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State Engineer Hires Engineer Specialist

(SANTA FE, New Mexico) – The New Mexico State Engineer has hired a new engineer specialist for the Hydrology Bureau in Santa Fe.

Laura Petronis is charged with performing hydrologic and hydrogeologic evaluations to support water rights administration, interstate stream compact compliance and water resources management.

“Petronis’ experience working with water resources models and conducting hydrogeologic investigations will be a great asset,” said State Engineer John D’Antonio.

Petronis was previously employed as a project hydrogeologist at John Shomaker and Associates, Inc.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Geology in 1996 from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. She earned a Master of Science degree in Earth and Planetary Sciences in 2001 from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is certified by the American Institute of Hydrology as a Professional Hydrogeologist.

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 groundwater 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 nine-member 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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