



September 8, 2009

The New Mexico Building and Construction Trades Council (NMBCTC) is an alliance of 15 international construction labor unions; unions that are represented in nearly all aspects of today's construction labor market in New Mexico, and who have geographical jurisdiction in the State through their respective Collective Bargaining Agreements. The NMBCTC is comprised of many of the most highly skilled, productive and safety conscious craftspeople in the construction workplace today. Statewide, we have collectively embraced a new approach founded upon the strength of our being a most valued and trusted business partner. We have demonstrated this through our concerted commitment toward world-class skills development, safety initiatives, apprenticeship programs, and, a 21st century labor/management model that is founded upon the principles of performance, pride, cooperation and partnership. We firmly believe that interest-based relationships are a primary component of future success, and have worked to enhance these types of positive relationships with numerous organizations—both public and private, municipalities, and federal installations across the state.

Additionally, we feel that we have the best training facilities in the state. Many of these facilities have undergone expansive improvements in the past 5 years and have the capacity and expertise to train workers in the newest construction methodology including green building initiatives, and large-scale renewable power resource development and systems. From residential to commercial, from highways to industrial we are the best choice for providing safety conscious and productive skilled workers.

Of course, one of the things we are most proud of is the tremendous relationship we have with our signatory contractors. We have forged a proactive approach to collective bargaining that allows for flexibility and maximum profitability to those contractor-employers. We salute these contractors who have the integrity to reward their workforce with the most fair combination of wages, health insurance, pension plans and apprentice-training opportunities.

The officers of the NMBCTC subscribe to a code of professionalism that includes the highest of ethical standards, honesty, leadership and strategic planning. The current and former officers of this council have demonstrated an ability to consistently implement and support innovative programs, which include the founding of Build New Mexico, and, Union Savings Bank. On the legislative/political front the NMBCTC works with elected officials to formulate legislation and regulations which foster positive economic growth and to promote workers rights regardless of union affiliation. We are committed to support responsible growth throughout the state, and we support numerous civic and community initiatives.

Like all evolving organizations, the NMBCTC encounters misperceptions with regard to our mission and must work to successfully communicate our core values to the end-users and contractors with whom we are affiliated. Included are the values of work completed to the highest possible standards and cost efficiency, as well as the value of safety.

While we stand behind the basic principals of collective bargaining and workers rights issues, we also must take exception to the tactics used by other organizations as they strive to achieve their own goals; tactics that serve to fracture a construction marketplace that is already in the midst of difficult economic times. It is for this reason that we urge a spirit of understanding, and the cooperation necessary to lay the foundation for interest-based relationships in the future.

Signed,



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Executive Director

New Mexico Building and Construction Trades Council

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