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Acting Cabinet Secretary

**Charles Thomas**

Division Director

**Mining and Minerals Division**



**News Release**

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## **2011 Earth Science Achievement Awards Presented To Nicholas Bugosh and Representative James Rodger Madalena**

SANTA FE, NM – Charles Thomas, Acting Division Director the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division and Dr. Peter Scholle, State Geologist and Director of the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources today presented the 2011 New Mexico Earth Science Achievement Awards at the rotunda of the state capitol building to Mr. Nicholas Bugosh and Representative Madalena.

Nicholas Bugosh received the award for his pioneering contributions to geomorphic reclamation. Initially developed in New Mexico and now being adopted throughout the world, geomorphic reclamation is the process of constructing watersheds on disturbed lands that simulate the relatively stable topography that the erosive forces of nature would eventually form over a very long time. The approximation of natural drainage patterns reduces erosion and sedimentation by creating shorter slopes with correct profiles, and improves the conditions for re-vegetation. Mr. Bugosh is currently the principal of Geofluv, Inc., which provides worldwide geomorphic reclamation training and design services. His training in geology and hydrology includes a B.S. in Geology and an M.S. in Earth Sciences.

“The fact that Mr. Bugosh’s work was initially developed on the coal mines in northwestern New Mexico, and is now being adopted throughout the United States and the world is of particular note, and pride, to New Mexicans,” said Charles Thomas, Acting Division Director the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division.

State Representative James Roger Madalena from District 65 has demonstrated leadership for ground water issues statewide. His understanding of water use as a community leader, a farmer, and a tribal member have made Representative Madalena a keen advocate of the science and technology necessary to manage New Mexico’s precious water resources. Representative Madalena has served as the tribal governor of Jemez Pueblo, a Sandoval County commissioner, and has been a member of the New Mexico House of Representatives since 1985. He was the longtime chair of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and is currently chair of the House Agriculture and Water Resources Committee and co-chair of the Indian Affairs Committee.

The New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection, recreation and renewable resource development services to the public and other state agencies. The New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources is a non-regulatory research and service division of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro.

Nominations for next year's awards are welcome from the general public and may be made directly to Peter Scholle, state geologist and director of the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources.



Pictured from left to right:  
Cabinet Secretary-Designate John H. Bemis, Dr. Peter Scholle,  
Representative James Roger Madalena, Nicholas Bugosh, and Charles Thomas.

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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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