



For Immediate Release  
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## American Crystal Board Elects Green Chairman

MOORHEAD, MINN. – December 1, 2011 – Robert Green, 57, St. Thomas, ND was elected chairman at American Crystal Sugar Company’s December 1 Board Reorganization meeting following the cooperative’s annual meeting. A director since 2005 representing the Drayton District, he has been a sugarbeet grower since 1976. Green also serves as a director for the American Sugarbeet Growers Association and served 12 years as a director of the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association.

Steve Williams, 60, was elected vice chairman at the same meeting. Williams has been a director since 2006. He has farmed near Fisher, Minnesota since 1987. Williams serves on the Board of Directors of the American Sugarbeet Growers Association and served as its President from 2006 to 2008. He is also a director of the Sugar Association and is the President of the Board of Directors for the Halstad Cooperative Telephone Company. Williams also served as a director of the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association from 1998 to 2007, and served as its Chairman from 2003 to 2007.

Green and Williams will begin their Board roles immediately replacing former chairman Neil Widner, 60, a farmer from Stephen, MN and director from the Drayton Factory District, and former vice chairman Curt Haugen, 50, a farmer near Argyle, MN and director from the East Grand Forks district. Both Widner and Haugen remain active Board members.

“I look forward to sustaining and building on the competitive momentum of American Crystal. We have a strong history of financial performance and success that indicates our strategic direction is clearly on the right path,” said Green. “The collaboration between the company’s shareholders, Board and management has yielded many successes including excellent beet payments, a good track record of operational investments, and strengthening political relationships.”

“American Crystal also has important challenges to address such as the renewal of the Sugar Program component of the Farm Bill, securing the future of biotech seeds for sugarbeets and successful conclusion of a new labor contract with our unionized workers,” Green continued. “Everyone should understand that the American Crystal Board remains fully committed to the Company’s strategy in the labor negotiations. Today’s change in Board leadership does not indicate any change in direction or in tactics in the labor situation.”