



## Press Release

### **TRES AMIGAS APPOINTS MR. DAVID STIDHAM AS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

*New Headquarters in Santa Fe Opens with Visit from New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson*

**SANTA FE, N.M. – August 4, 2010** – Tres Amigas, LLC today announced the appointment of Mr. David Stidham as the company’s Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Stidham is a noted engineer with experience in electric utility transmission and distribution system design, as well as utility operations and regulatory affairs. Mr. Stidham will lead various interconnection and regional council coordinating processes for Tres Amigas. According to Phil Harris, the founder and CEO of Tres Amigas, “Mr. Stidham’s vast knowledge of the power grid in the southwest, his executive leadership in the region and his personal knowledge of the renewable industry’s needs will be a valuable asset to Tres Amigas and all the customers that utilize Tres Amigas services.”

For the past eight years, Mr. Stidham has been involved in the design and construction of large-scale wind energy farms and other renewable energy projects in various states throughout the United States. During this time, he was Senior Project Manager overseeing the design and construction of the Roscoe Wind Farm in Texas, the largest wind farm in the United States. This project utilizes 627 wind turbines to generate 782 megawatts of power and was constructed at a cost of more than \$1 billion. The Roscoe Wind Farm created thousands of jobs and provides enough power for approximately 250,000 average Texan homes. Prior to that, Mr. Stidham was the Director of Transmission Engineering and Right of Way at SPS/Xcel Energy where he was responsible for transmission line design and land permits for Xcel’s 14 state service territory. Over the years, he held other positions at SPS/Xcel Energy in engineering distribution design, operations, substation design, and regulatory affairs.

Mr. Stidham is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas and a lifelong resident of Amarillo. He attended Texas Tech where he earned BSEE and MBA degrees. He is a Senior Member and past Section Chairman of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), a member of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers as well as the National Society of Professional Engineers.

Apart from his engineering accomplishments, Mr. Stidham is noted for his volunteer efforts in the community including serving as past President of the Amarillo Jaycees, past Secretary of the Board of Big Brothers/ Big Sisters of Amarillo, past Vice President of the High Plains Lighthouse for the Blind, member of Coors Cowboy Club, and past President of the Board of the 100 Club of Amarillo.

The appointment of Mr. Stidham coincides with the formal opening of Tres Amigas' new corporate headquarters in Santa Fe. On Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Governor Bill Richardson and other notables, including many electric utility and clean energy industry professionals, attended the opening. In a special ceremony, Governor Richardson unveiled a unique sculpture meant to capture the meaning of Tres Amigas' plans for the soon to be built electricity SuperStation in Clovis. The sculpture, created by New Mexico native Tracy H. Sugg, symbolically represents Tres Amigas' high tech interconnection of America's power grids as three female figures of different ethnicity proceeding around the Zia symbol. The sculpture represents the beauty of *Combined Energy*, which is the essence of the Tres Amigas SuperStation interconnection concept.

### **About Tres Amigas, LLC**

#### **[About Tres Amigas, LLC](#)**

Tres Amigas, LLC is uniting the nation's electric grid. Utilizing the latest advances in power grid technology, Tres Amigas is focused on providing the first common interconnection of America's three power grids to help the country achieve its renewable energy goals and facilitate the smooth, reliable and efficient transfer of green power from region to region. Tres Amigas, LLC is a merchant transmission entity composed of electric utility industry operational, technology and thought leaders. More information is available at [www.tresamigasllc.com](http://www.tresamigasllc.com).

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