



NEWS

**For Immediate Release
November 12, 2003**

DOE to Close Grand Junction Analytical Chemistry Laboratory

(Grand Junction, Colorado)—The Analytical Chemistry Laboratory at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) office in Grand Junction will be closing as a result of a continued reduction in the number of samples being generated from both internal operations and external customers. DOE has had to subsidize the cost of laboratory operations and, therefore, has determined that it is no longer cost-effective to continue operating the laboratory. The reduced level of services required could be more cost-effectively provided by existing commercial entities.

The company that manages the DOE laboratory, Teledyne Brown Engineering, Inc. (Teledyne), submitted an unsolicited proposal to contract directly with DOE (without competition) to operate the lab as a private entity. DOE reviewed the proposal and deemed that it did not meet the unique and innovative requirements for an unsolicited proposal as provided in the Federal Acquisition Regulations and, therefore, DOE did not accept Teledyne's proposal. DOE also cited that these services are readily available from the commercial sector and consequently should not be procured without competition.

The closure of the laboratory could affect as many as 16 contractor employees who either work in the laboratory or provide significant support services to it. The DOE Grand Junction prime contractor, S.M. Stoller Corporation (Stoller), and Teledyne, a subcontractor to Stoller, will prepare a plan for closure of the laboratory and determine what benefits can be provided to affected employees. The two companies are committed to exploring other opportunities for affected employees either at the Grand Junction facility or elsewhere in their companies.

The laboratory has commitments to external clients that extend into December. Laboratory closure is anticipated to happen in January 2004, with the exact date dependent on when the last samples are received in December.

Laboratory Closure
November 12, 2003
Page 2

News Contacts:

Donna Bergman-Tabbert	DOE Grand Junction Manager	(970) 248-6001
Wendee Ryan	Stoller Public Affairs Manager	(970) 248-6765