

Emera awards \$200,000 to Arrowhead Center

LAS CRUCES, N.M. – As part of an effort to promote regional economic development, the New Mexico Gas Company and its owner, Emera Inc., have awarded \$200,000 to the Arrowhead Center at New Mexico State University.

Emera Chief Executive Officer Chris Huskison and Gas Company President Ryan Shell presented the award to University President Garrey Carruthers and University Vice President for Economic Development Kevin Boberg on Tuesday.

“We are excited to be supporting innovation and business growth at the Arrowhead Center, which is making a positive difference as an economic development engine for southern New Mexico,” Huskison said.

The Arrowhead Center is a university-affiliated effort to commercialize technology to help small businesses start up and grow.

The award will increase capital investment for innovation-based ventures by funding training programs and business model development. The Arrowhead Center also funds micro-grants for technical assistance and market research.

When it acquired New Mexico Gas Company last summer, Emera and New Mexico Gas Company agreed with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission’s Utility Staff and the New Mexico Attorney General’s office _ with the approval of PRC commissioners _ to establish a \$5 million economic development fund to support projects in New Mexico communities. This contribution is part of that effort.

“This contribution by Emera to NMSU is exciting,” Shell said. “The se funds contributed by Emera will not affect natural gas rates for customers but hopefully will stimulate business growth and development in New Mexico.”

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New Mexico Gas Co., the largest natural gas distribution utility in New Mexico, serves about 520,000 customers across New Mexico. New Mexico Gas is a subsidiary of Emera Inc., a geographically diverse energy and services company headquartered in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.