



December 21, 2009

## **El Paso Electric Announces New Vice President of Special Projects**

The El Paso Electric Board of Directors has appointed Nathan T. Hirschi, CPA to serve as Vice President, Special Projects. In that position, Hirschi will be responsible for reviewing organizational issues for cost efficiency. He will also assist in Texas and New Mexico rate filings.

Hirschi has more than 23 years of public accounting and financial services experience with a focus on Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) registrants and public utilities. Most recently, Hirschi worked with KPMG LLP, where he held various positions throughout his 23-year employment, including Partner, Assurance.

Hirschi received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Arizona. He is a Certified Public Accountant and holds certification from Texas and New Mexico. He is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

El Paso Electric is a regional electric utility providing generation, transmission and distribution service to approximately 367,000 retail and wholesale customers in a 10,000 square mile area of the Rio Grande valley in west Texas and southern New Mexico. El Paso Electric has a net dependable generating capability of 1,643 MW. El Paso Electric's common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol EE.