

# EXHIBIT 1

## Trident Energy Services, Inc. – Background & Experience Statement

### Company Background and Experience

Trident Energy Services, Inc. (Trident) is an independent consulting firm (a Colorado registered corporation) based in Longmont, Colorado serving clients nationally with an emphasis on the Rocky Mountain States. Trident's specialty is providing energy performance contracting program development, implementation, and support services to State Energy Offices. In addition, Trident consults to State, County, and Municipal Governments, Federal Agencies, Higher Education, Junior and Community Colleges, K-12 Education, Healthcare, and other agencies.

For the past twenty plus years, Trident's founder, John Canfield's primary professional focus has been on energy performance contracting. In 1990, he co-founded a nationally successful energy services company named Highland Energy Group. Over a seven year period, Highland grew from a four-person company to a nearly 40-person corporation that developed and implemented energy performance contracting projects in a half dozen states. In 1997, Highland was purchased and merged with an east coast-based utility owned ESCo called EUA Cogenex. After helping manage this transition, Mr. Canfield left Cogenex and in 1999, established his present company, Trident Energy Services, Inc.

The nature of Trident's business requires us to be independent from energy service companies (ESCOs), other energy-related firms, engineering firms, installation contractors, and mechanical service companies that conduct work for state, and local governments. Trident will continue to maintain its independence from energy, engineering, contracting, and like firms in its function as a consultant for the State of Montana, but will strive to foster trusting professional relationships with these companies to the benefit of the State and its EPC participants.

Today, Trident's highly skilled engineers and consultants provide a network of experienced energy performance contracting resources to support the successful implementation of state energy performance contracting programs by directly supporting state and local government with their comprehensive energy performance contracting projects.

### Experience in Consulting to State Governments

#### State of Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Trident was competitively selected to provide EPC consulting services to the *State of Montana's Department of Environmental Quality's EPC program* and has been under contract since February 2010. Trident presently is working with the University of Montana and Montana State University assisting and supporting their respective energy performance contracting programs.

In addition Trident consults to the following State Agencies on similar endeavors:

- Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation, and Governor's Energy Office
- State of Utah Division of Facilities and Construction Management
- State of Wyoming's Energy Conservation Improvement Program