

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Third Member of Oil Conservation Commission Named

SANTA FE: The Oil Conservation Commission (OCC) is fully appointed with the addition of Thomas Engler, PhD, PE as the third member. Engler was appointed to the commission by Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Cabinet Secretary Sarah Cottrell Propst.

Dr. Engler has been a faculty member at New Mexico Tech since 1999 and is currently a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers. Dr. Engler holds a Bachelor of Science in Geology from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, a Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Oklahoma.

The OCC is a three-member commission. By statute, it is comprised of the Oil Conservation Division (OCD) Director, an appointee of the State Land Commissioner, and an appointee of the Secretary of EMNRD. The current Chair is the Oil Conservation Division Director Adrienne Sandoval. The State Land Office Commissioner appointee is Director of Oil, Gas and Minerals Leasing Allison Marks.

“Dr. Thomas Engler’s academic experience and deep knowledge of the issues will go a long way in helping the Oil Conservation Commission complete its mission,” said EMNRD Cabinet Secretary Sarah Cottrell Propst.

The OCC is tasked with adopting rules to implement the Oil and Gas Act and hears appeals of OCD orders related to the act.

The Oil Conservation Commission has monthly meetings that are open to the public.

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