

Proclamation

RATON PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

100TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, Raton Public Service Company was incorporated under the laws of the State of New Mexico and filed with the NM State Corporation Commission on April 22, 1919. The original incorporators were J.J. Shuler, W.H. Boan, William Arkell, S.A. Wiseman and C.A. Whited; and

WHEREAS, Raton Public Service Company was organized for the purpose of acquiring the properties, rights and franchise of The Raton Electric Light and Power Company, the privately owned electric utility located at 444 South First St. for the sum of \$65,000; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 1926 a new plant consisting of two 750 KW units was constructed on property acquired from the AT&SF Railroad and was completed in January 1927 at a cost of \$135,000; and

WHEREAS, from 1926 to 1946 Raton Public Service extended distribution lines and installed additional units during this time to meet increasing demand. In 1936 an additional building was constructed to house Unit #3 which could generate 1750KW. Units #1 & #2 were retired in 1946 and Unit #4 was added with a generation capacity of 4MW; and

WHEREAS, in 1929 the long-standing tradition of decorating downtown Raton for the Christmas season was started and in August of 1931, the RATON sign atop Goat Hill was brightly lit after being officially presented to the city by the Kiwanis Club. RPS has continued to provide power to the site as well as repair and maintain the sign that shines bright for all to see; and

WHEREAS, in 1960 Unit #5 was installed and was a state-of-the-art steam turbine with pneumatic controls and generation capabilities of 7.5 MW. This unit ran for 46 years and close to 365,000 hours but in 2006 was retired due to age, limited parts, coal supply and regulations; and

WHEREAS, Raton Public Service installed a 4.5 MW GE Jenbacher natural gas powered generation unit in 2017 and is used in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, RPS currently employs 19 full time positions between the business office operations, line distribution and power plant operations and is governed by a board consisting of 5 directors and 1 advisory board member. The mission of the RPS Board of Directors and employees has remained the same throughout the company's 100 years of existence: **We take pride in our company and take seriously the fiscal responsibility of providing the most reliable electric service and economical energy rates to the City of Raton and its ratepayers.**

NOW, THEREFORE, do I, James Neil Segotta Jr., Mayor of the City of Raton, New Mexico urge all citizens to participate in this milestone celebration and thank the Raton Public Service Company for their 100 years of exemplary service.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal and caused the Seal of the City of Raton to be affixed this 9th day of April, 2019.

ATTEST:

CITY OF RATON

Michael Anne Antonucci, City Clerk

James Neil Segotta Jr., Mayor

