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Natural State Stewardship Program: Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment Announces ABB's U.S. Motors/Generators Headquarters in Fort Smith as Diamond Member

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The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment ("E&E") issued a November 17th news release stating that ABB Inc. ("ABB") has become a Diamond Member in the Natural State Stewardship Program ("NSTEP").

The announcement was made during a facility tour and induction ceremony held on November 13th at ABB's U.S. Motors and Generators headquarters in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

E&E describes NSTEP as:

... a voluntary stewardship program that provides recognition for organizations in Arkansas that excel in sustainability practices, the conservation of Arkansas' natural resources, or the advancement in education in their communities.

NSTEP contains three membership levels:

- Quartz
- Turquoise
- Diamond

E&E Secretary Shane Khoury states in part:

... The NSTEP program is fundamentally about partnership, and ABB's dedication to stewardship is exactly the kind of leadership we look to celebrate in the Natural State... Their commitment, particularly their lower emissions targets and local initiatives like the Boys and Girls Club Garden Project, sets a powerful benchmark for other large manufacturers in Arkansas.

The E&E news release notes that as a Diamond Member ABB is committing to ongoing projects whose strategic goals include:

- Net-Zero Target: Achieving 100% reduction of Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.
- 90% reduction of Scope 3 emissions by 2050
- Circularity: Embedding circularity into at least 80% of products and systems by 2030.
- Community Stewardship: Supporting local environmental education through the Boys & Girls Club
 Garden Project, which emphasizes composting and food waste reduction.

ABB is described as a technological leader electrification and automation, enabling a more sustainable and resource-efficient future. 1.2 million electric motors are produces annually in Fort Smith that convert electricity into mechanical energy to do the work of industry, like powering pumps, conveyors, fans, and compressors. ABB has been present in Arkansas for decades, with major operations in Fort Smith, Jonesboro, and Ozark.

Previous companies who have qualified in the NSTEP program include:

- Dassault Falcon Jet
- Pratt & Whitney, PSD
- Arkansas Department of the Military
- FCC

A copy of the E&E news release can be found <u>here</u>.