RTC to the Department; and

WHEREAS, one of the functions at the site is the sampling laboratory, which is currently operated by Teledyne Brown Corporation as subcontractor to Stoller Corporation, the Department's general contractor; and

WHEREAS, this laboratory is recognized as an important economic driver for Mesa County; and

WHEREAS, both the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County are concerned that the Department of Energy may make a decision to close the laboratory. As part of the Deed conveying the site to Riverview Technology Corporation, the Department is obligated to remove the lab and remediate the site upon termination of activities in the lab; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Junction is advised that there have been proposals and discussions regarding the privatization of the laboratory and other opportunities for continuing the operation of the lab, either under auspices of Teledyne Brown Corporation or a new contractor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County have been assured that Riverview Technology Corporation is willing to defer the substantial remediation obligation of the Department if a privatization proposal can be negotiated, and that Riverview Technology Corporation is willing to make appropriate adjustments to the existing lease and allow Teledyne Brown or a new operator to assume that portion of the lease that applies to ongoing rent and operational costs for the laboratory.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION THAT the City Council strongly encourages the Department of Energy to enter into meaningful discussions with Riverview Technology Corporation, the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce and the Grand Junction Economic Partnership, as well as the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County in order to preserve the jobs and related economic activity generated by the operation of the laboratory. Mesa County and the City of Grand Junction have both devoted substantial time and resources towards working in partnership with the Department of Energy to reduce operating and occupancy costs. To close the laboratory without exploring all potential options would be a repudiation of the efforts Mesa County and the City of Grand Junction has made in developing a successful partnership with the Department.

Adopted this 12th day of November, 2003.

President of the Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk