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Draft for Internal Discussion
Prepared at Request of Counsel - Attorn
2/5/99

Solutia Alabama Technology Program
[name to be developed]

What: Solutia Fund program to provide computers and/or related technology to public schools in and near Alabama communities with Solutia plants - Anniston, Decatur & Foley [to be named]

Why:
* Strengthen company ties to Anniston communities, creating positive impact [in advance of & during pending issues]
* Create identifiable company project with broad impact
* Respond to community needs identified by leadership
* Operate statewide program for consistency

Rationale: Supporting company's long-term commitment to science & technology education for benefit of communities in which it has a significant presence, in which its employees live and from which its future employees will come

Where:
Anniston: Calhoun, St. Clair & Talladega Counties
Decatur: Morgan, Lawrence & Limestone Counties
Foley: Baldwin County

Who: All public schools & school districts [county & city] eligible

Program:
* Offer to provide computers and/or related technology to improve technology access and programs, especially in sciences
* Solutia to work with small teams of educators from each school district to determine needs & how Solutia can best help
* Seek projects with broad impact within school district, complementing or expanding science & technology curriculum
* Priority on programs at high school level, but not restricted
* Initial program components in place by Fall 1999 or before

Timing: 3 year program commitment

Funding:
* Solutia Fund
* $250K/year -- $150K to Anniston area, $50K each to Decatur & Foley areas in first year [describe parameters generally to each community as $750-1,500 per school/year]

?

Probably want $150,000/yr

DSW 138415

Selection: * Small team of educators & Solutia plant employees for each school district to review needs and develop brief proposal; site manager to be member of each team
* CAP members to be included as appropriate
* Final decisions to be made by Solutia Fund

Announcing: * Initial announcement week of March 1
* Advance contact with school superintendents to outline program and enlist support
* News conference in each plant city at school related site - invite school officials, community leaders
* Seek endorsement from Governor, Alabama Department of Education, Alabama Association of PTOs & Alabama Association of School Boards
* Statewide news release; follow-up with weekly papers
* Provide information on program to community organizations, elected officials [but not to general broad individual mailing list, to avoid legal problems with approaching plaintiffs]
* Develop media plans for each grant announcement & implementation of specific programs

NOTES:

- How public should funding level be? If not public, how do school districts know what parameters of proposals should be?
- How to explain different funding levels for different plant communities if becomes evident?
- Simultaneous news announcements in all cities? Can statewide impact be obtained if not all announced on same day?
- If program is phased [with some areas involved only in years 2 or 3], it loses several important features: ability to have prompt impact in all areas around Anniston & ability to credibly call it a statewide program.
- Can or should elected officials be involved in some way in process of developing proposals?
- Announcement should "encourage" other businesses in communities & state to undertake comparable, compatible efforts. Consider whether any other form of outreach to other businesses would be beneficial, not considered presumptuous.

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