

Job Opportunity

Public Information Officer (PIO) Position #00052741

The Office of the State Engineer is seeking a highly motivated Public Information Officer to support communications, media relations, and public outreach. The ideal candidate will supervise one employee, manage press inquiries, prepare official statements, coordinate public messaging, and ensure clear, accurate information is shared with the community. This position requires strong writing, organizational, and interpersonal skills are essential. It is an at-will New Mexico Governor Exempt Position offering full-time employment, competitive benefits, and retirement. For additional information, please visit the www.ose.nm.state.nm.us. Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter to elizabeth.anderson@ose.nm.gov by **Friday October 16, 2026**.

Job Description

The Planning and Communication Division Director plans, develops, and communicates policies and procedures governing the daily activities of the OSE/ISC. It supports communications, media relations, and public outreach. Strategic planning and effective communication are both critical areas of focus for the OSE/ISC. Public communication is essential to planning activities that integrate resource-based science and public policy, while complying with both state and federal law. In passing the State Water Planning authorizing legislation) NMSA 72-14-3.1), the New Mexico Legislature recognizes the importance of water planning as a strategic management tool.

This position manages the daily activities of the Planning and Communication Bureau, which includes the duties below, but is not limited to the following;

- Manages the planning and communication budget
- Supervises a team of water planners, public relations specialists, and interns.
- Supervises the State Water Plan Review and Update (which includes public outreach meetings around the state). NMSA 72-14-3.1 requires a review of New Mexico State Water Plan every five years and to subsequently update the plan as needed.
- Directs Regional Water Planning activities, and integration of those into the State Water Plan effort, also supervised the efforts of the Regional Water Planning Advisory Council (RWPAC), an ad hoc committee of regional water planners from around the state.
- Supervises media, employee, legislative, and special interests communication.
- Develops strategic plans, communication plans, and crisis communication plans
- Leads public outreach efforts
- Responds to inquiries from national, state, and local news media.
- Prepares the State Engineer and Interstate Stream Commission Director for media responses, media interviews, and public presentations.
- Supervises the preparation of annual reports, issue briefs, media releases, brochures and other publications.

- Serves as liaison for the agency's communication efforts with the Governor's office
- Provides input regarding updates made to the agency's internet web site.
- Edits and supervises production of a quarterly internal and external agency newsletter for proactive public outreach purposes.
- Develops evaluation tools to measure communication effectiveness.