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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GVEC Breaks Ground for Its New Western Operations Center

*New Facility to Replace Existing Operation Centers,
Accommodate Growth in Guadalupe County*

Seguin, Texas – January 19, 2010 – The Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVEC) took the next major step in its long-range facilities plan to keep pace with its growing membership by breaking ground on its new Western Operations Center in Seguin. The groundbreaking was held at the current Seguin Warehouse Operations Center on 1400 W. Kingsbury in Seguin due to recent muddy conditions at the new Western Operations Center site at IH-10 and Nickerson Farms Road in Seguin. The facility is scheduled for completion in early 2011.

“By celebrating the beginning of the construction phase of this new Western Operations Center, we are taking the next important step in ensuring the future of affordable and reliable electric service to our members,” said GVEC General Manager and CEO Darren Schauer. “The Western Operations Center is an integral part of an ongoing, proactive and strategic approach to meeting the needs of a growing service territory. This new facility will help position GVEC to effectively meet growth demands well into the future.”

In attendance were GVEC Board of Directors, GVEC employees, Representative Edmund Kuempel, Judge Mike Wiggins, guests from the Seguin, Schertz, and La Vernia Chambers of Commerce, and other area business and community leaders.

Western Operations Center Groundbreaking

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This facility will allow GVEC to consolidate operations in Seguin, Schertz, and La Vernia and replace aging facilities in Seguin. GVEC expects enhanced efficiencies in purchasing and material handling and better redundancy for critical information management systems, outage prediction, and meter reading systems.

In addition, the building will incorporate renewable and conservation-related design and building processes ranging from eco-friendly construction materials to drought-tolerant landscape, design as well as solar water heating and wind generation. The center is also designed to meet construction standards of LEED certification. LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

The Western Operations Center, which is a \$15 million project, is the final milestone in GVEC's long-range facilities plan to keep pace with growing member needs.

GVEC is an electric cooperative that serves over 66,000 meters across 13 Texas counties. The service area spans 3,500 square miles across South Central Texas. The headquarters is located in Gonzales, Texas, with four area offices in the cities of Schertz, Seguin, La Vernia and Cuero.

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