



U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Signs Monumental MOUs with Blue Wave SDP and Hispanics in Energy

Santa Fe, New Mexico, May 2, 2022 – Last week, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) signed two new Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to grow the Chamber's partnerships with leading companies and organizations supporting Hispanic business growth in the U.S.

The agreement with Blue Wave International Supplier Development Platform looks to amplify the Chamber's product offering for Hispanic Business Enterprises (HBEs), while the understanding with the industry-focused non-profit, Hispanics In Energy (HIE), affirms the USHCC's commitment to supporting Hispanics and HBEs flourish within the energy sector.

Blue Wave is a leading, scalable, and bilingual automated supplier development platform. It is focused on transforming the supply chain landscape across all sectors by establishing alliances with large corporations, associations, and governments. Furthermore, it helps diverse and local small businesses understand the international standards and qualification requirements they need to secure contracts. Blue Wave's comprehensive platform incorporates the methodologies, technologies, and training curricula required to help suppliers develop through self-assessments, gap reporting, mitigation plans, and development workshops.

HIE is a community-driven organization that facilitates Hispanic inclusion across America's energy industry. The organization works closely with state utility commissions, state legislators, and federal entities to develop statutes, regulations, procedures, and standards that promote greater opportunities for Hispanic-owned business contracts with regulated utilities, including energy, communications, water, and related services. States with established supplier diversity regulations include California, Illinois, Arizona, and Minnesota. It is active with the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC) and major national energy trade associations. By and engaging stakeholders, HIE works to make an impact on policy and practices, industry standards, and appointed officials within the energy sector.

Each MOU establishes the following:

- Blue Wave: The company will provide services for the Hispanic Supplier Development program, including the education, training, building capacity, and providing leadership development for HBEs associated with the USHCC Educational Fund. This dynamic service offering will be available to all 260 Hispanic Chambers of Commerce throughout the United States. Launching the first pilot HBE group by fall 2022.
- HIE: Both organizations will work to increase procurement opportunities by establishing metrics based on consumer demographics and potential growth of Hispanic-owned businesses, c-suite recruitment, and access to capital for HBEs and Hispanic professionals to further evolve in the energy sector.

Alma Del Toro and Eduardo Nunez, Blue Wave Co-Founders explain, "Blue Wave is honored with the opportunity to collaborate with the USHCC and working together to build strong and capable diverse suppliers by making Blue Wave's program available and possible to all the 260 Hispanic Chambers of Commerce across the United States. Blue Wave's collaborative business model drives value to all stakeholders and contributes building equitable wealth distribution and true sustainable economic development across the Hispanic community."



Hispanics In Energy President, José L. Pérez says, “It is a privilege to find partners as committed to our mission as the USHCC. We are confident that through this memorandum, we are creating more opportunities for Hispanics throughout the energy sector in jobs, contracts, governance, and policymaking. We see tremendous opportunity across both renewable and traditional energy and know that the U.S. Hispanic population is talented, prepared, and enthusiastic to meet the new demands of the industry. We look forward to our collaboration on behalf of America’s Hispanic business community.”

USHCC President and CEO, Ramiro A. Cavazos, adds, “It was so timely for us to sign both MOUs during our inaugural Energy Summit. As three organizations that have a shared mission of elevating Hispanic talent within the energy industry through knowledge sharing and talent promotion, I’m confident that these new partnerships will bring a lot of shared value to the Chamber and all our members.”

This MOUs were signed during the Chamber’s first Inaugural Energy Summit, hosted in Santa Fe, New Mexico in partnership with the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce and corporate sponsors, Avangrid and PNM. The summit hosted more than 300 people from corporate, public, non-profit, and chambers of commerce, to discuss the future of innovation and clean energy in the United States and the pivotal role that the Hispanic community plays in its growth.

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About USHCC

The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) actively promotes the economic growth, development, and interests of five million Hispanic-owned businesses, that combined, contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy every year. The USHCC is America's largest small business advocacy group, representing more than 260 local chambers and business associations nationwide, and partners with hundreds of major American corporations. For more information, please visit ushcc.com. Follow us on Twitter @USHCC.

About Blue Wave

Blue Wave was created with a clear mission to “Change the world, one supplier at the time” to build sustainable economic development across all communities. To build a scalable and accessible solution, to fix a big problem the limited Supplier Diversity Capability. Blue Wave transforms the landscape creating opportunities for all the stakeholders. We help diverse suppliers understand the standards required by major corporations and we develop them to compete for higher added value projects. Blue Wave’s collaborative model operates in the USA and abroad working with Global Corporations across all sectors, with Governments, NGO’s and Associations driven by their ESG agenda. <https://bluewavesdp.com>

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About Hispanics in Energy

Created in 2012 as a public benefit corporation, Hispanics In Energy is designed to drive Hispanic participation in America’s three trillion-dollar industry in all energy sectors. HIE has organized policy forums and testified before Congressional hearings, legislative hearings, and regulatory hearings on issues affecting the mission of the organization. HIE conducted “Jobs in Energy” forums in Chicago, Bakersfield, Las Cruces, Denver, Philadelphia, Charlotte, and Detroit. HIE conducts research and



publishes white papers on vital issues. HIE has successfully created mandates, regulations, and procedures to promote Hispanic inclusion in business, jobs, corporate governance, Spanish language access, environment, and policy. HIE is based in Sacramento, CA, and is the premier national Hispanic organization designed for America's energy sector.

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