



**Energy  
Communities Alliance**  
Local Concerns. National Impact.

## *Statement Of Principles*

### *Outlining The Relationship Between*

# *The U.S. Department Of Energy & Local Governments*

#### P R E A M B L E

The primary purposes of local government are to protect public health and safety, enhance citizens' quality of life, provide community services and promote economic prosperity. The mission of Energy Communities Alliance is to bring together local government officials in communities adjacent to Department of Energy (DOE) facilities to effectively address complex constituent, environmental, regulatory and economic development needs.

The mission of DOE is to enhance national security; insure the integrity and safety of the country's nuclear weapons; promote nuclear nonproliferation; support energy production and efficient energy use; ensure that safety legacies of the Cold War are met; permanently and safely dispose of the nation's radioactive waste; and to sponsor science and technology research and development.

Local governments adjacent to DOE facilities recognize the need to work closely and successfully with DOE to help the Department accomplish its mission. The Department recognizes that local governments adjacent to and impacted by DOE facilities are important advisors to its decision-making processes and offer important insights regarding environmental, socioeconomic, and other community impacts of Departmental actions.


Therefore, both the Department and ECA agree upon the following statement of principles:

- 1 The Department commits to work closely with local government officials as governmental partners on all DOE processes and activities that impact local communities.
- 2 The Department and local governments commit to maintain a timely, open and meaningful dialogue. As such, the Department and local governments share equally the responsibility to consult early and regularly with one another regarding actions that may affect the other and local governments will have direct access to Department field, site and headquarters officials.
- 3 The Department will utilize local governments as a central means for communicating and interacting with affected communities when developing new policies or local organizations impacting a community's health, safety, environment or economy.
- 4 Local governments and the Department will seek to identify and remove impediments that hinder a direct and mutually beneficial working relationship.
- 5 Local Government's and the Department commit to an open and direct communication process during the various phases of emergency response planning at DOE facilities.
- 6 Local governments commit to work with the Department to assist DOE to achieve infrastructure efficiencies in partnership with local governments.
- 7 The Department's field and site managers will be responsible for implementing this statement of principles at the local level.

  
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Chair  
Energy Communities Alliance

  
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Kyle E. McSlarrow  
Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy

  
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Vice-Chair  
Energy Communities Alliance

  
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Treasurer  
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Immediate Past-Chair