



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
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HISTORY MADE AS PRESIDENT APPOINTS JAYNE HARKINS, FIRST WOMAN TO LEAD U.S. SECTION, INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION

President Donald J. Trump has appointed Jayne Harkins to serve as the United States Commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico. Ms. Harkins assumed her duties at the agency's Headquarters in El Paso, Texas on October 31.

Ms. Harkins is the first woman Commissioner for either the United States or Mexico in the 129-year history of the Commission. As Commissioner, she serves as head of the U.S. Section of the Commission (USIBWC).

Ms. Harkins previously worked as Executive Director for the Colorado River Commission (CRC) of Nevada for seven years. During her tenure at the CRC, she provided leadership and consultation on various efforts to secure additional water and hydropower resources for Nevada. She also represented the State in interstate negotiations of Colorado River water and power. The CRC oversees the delivery of over 500 MW of federal hydropower and supplemental resources to 23 power customers in southern Nevada.

Prior to the CRC, Ms. Harkins spent 27 years with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, where she most recently served as the Deputy Regional Director of the Lower Colorado Region in Boulder City, Nevada. In that capacity, she represented Reclamation interests in meetings and conferences with the representatives of state and federal agencies, the government of Mexico, tribes, water and power users, contractors, landowners, and the public. She supervised water and power operations for the region and oversaw seven Reclamation offices.

Ms. Harkins received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Geological Engineering from the University of North Dakota with an emphasis in hydrology and groundwater, and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Ms. Harkins is a Registered Professional Engineer with the States of Nevada and California.

Ms. Harkins has received numerous awards during her career, including the Department of the Interior's Superior Service Award, and was inducted as a 2010 National Honorary Member of Pi Alpha Alpha, the National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration. She also served as Vice Chair of the Steering Committee for the Lower Colorado River Multi Species Conservation Program.

"I am honored to join the USIBWC and look forward to working with the United States and Mexico on a variety of water and sanitation projects," said Harkins.

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the two countries and settling differences that arise in their application. The Commission operates and maintains flood control levees, international storage reservoirs, diversion dams, wastewater treatment plants, and boundary monuments at various locations on the U.S.-Mexico border. In addition to its Headquarters in El Paso, Texas, the U.S. Section has offices at San Diego, California; Nogales and Yuma, Arizona; Las Cruces, New Mexico; El Paso/American Dam, Ft. Hancock, Presidio, Del Rio/Amistad Dam, Laredo, Falcon Heights/Falcon Dam, and Mercedes in Texas; and Washington, DC.

Ms. Harkins and her spouse are from Boulder City, NV and have two adult children.

For more information:

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