

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

December 10, 2019

Tim Korte (505) 697-3643 <u>Tim.Korte@nmgco.com</u>

FOURTH YEAR OF EMERA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARDS ANNOUNCED NEW MEXICO GAS COMPANY HANDS OUT \$751K TO 46 GROUPS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – This month New Mexico Gas Company has awarded \$751,000 to 46 innovation and economic development groups in the fourth year of a five-year program to boost economic development across New Mexico.

The awards are available through a \$5 million fund provided by NMGC's owner, Canadian-based energy company Emera Inc.

"We have received more interest as awareness about the Emera program has increased in recent years," said NMGC President Ryan Shell. "We're excited to be able to extend our reach across New Mexico."

This year's recipients include the Arrowhead Center at New Mexico State University, CNM Ingenuity at Central New Mexico Community College, the Office of Innovation Commercialization at New Mexico Institute for Mining and Technology and the University of New Mexico's Innovation Academy.

Awards went to regional economic development groups around New Mexico, including several in Albuquerque as well as those in Gallup, Las Cruces, Raton, Rio Rancho, Santa Teresa, Silver City and Socorro.

The company takes a broad view of economic development and gifts also went to community support programs such as Abrazos Family Support Services in Bernalillo, Meals on Wheels in Albuquerque, the New Mexico United soccer team's Community Corner as well as to the New Mexico Philharmonic and the National Hispanic Cultural Center Foundation.

The Emera Economic Development Fund was created after Emera acquired NMGC in July 2016. The program is funded at Emera shareholder expense, meaning NMGC customers will not see any rate increase because of the awards.

"These community investments will promote business growth, job creation, quality of life and economic opportunities for New Mexico residents," Shell said.

After this round of contributions, about \$750,000 remains for the program's final year which will be awarded in the Fall of 2020.

About New Mexico Gas Company

As the largest natural gas distribution utility in the state, New Mexico Gas Company serves 527,000 customers in 27 New Mexico counties. New Mexico Gas is a subsidiary of Emera Inc. Visit our website at <u>www.nmgco.com</u>

About Emera

Emera Inc. is a geographically diverse energy and services company headquartered in Halifax, Nova Scotia, with approximately \$32 billion in assets and 2018 revenues of more than \$6.5 billion. The company primarily invests in regulated electricity generation and electricity and gas transmission and distribution with a strategic focus on transformation from high carbon to low carbon energy sources. Emera has investments throughout North America, and in four Caribbean countries. Emera's common and preferred shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange and trade respectively under the symbol EMA, EMA.PR.A, EMA.PR.B, EMA.PR.C, EMA.PR.E, EMA.PR.F and EMA.PR.H. Depositary receipts representing common shares of Emera are listed on the Barbados Stock Exchange under the symbol EMABDR and on The Bahamas International Securities Exchange under the symbol EMAB. Additional Information can be accessed at <u>www.emera.com</u> or at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.