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State Engineer Hires New Water Rights Director

(SANTA FE, New Mexico) – State Engineer John D’ Antonio has selected a new director for the Office of the State Engineer’s Water Rights Division in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Jim Sizemore will begin his position on May 11. Prior to accepting the position, he was the supervisor for the agency’s District I Office in Albuquerque, New Mexico from 2002 to 2004. In 1998, he worked with the agency’s Water Rights Division in Santa Fe. Before joining the Office of the State Engineer, Sizemore worked for the US Bureau of Reclamation and the US Army Corps of Engineers for a total of 26 years.

“Sizemore’s knowledge, familiarity with the agency, and wealth of experience will be assets to the Water Rights Division,” said State Engineer John D’Antonio.

A native of Springer, New Mexico, Sizemore earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from New Mexico State University, in 1976. Also, he is a registered professional engineer in the State of New Mexico.

The Water Rights Division administers surface water rights and initiates the processing of all protested water right applications within the state as well as ground and surface water rights in the northern part of the state.

(MORE)

The Office of the State Engineer is charged with administering the state's water resources. The State Engineer has power over the supervision, measurement, appropriation, and distribution of all surface and ground water in New Mexico, including streams and rivers that cross state boundaries. The State Engineer is also Secretary of the Interstate Stream Commission and oversees its staff.

The Interstate Stream Commission is charged with separate duties including protecting New Mexico's right to water under eight interstate stream compacts, ensuring the state complies with each of those compacts, as well as water planning.

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