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Governor Susana Martinez Announces Massive Expansion of Las Cruces Warehouse and Distribution Company

Homegrown company to build 105,000 square-foot warehouse, invest nearly \$14 million, and create up to 33 jobs in Santa Teresa

Santa Teresa, NM - Today, Governor Susana Martinez announced the massive expansion of a homegrown warehouse and distribution company. Valley Cold Storage and Transportation, which ships goods in New Mexico and Texas, will invest \$14 million to build a new 105,000 square-foot facility and create up to 33 jobs -- tripling their current workforce. New Mexico beat out Texas for the expansion.

"We're proud to see homegrown businesses lead the way in growing and diversifying our economy," said Governor Martinez. "This is a company that could have chosen anywhere in the region to expand, but they chose to stay right here in New Mexico. It's another great example of what is possible when we cut taxes and make our state more competitive."

This new facility will be the third major expansion in Santa Theresa's 166-acre Westpark Logistics Center in the last six months. It follows the expansions of MCS Frames and FedEx Ground. Westpark is the first new industrial park to be built in Santa Teresa in the last 15 years, and other tenants FedEx and MCS have both built new facilities totaling nearly 500,000 square feet.

"Once again, our business-friendly reforms have helped a homegrown company expand," said Economic Development Secretary Matt Geisel. "The Governor's commitment to making New Mexico more competitive continues to deliver results - helping our businesses grow and thrive."

The Economic Development Department will contribute \$140,000 in LEDA funds toward the construction of the new cold storage facility. 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.

Since Gov. Martinez signed the 2011 Border Jobs package her first year in office, dozens of manufacturing, logistics and warehousing businesses have expanded or located in Santa Teresa, including Union Pacific's state-of-the-art \$400 million intermodal rail facility. This has led to the creation of hundreds of well-paying jobs and new housing and retail in New Mexico's border region.

"We want to thank the Governor, the New Mexico Economic Development Department, the New Mexico Economic Development Partnership and the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance for partnering with us to make this project a reality," said Valley Cold Storage and Transportation Owners Clay and Jennifer Bush. "The LEDA incentives provided by New Mexico were a major factor in allowing us to make our expansion in Santa Teresa."

Valley Cold Storage and Transportation, headquartered in Las Cruces, offers state-of-the-art refrigeration and transportation services to the retail, food service, food distribution, and agriculture industries of southern New Mexico and western Texas.

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