

HECTOR GONZALEZ
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PROFILE

Hector Gonzalez has served as the Government Affairs manager with El Paso Water for over a decade and has worked for the utility for more than 24 years in a variety of positions. In his current role, he leads the utility's government affairs efforts to ensure El Paso Water's interests are well represented to political and regulatory officials.

He is responsible for developing and executing a strategic federal and state government affairs plans and for ensuring strong relationships and strategic communications with regulators and government leaders. He has delivered testimony before congressional committees and committees of the Texas state legislature on a variety of water and border policy issues.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Government, 2009, New Mexico State University

Master of Arts, Organizational Management, 1998, University of Phoenix

Bachelor of Science, City and Regional Planning, 1986, New Mexico State University

EXPERTISE

Government Affairs:

- Monitors legislative and regulatory processes at all levels of government and appraises senior leadership of policy issues of interest to the utility
- Develops strong relationships and serves as the water utility's key point-of-contact with US federal and state government leaders.
- Provides interface with local, state, and federal agencies in Mexico to establish cooperative efforts for funding bi-national infrastructure projects. Served as a liaison between El Paso Water Utilities and the City of Juarez Water Utility (Mexico), resulting in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between both utilities.
- Represents the water utility with trade groups, and develop extensive relationships with industry peers through the American Water Works Association, Association of Municipal Water Agencies, National Association of Clean Water Agencies and Association of Regional Water Organizations.
- Applies knowledge of a broad range of regulatory, legislative and policy matters to support the utility's positions and strategic goals.

- Responds to inquiries on policy issues and oversees the development and dissemination of positions to advance utility objectives, including testimony, comments on regulations, and policy-related talking points and messages.
- Successfully obtained tens of millions in state and federal funding for various water related projects for El Paso. Successfully implemented and managed a program, leading to a combined \$100 million in outside funding to outlying areas of El Paso County.

Leadership and Public Affairs:

- Represents the President/CEO at various forums as requested, provides recommendations on policy related matters, and manage special projects as requested
- Provides presentations at various local, state, and national conferences and to diverse organizations, including the business community and water sector organizations.
- Serves as spokesperson for print and broadcast media on water policy issues.
- Provides leadership and direction in strategic planning and execution.
- Identifies and manages research funding, and coordinates such efforts with local universities and research organizations.
- Advises local water districts on consolidation agreements, feasibility proposals, and the political and financial implications resulting from regionalizing water service.

CAREER HISTORY

Government Affairs Manager El Paso Water, El Paso, Texas	2008 to Present
Government Affairs and Communications Manager El Paso Water, El Paso, Texas	2004 to 2008
Strategic Business Manager El Paso Water, El Paso, Texas	1999 to 2004
Consultant - Public Information Specialist Katz and Associates/El Paso Water, El Paso, Texas	1999 to 1999
Planning Consultant Gonzalez Technical Services, El Paso, Texas	1998 to 1999
Program Manager for Strategic Planning Border Env. Coop Comm. (BECC), Cd. Juarez, Chih., Mexico	1996 to 1998
Colonias & Border Projects Manager El Paso Water, El Paso, Texas	1994 to 1996
International & Reg. Project Planner/Out of City Services Coordinator El Paso Water, El Paso, Texas	1992 to 1994

2017 PRESENTATIONS

Participated at EPA's Water Systems Partnership seminar; "Cooperative Approaches to Drinking Water Challenges"; Washington, DC, January 30 - February 1, 2017.

Participated on panel discussion at Association of Defense Communities Conference; "Ensuring Water Resiliency"; San Antonio, TX, February 28, 2017.

Participated on panel discussion at Association of Defense Communities National Summit; "Water Water No Where"; Washington, DC, June 20-21, 2017.

American Membrane Technology Association (AMTA) Panel Discussion; "Membrane Water Treatment Technology Usage and Needs in the United States"; Washington, DC, - Sept. 7, 2017.