

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Sarah Cottrell Propst, Cabinet Secretary
Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD, Deputy Cabinet Secretary
Mike Tompson, Mining and Minerals Division Acting Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Susan Torres
Public Information Officer, EMNRD
susan.torres@state.nm.us
505-476-3226



January 22, 2020

Jerry Schoepner Named Mining and Minerals Director

SANTA FE, NM – Today, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Cabinet Secretary Sarah Cottrell Propst announced Jerry Schoepner as the new director of the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD). Mr. Schoepner comes to EMNRD with extensive technical and state government management experience.

“Mr. Schoepner’s long career as an environmental regulator and knowledge of state and federal laws will be a key asset to EMNRD,” said Secretary Cottrell Propst. “A strong leader in MMD is necessary to safeguard New Mexico’s abandoned and active mines.”

Mr. Schoepner comes to EMNRD from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) where he spent several years in the Ground Water Quality Bureau. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from New Mexico State University and is a certified professional geologist.

“I’m honored to accept this challenging and rewarding role within EMNRD,” said Mr. Schoepner. “My previous work at NMED involved coordination with the Mining Act Reclamation and Abandoned Mine Land Programs staff and I have always been impressed with their knowledge and dedication. I look forward to joining the talented team and leading MMD in their mission.”

The Mining and Minerals Division ensures the responsible utilization, conservation, reclamation, and safeguarding of land and resources affected by mining. MMD includes the Abandoned Mine Land, Coal Mine Reclamation, Mine Registration and Reporting, and Mining Act Reclamation programs.

Mr. Schoepner will start work at EMNRD on February 10th.

###

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us>