



**BE BOLD. Shape the Future.**  
**Project Development and Engineering**

# Ground Up

From Concept to Completion

[facilities.nmsu.edu/pde](http://facilities.nmsu.edu/pde)

PD&E Newsletter, October 2021

**Message from the Executive Director, Robert Herrera**



Welcome to the first issue of our new monthly e-newsletter. We hope you enjoy this new way to keep you informed of the exciting news of our projects throughout the University system. In this issue, you will be introduced to our projects team, read about completed and future projects, and some important information that impacts the campus community. I hope you enjoy our first issue, I would like to give a huge thank you to Olga Holguin who compiled the wonderful and informative articles and Kiri Baca who assisted her. Thank you and we will see you around campus.

**Who is PD&E?**

Project Development and Engineering (PD&E) is a team of dedicated architects, engineers, and construction professionals that assists the campus community with new construction, renovations, and capital improvement projects system wide. Our Mission is to provide the campus community with an attractive, sustainable, safe, and well-designed physical environment, which enhances and supports the educational objectives of New Mexico State University.



**What does PD&E do?**

Our project managers provide professional and technical consulting services to the University community. We are responsible for facilitating project initiation, approvals, consultant selection, planning, design, construction and close out for all NMSU new construction, renovations, an infrastructure/energy upgrades system wide. We also participate in the Capital Project Planning process and the Capital Projects Fund.

**Our Staff**

- Robert Herrera, Executive Director
- Richard Apodaca, Assistant Director
- Andres Arrieta, Student Intern
- Kiri Baca, Project Manager
- Ashley Burkholder, Project Manager
- Robert Estrada, Sr. Project Manager
- Dale Harrell, University Engineer
- Olga Holguin, Asst. Project Manager
- Jose Loera, Assistant Director
- Israel Marquez, FCI Assessor
- Gary Martinez, Project Manager
- Moises Morales, Project Manager
- Michael Nevarez, Project Manager
- Jon Padilla, Project Manager
- Jason Parry, Sr. Project Manager
- Ron Tarazoff, Project Manager
- Yvonne Tellez, Asst. Project Manager

**Featured Project**

**Vote for Tank of the Year**



NMSU's PD&E team is asking for your support. NMSU's newest 250,000-gallon water tank recently constructed and managed by Project

Manager Jon Padilla is finished and the tank is in the running for Tank of the Year from Tnemec Company, which provided surface coating for the tank's NMSU logo design. The NMSU tank is currently in the top 5 for the People's Choice award in the Tank of the Year contest. **Deadline to vote for NMSU's tank is Oct. 15.**

To vote, visit [Tank of the Year](http://TankoftheYear.tnemec.com) and click on the photo of the NMSU tank. Winners will be announced Oct. 22, 2021. Winning tanks will be featured in Tnemec's annual calendar. Show your pride in the work of PD&E by voting today.

<http://tankoftheyear.tnemec.com>

**Groundbreakings**



**NMSU and El Paso Electric unveil Aggie Power Solar Project.** Dan Arvizu, NMSU Chancellor, and Kelly Tomblin, El Paso Electric CEO and President, presented the final construction and ribbon cutting on Thursday, Sept. 23. PD&E's Senior Project Manager, Robert Estrada, coordinated the project as an NMSU Regent's representative and liaison for all contractors and stakeholders. The new solar photovoltaic facility consists of 10,000 panels to generate three megawatts of power. When online, this facility will generate enough solar energy to power half of the 900-acre Las Cruces NMSU campus. The array, located on the south end of campus off Cholla Road, will house a living laboratory for electrical engineering and computer science students and faculty. The site is estimated to be online in 2022.



**'Farm in a Box' at the NMSU Grants campus had their ribbon cutting on Sept. 9, 2021.** Dickie Apodaca, Project Manager, was the Regent's representative for this project. The 40-foot hands-on education and workforce training "Farm in a Box" is for students to research projects while exploring indoor agriculture ideas. It is also open to others to develop skills in "indoor agriculture." This indoor "Ag Lab" will produce local vegetables from hydroponic beds in the enclosed shipping container. Once in operation, the container farm will provide educational opportunities for NMSU students in disciplines that include horticulture, engineering and business.



**Agricultural Modernization and Educational Facilities** held it's groundbreaking on August 19, 2021. PDE's project manager Ashley Burkholder began the Phase I, funded by 2018 GO bond, and has handed over the construction phase to project manager Jon Padilla. Construction began in June 2021 and is expected to be completed by 2023. The modernization of facilities will support human health and biomedical research, student learning and public outreach, and food security and animal production efficiency.

**New Staff**

- Kiri Baca**, Project Manager
- Moises Morales**, Project Manager
- Jason Parry**, Senior Project Manager

**Outages/Closures**

**Starting 9/27 - 11/30** - Espina St. will be closed for re-surfacing from south of the Stewart St. intersection up to the Wells St. intersection.

**10/20 OR 10/23** - Most buildings south of Wells Street will experience a 15 minute electrical outage for fuse replacement.

**Future Project List**

- Ag Science Center**, Improvements Statewide
- Alamogordo**, Physical Plant Building Renovations
- EDA Arrowhead Park Development**, Roadway
- Grants**, Martinez Hall Exterior Protect the Asset and Site Improvements
- Las Cruces**, Medium Voltage Infrastructure Improvements

Check our ongoing **132 Projects** [list](#) or take a picture of the image on the right.



**Interesting NMSU Fact**

**Electric:** NMSU has 158,400 linear feet (approx. 30 miles) of distribution throughout the Last Cruces campus.

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