

Case Study for Rocky Flats Future Site Use Working Group

Issues

The US Department of Energy was required to seek input from the public as it closed a nuclear weapons plant just west of Denver, Colorado. A coalition of business owners and elected officials were charged by the DOE to find a way of obtaining recommendations from the community.

Process

This coalition asked CDR Associates for assistance in convening a group that would encompass all sectors of the community, and remain small enough to negotiate effectively. The role of this group was to review the broad concerns of all those affected by the closure, data regarding the clean up process, and possible configurations for the future use of the site.

Players

- U.S. EPA
- Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment
- U.S. Department of Energy
- Environmental groups, small and large landowners, peace and justice organizations, and development interests

Results

After a long, technically complex and often contentious negotiation, the entire group jointly drafted a consensus document making a variety of very specific recommendations to the U.S. Department of Energy regarding long-term future site use options.