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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Kinder Morgan Foundation Donates \$5,000 to SMART

**Portland, Ore.** – The Kinder Morgan Foundation, affiliated with American energy company Kinder Morgan, has donated \$5,000 to SMART, which will be used to put 2,000 new books into the hands of Oregon children this year.

“We are so grateful for this donation from the Kinder Morgan Foundation,” said SMART Executive Director Chris Otis. “This year, we celebrate giving our 2-millionth book to an Oregon child, and gifts like these ensure we’ll be able to continue providing this vital access to books for children across the state.”



*Caption: Kinder Morgan representatives Allen Fore and Marco Ullmer present the \$5,000 donation to SMART Executive Director Chris Otis (center) and SMART staff.*

### **About Kinder Morgan**

Kinder Morgan is an American energy company that owns or operates approximately 75,000 miles of pipelines and 180 terminals in North America. The Kinder Morgan Foundation donates more than \$1 million annually to charitable causes involving youth in the areas of academic, art, and environmental education.

### **About SMART® (Start Making A Reader Today)**

SMART is a statewide nonprofit organization that envisions an Oregon where every child can read and is empowered to succeed. We partner with schools around the state and engage community volunteers to read one-on-one with PreK through third-grade children, helping strengthen literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. Since 1992, SMART has steadily grown to become Oregon’s largest volunteer literacy program. Children in the program receive 14 new books throughout the school year to keep and read with their families. Visit [www.getSMARToregon.org](http://www.getSMARToregon.org) or call 877-598-4633 to learn more about SMART.

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