



New Mexico
GAS COMPANY®
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August 1, 2023

AEDO Review Committee
International Economic Development Council
734 15th Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Letter of Support for Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance (AREA) Accreditation

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of New Mexico Gas Company, this letter supports the Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance's application for accreditation as an economic development organization with the International Economic Development Council.

AREA is a fierce advocate for the development and growth of our regional economy and has taken significant steps over the past couple of years to reorganize into a model public/private partnership. Our company works with the AREA team on many files, and we fully support their mission, which is executed under the leadership of Danielle Casey as well as more than 40 public and private sector leaders in our four-county region (I serve on the AREA Board). AREA's proactive approach to identify opportunities, create and sustain strategic partnerships, and implement impactful programs, has made a substantial difference in the lives of businesses and residents alike.

AREA has a new, bold five-year strategic plan. Its development brought together partners across our region for the first time, ensuring aligned efforts and better outcomes, to the benefit of all who live and work in our communities.

As well, we have been working directly with the AREA team for an enhanced business attraction program and are seeing significant strides in proactive client outreach and prospect development.

Our company is fully invested in AREA. We have financially supported the organization for decades, our leadership devotes volunteer time in support of their mission, and we look forward to continuing our commitment to AREA's success.

We are available and keen to assist AREA through next steps in the accreditation process.

With best regards,

Ryan Shell
President