

## **New Mexico Gas Company Announces Leadership Change**

**Albuquerque, N.M. (Oct. 29, 2014) – Annette Gardiner, president of New Mexico Gas Co. (NMGC), a TECO Energy subsidiary, has decided to leave the utility at the end of the year for personal reasons.**

"My years at New Mexico Gas Co. have been wonderful and rewarding, I am proud of what the company has become," Gardiner said. "We have made great progress integrating the two companies, and, now that the company is well on its way to the future, I've recently decided it is a good time for me to focus on family and the next chapter of my life."

Ryan Shell, vice president of Finance and Shared Services for NMGC, will become the new president effective Jan. 1.

"Annette Gardiner has been a strong leader of New Mexico Gas Co., and we are sorry to see her go," said John Ramil, TECO Energy president and chief executive officer. "Her management skills and no-nonsense approach have helped New Mexico Gas grow into the excellent company it is today."

TECO Energy recently completed a \$950 million acquisition of Albuquerque-based NMGC. With the addition of NMGC's natural gas operations, TECO Energy's utility subsidiaries now serve more than 1.5 million regulated electric and gas customers in Florida and New Mexico.

Gardiner joined New Mexico Gas Co. in 2009 after more than a decade at SEMCO Energy Gas Co.

Shell joined NMGC in 2009 and previously served as vice president of Finance, treasurer and controller. He received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Oakland University and a Master of Business Administration in Management from the University of New Mexico.

"I have been impressed with Ryan's capabilities over the past several months, and he has been instrumental to the integration of the companies," Ramil said.

New Mexico Gas Co., the largest natural gas distribution utility in New Mexico, is part of the TECO Energy family of companies. New Mexico Gas serves more than 513,000 customers across New Mexico. TECO Energy Inc. (NYSE: TE) is an energy-related holding company with regulated electric and gas utilities in Florida and New Mexico, including Tampa Electric, Peoples Gas System and New Mexico Gas Co. Other TECO Energy subsidiaries include TECO Coal, which owns and operates coal-production facilities in Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia.