

Charles Thomas

Professional experience

November 2008 – Present

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Santa Fe, NM
Bureau Chief, Mine Reclamation Bureau

- Oversee the federal Coal and state Non-Coal Mine Permitting Programs statewide. This includes oversight of mine permits for extractive mining as well as exploration activities and \$900 million in financial instruments held by the Department for Financial Assurance.
- Oversee the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program, ensuring the reclamation and safeguarding of abandoned mines. This program is a federal program funded under the Surface Mine Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) at \$4.5 million annually.
- Oversee the development and implementation of the Mining and Minerals Division Strategic Plan and IT Plan.
- Oversee compliance with SMCRA Title IV and Title V, the Surface Mining Act (69-25A NMSA 1978) and the New Mexico Mining Act (69-36 NMSA 1978).
- Supervise 32 staff; assigned tasks and evaluated work products for quality, accuracy and compliance with existing policies and regulations.

February 2008 – November 2008

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Albuquerque, NM
Senior Engineer, Ground Water Quality Bureau

- Develop an Engineering Program for evaluation of construction plans and specifications to ensure constructed facilities will be protective of groundwater and comply with state Water Quality Act.
- Develop statewide design guidelines, construction standards, and material requirements for wastewater treatment and disposal facilities.
- Review plans and specifications for all active Discharge Permits (approximately 900).
- Provide oversight of 30 active industrial and municipal waste discharge permits.

August 2003 – February 2008

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Albuquerque, NM
Area Office Manager, Drinking Water Bureau

*****Acting Bureau Chief (May 2006 – December 2006)**

- Oversee compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and New Mexico Drinking Water Regulations (NMDWR) for the District One Area; approximately 390 water systems.
- Senior Engineer for the statewide Engineering Review Program. Reviewed projects from compliance with the NMDWR and general engineering design

standards for treatment, storage, distribution, and transmission.

- Coordinate with EPA on new Rule compliance strategies
- Developed the State of New Mexico Arsenic Strategy for implementation of the new Arsenic MCL.
- Supervised nine staff; assigned tasks and evaluated work products for quality, accuracy and compliance with existing policies and regulations.
- Assist with Drinking Water Bureau budget development and execution; track all employee allocations to ensure correct projects are charged.

July 2001 – August 2003

City of Albuquerque

Albuquerque, NM

Storm-water Project Engineer

- Responsible for implementing the City of Albuquerque Master Drainage Plan.
- Researched new storm drain improvements for the General Obligation Bond Program.
- Developed and negotiated new construction projects with consulting engineers.
- Managed storm-water construction projects from initial design through completion. Projects ranged from \$300,000 to \$2,000,000.

May 1998 – July 2001

NMED – Drinking Water Bureau

Santa Fe, NM

Technical Section Manager/Deputy Bureau Chief

- Manager of the Technical Section of the Drinking Water Bureau.
- Responsible for overseeing Engineering Review Program, Source Water Assessment & Protection, Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP).
- Responsible for implementation of new regulations, such as the Interim and Longterm Enhanced Surface Water Rules and the Disinfection Byproducts Rule.
- Provided training to DWB staff and the public on new Rules, existing regulations, and basic engineering and operational standards for public water systems.
- Responsible for development of the budget for the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund Set Asides, approximately 2.5 million dollars annually.
- Managed the technical assistance contract with the New Mexico Rural Water Association, which provided direct technical assistance to water systems for operational problems.
- Supervised staff; assigned tasks and evaluated work products for quality, accuracy and compliance with existing policies and regulations.

September 1995 – May 1998

NMED – Drinking Water Bureau

Santa Fe, NM

Environmental Engineer (EES 2/WRES 1)

- Engineer for the statewide Engineering Review Program. Reviewed projects from compliance with the NMDWR and general engineering design standards for treatment, storage, distribution, and transmission.
- Directly managed the AWOP Program, provided surface water treatment evaluations to public water systems.
- Provided direct technical assistance to public water systems on the regulations and

operations.

- Developed policies and guidelines for the Technical Assistance Program.
- Developed and managed the technical assistance contract with the New Mexico Rural Water Association, which provided direct technical assistance to water systems for operational problems, and the sourcewater location contract with the New Mexico Engineering Research Institute for identifying latitude/longitude of all drinking water sources.
- Supervised staff; assigned tasks and evaluated work products for quality, accuracy and compliance with existing policies and regulations.

September 1993 – September 1995

NMED – Drinking Water Bureau

Santa Fe, NM

Geologist 3

- Created the Vulnerability Assessment Waiver Program as part of the Water Conservation Fee.
- Responsible for the development of the Vulnerability Assessment Guidance Manual for evaluation and creation of sampling waivers.
- Assisted in the creation of the Department ORACLE SQL database for the Vulnerability Assessment Program.
- Provided hydro-geological evaluation of water sources to determine capture zones for water sources.
- Developed the Global Positioning System data collection program for the Bureau, including purchase of equipment, training staff, and scheduling collection of data.

September 1991 – September 1993

NMED – Ground Water Bureau

Santa Fe, NM

Water Resource Specialist

- Responsible for overseeing discharge plans in accordance with the Water quality Control Commission Regulations (WQCC).
- Evaluated geologic and hydrogeologic studies and information to ensure that regulated discharges did not impair the quality of groundwater in New Mexico.
- Prepared maps and geologic cross-sections to evaluate contaminant transport.
- Developed monitoring programs to ensure that groundwater quality was being
- Supervised the management and maintenance of the Groundwater Bureau database for groundwater data and discharge plans in New Mexico.

June 1990 – March 1991

Mid-Continent Resources

Carbondale, CO

Mining Engineer

- Worked as an engineer for a coal mining firm, assigned as environmental compliance officer.
- Designed and supervised construction of the mine water treatment system for efficient removal of solids from the mine waste production water.
- Responsible for procurement of all equipment for mine-water treatment system.
- Acted as liaison between Mid-Continent Resources and the State and Federal Environmental Agencies.

Education 1990 New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology Socorro, NM
Bachelors of Science: Mining Engineering
▪ Recipient of Old Timers Award -- Awarded to top mining engineering graduate each year

Accreditations Registered Professional Engineer, New Mexico, PE # 13513

References

- Fernando Martinez, Director, Energy Conservation and Management Division, EMNRD
- Dzung Kim Ngo Kidd, State of New Mexico Oversight, US EPA Region 6, Drinking Water Section, 1445 Ross Ave (6WQ-SD), Dallas, TX 75202, (214)-665-7158

Additional references available on request.