

NEW MEXICO *True* ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Secretary Matt Geisel, Stampede Meat Cut Ribbon on Food Processing Manufacturing Facility

Sunland Park, N.M. – Today, Economic Development Secretary Matt Geisel was joined by Stampede Meat executives and local officials for the ribbon-cutting ceremony on the company's modern manufacturing facility. Stampede Meat received thousands of applications during the initial hiring phase that started in October 2018. When the facility opens, they will have over 300 employees. As the construction progresses throughout the first quarter of 2019 new positions will become available. By the year 2024, Stampede Meat will have a workforce of nearly 1,300 employees.

"After years of hard work to create a business-friendly environment, companies are choosing New Mexico because they know they are welcome here," said Economic Development Secretary Matt Geisel. "Today, our commitment to critical economic development tools is paying off as we celebrate Stampede Meat's expansion to Sunland Park and next round of hiring."

"We are thrilled to be here today celebrating Stampede's first expansion outside of the Chicagoland area," said Stampede Meat CEO Brock Furlong. "The support and excitement from the entire state of New Mexico, especially the community of Sunland Park, has been positively overwhelming."

In July, Stampede Meat announced they were expanding to Sunland Park creating up to 1,295 new food processing and manufacturing jobs over the next five years. The company is investing more than \$36 million in renovating their facility.

"The ability for various groups like MVEDA, the State of New Mexico, the NMPartnership, and the City of Sunland Park, to come together in a seamless effort to work on attracting a company like Stampede, is a significant vantage point not found in every state & community," said MVEDA President & CEO Davin Lopez. "Because of that joint effort, we are now fortunate to be part of this monumental ribbon cutting here in the New Mexico Borderplex!"

Stampede was founded in 1995 and is headquartered in Bridgeview, Illinois.

"We are delighted that Stampede Meat, Inc. chose Sunland Park as their new home," said Sunland Park Mayor Javier Perea. "In the few months they have been working on getting their facility ready for production, we have come to know each other and become great friends. The company has been very supportive of our local events and we have worked with them diligently to help them fill hundreds of jobs needed for their first phase of production."

Stampede Meat will be supported by New Mexico's closing fund, LEDA, as well as the Job Training Incentive Program, JTIP. LEDA is New Mexico's closing fund, a tool that recruits new businesses to the state while helping those that are already here grow and thrive. Governor Martinez fought to grow the closing fund to \$56 million, up from nearly zeroed out when she took office.

Under the leadership of Governor Martinez, New Mexico has bolstered economic development tools, cut taxes and fees 61 times, and rolled back unnecessary regulations and red tape to create a business-friendly environment in New Mexico. Governor Martinez established the Catalyst Fund, Innovation Vouchers, the SBIR Matching Grant, and the Credit Enhancement Program to help homegrown New Mexico technology startups grow and thrive. As a result of these tools, reforms, and investments, New Mexico continues to recruit global and national companies like Facebook, Keter Plastic, Safelite and others, while helping homegrown businesses like Descartes Labs, UbiQD, RS21, and others grow and thrive as well.

About Stampede Meat:

Stampede Meat, Inc., headquartered in Bridgeview, Illinois, processes and distributes portioned, marinated and cooked beef, chicken, and other protein products for restaurants, retail, home delivery and other channels. For more information, please visit www.stampedemeat.com.

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