## New Mexico Gas Company Honored by EPA as 2016 ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year

(ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.) – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized New Mexico Gas Company with a 2016 ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year Award for its outstanding efforts to increase adoption of energy-efficient programs, products and services. NMGC's accomplishments will be recognized in Washington, D.C., on April 13, 2016.

"We are proud to receive this award," said Steve Casey, manager of NMGC's energy efficiency programs. "Through our work, we have demonstrated our commitment to environmental stewardship, lower energy costs to our customers and we remain committed to continuing to enhance our energy efficiency programs."

NMGC has won an ENERGY STAR® award for seven straight years and the ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year Award in five of the past seven years.

"As a leader in ENERGY STAR® program implementation, NMGC is helping transform the energy efficiency market," said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. "Using ENERGY STAR® resources, NMGC is expanding access to energy-saving practices to grow the economy and protect the environment."

Since its inception in 1992, ENERGY STAR® and its partners have helped prevent a total of more than 2.4 billion metric tons of greenhouse emissions. In 2014 alone, ENERGY STAR® and its partners provided more than \$11 billion in societal benefits due to reducing damages from climate change.

NMGC's energy efficiency programs for residential customers include:

- · Free low-flow showerhead kits:
- · A rebate of up to \$500 for installing additional R-19 or greater insulation;
- · A rebate of up to \$300 for installing an ENERGY STAR®-certified tankless or condensing water heater with an energy factor of .90 or greater; and
- · A rebate of up to \$375 for installing a high efficiency gas furnace or boiler with an annual fuel utilization efficiency of 92 percent or higher.

NMGC also has a variety of programs for commercial customers and actively supports the low-income weatherization efforts of the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority's NM Energy\$mart program. More information is available online at <a href="MMGCO.com/energyefficiency">NMGCO.com/energyefficiency</a>.

For a complete list of 201 6 winners and information, and more information about ENERGY STAR's awards program, visit www.energystar.gov/award winners.

<u>New Mexico Gas Co.</u>, the largest natural gas distribution utility in New Mexico, is part of the TECO Energy family of companies. New Mexico Gas serves more than 515,000 customers across New Mexico. <u>TECO Energy Inc.</u> (NYSE: TE) is an energy-related holding company with regulated electric and gas utilities in Florida and New Mexico: <u>Tampa Electric</u>, <u>Peoples Gas System and New Mexico Gas Co</u>.

ENERGY STAR® is the simple choice for energy efficiency. For more than 20 years, people across America have looked to EPA's ENERGY STAR program for guidance on how to save energy, save money, and protect the environment. Behind each blue label is a product, building, or home that is independently certified to use less energy and cause fewer of the emissions that contribute to climate change. Today, ENERGY STAR is the most widely recognized symbol for energy efficiency in the world, helping families and businesses save \$362 billion on utility bills, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by more than 2.4 billion metric tons since 1992. Join the millions who are already making a difference at energystar.gov.