



February 9, 2009

El Paso Electric Issues Request for Proposals for 50 MW Baseload Power Supply

On February 9, 2009, El Paso Electric (EPE) issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to determine how to best obtain additional long-term, low cost and reliable electric resources with baseload power capability beginning on June 1, 2010. The requirements in the RFP are based on EPE's need for long-term stable baseload resources either through purchased power agreements or existing generation meeting an 80 percent annual availability factor beginning early summer 2010 with a minimum term of 5 years and a maximum term up to 20 years.

EPE's RFP is posted on its website at: [Request for Proposals for 50 MW Baseload Power Supply](#).

A "Notice of Intent to Bid" should be submitted by 5 p.m. MT on February 20, 2009.

El Paso Electric is a regional electric utility providing generation, transmission and distribution service to approximately 363,000 retail and wholesale customers in a 10,000 square mile area of the Rio Grande valley in west Texas and southern New Mexico. EPE has a net dependable generating capability of approximately 1,503 MW. EPE's common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol EE.