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State Engineer Hires New Community Liaison

(SANTA FE, New Mexico) – New Mexico State Engineer John D'Antonio announced that a Community Liaison was hired to work statewide for the Office of the State Engineer in an effort to better inform and educate citizens about the objectives and benefits of the Active Water Resource Management initiative.

Richard Trujillo began working for the agency on November 13, 2007. Prior to being hired he worked 11 years as administrator of water, wastewater, gas and solid waste operations for the City of Las Vegas. He supervised nearly 60 employees, administered $13 million in budgets, was responsible for approval and administration of all utility construction designs, and served as lobbyist for the city of Las Vegas, acquiring over $21 million for water and wastewater projects.

In addition, Trujillo worked more than 17-1/2 years for PNM, Public Service Company of New Mexico, in both electric and water sectors. He is experienced in water supply and filtration, distribution design and construction, drafting and design of highway and utility relocation permits, as well as new and existing overhead and underground residential and commercial electric system design and improvements and right-of-way relocations. He also worked for Bergstral, Shaw and Newman consulting firm as the utilities relocation and construction consultant.

"Trujillo's extensive experience working with people and his variety of related work experiences provides him with a background needed to work in the state as a liaison for the efforts of the agency," said State Engineer John D'Antonio. "He is well suited to work in public outreach."

Trujillo gained valuable education over a span of 15 years in the Engineering Technician program within PNM's electric operation design program. He is also certified through the Federal Energy Management Program by the U S Department of Energy in water resource management, surface and groundwater, pipeline safety, and emergency preparedness for utilities.

When away from work, Trujillo coaches basketball, baseball, and football, and enjoys hunting, fishing, and watercolor painting.

(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 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 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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