



Iowa Business Council

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News Release

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Iowa Business Council Elects New Officers

March 21, 2005 – (Des Moines, IA) – Todd M. Raba, President, MidAmerican Energy Company, and Max A. Phillips, President, Qwest Iowa, were recently named Chair and Vice Chair respectively of the Iowa Business Council at its March 17th quarterly Council meeting. New officers are elected annually by Iowa Business Council members to provide leadership for its efforts to enhance Iowa's economic vitality. Membership in the Council is by invitation only and includes the top executives of 23 of Iowa's largest employers.

Raba replaces John Forsyth, outgoing Chair and Chairman & CEO of Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Iowa. "I am pleased to announce the appointment of Todd Raba as Chair and Max Phillips as Vice Chair of the Iowa Business Council," said Forsyth. "Their leadership in business and their personal commitment to Iowa's economic growth will do much to advance the Council's goals and improve our state."

Raba joined MidAmerican Energy Company in 1997 as Sales Vice President, where his responsibilities included sales to major accounts, and later expanded to include all sales and marketing functions. In 2001, he was named as Senior Vice President, Delivery Service, Information Technology and Governmental Affairs; and in 2004, he was named President. Prior to joining MidAmerican Energy Company, Raba held a variety of leadership positions in the environmental services industry in the Northeast United States for 18 years.

Phillips has a diverse 25-year career with Qwest in the areas of sales, marketing, regulatory affairs and public policy. He was named State President for Qwest's Iowa operations in 2000. Phillips chairs the IBC subcommittee on Early Childhood Education, serves on the executive committee of the Greater Des Moines Partnership, is President of the Woodward-Granger school's Board of Directors, is a member of the Wells Fargo Community Board, and has been involved in the areas of economic development and educational reform at the state level.

The Iowa Business Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization of the top executives of 23 of Iowa's largest businesses and three Regent universities, employing over 150,000 Iowans statewide with capital assets of \$20 billion. The purpose of the Council is to focus the active personal commitment of the leaders of Iowa's major employers in statewide leadership roles to enhance Iowa's economic vitality. Council members identify major business issues, evaluate options and assist in implementing solutions through collaborative public/private partnerships.

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