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TEP LOANS EXECUTIVE TO LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Tucson, Ariz. – A Tucson Electric Power (TEP) research and forecasting expert will be devoting his time in 2006 to boosting local economic development efforts.

Pat Patton, Ph.D., Director of Economic Forecasting, Research and Development for TEP, will spend the year on loan to Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities (TREO), a private, non-profit economic development agency.

“For TREO to succeed, the private sector needs to play a significant supporting role,” said Steven W. Lynn, Vice President of Communications and Government Relations for TEP. “Loaning Pat to TREO demonstrates TEP’s commitment to the success of TREO and to economic development in eastern Pima County.”

Patton will devote full-time efforts to TREO in the areas of economic and fiscal impact analysis, strategic planning and other special projects. Last year, Lynn volunteered for six months as the agency’s interim president through an agreement with TEP, further demonstrating the company’s support for TREO.

“TEP has contributed greatly to the launch of TREO, representing an investment in excess of \$100,000. We greatly appreciate the expertise and experience we’ve received,” said Joe Snell, TREO President and CEO. “Steve helped us get off to a great start, and Pat clearly has the skills to help us make a significant contribution to this community’s bottom line.”

About Tucson Electric Power Company

TEP, a subsidiary of UniSource Energy Corporation (NYSE: UNS), delivers safe, reliable power to more than 380,000 customers in southern Arizona. For more information about TEP, visit www.tep.com. For more information about UniSource Energy, visit www.uns.com.

About TREO (Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities, Inc.)

Tucson’s newest regional economic development entity was created to provide insight, infrastructure, resources and development efforts that will ensure ongoing economic prosperity throughout the Southern Arizona region. TREO’s programs support a regional economic development environment that allows all businesses (micro, small and large) to grow and thrive. For more information, call 243-1900 or visit www.treoaz.org.