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Jerry Schoepppner Named Mining and Minerals Director

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

“Mr. Schoepppner’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. Schoepppner 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. Schoepppner. “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. Schoepppner will start work at EMNRD on February 10th.

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

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