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State Engineer Hires New Roswell District Manager

(ROSWELL, New Mexico) – State Engineer John D’Antonio has promoted Kenneth Fresquez to District Supervisor for the Office of the State Engineer Roswell District Office. Fresquez, who has been serving as Acting District Supervisor for the Roswell Office for the past several months, officially began work as District Supervisor on May 3.

“Fresquez has proven to be a strong leader for the Roswell District Office, and I am confident that district operations will continue to run efficiently under his supervision,” said State Engineer John D’Antonio. “In addition, his experience and knowledge of the District II area will ensure that effective water management of the Pecos Basin will continue.”

Fresquez has been employed with the Roswell District for more than 23 years. Fresquez served as the former staff manager for the district. His main responsibility was to supervise and coordinate duties of the agency personnel working within the Pecos River Drainage Area.

As District Supervisor, Fresquez will manage the Roswell District Office, Water Rights Division, and the allocation and administration of water rights for both surface and groundwater within the Roswell District. The District Supervisor also acts as the State Engineer’s local representative for water and water right issues within the district.

The Roswell District administers water rights within the area of Southeastern New Mexico. This includes the Curry County Basin, Causey Lingo Basin, Lea County Basin, Jal, Capitan, Hondo Basin, Calsbad Basin, Roswell Artesian Basin, Peñasco Basin, Portales Basin, and the Ft. Sumner Basin.

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Fresquez was named District II Employee of the Year in 2005 and has been involved in many agency committees throughout the years.

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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