

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF MARK SMITH TO SERVE AS A MEMBER
OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NATIONAL DRINKING
WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL**

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

RONALD PERRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL RESOLUTION

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE a Resolution supporting the nomination of Mark Smith, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Environmental Compliance Officer, to serve as a member of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“the EPA”) National Drinking Water Advisory Council as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

WHEREAS, the EPA solicits nominations for the membership of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (“the Advisory Council”) and seeks nominees associated with small, rural public water systems;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the “Nation”), the Chief has the power to “establish and appoint committees, members and delegates to represent the Choctaw Nation with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council.”;

WHEREAS, Chief Gary Batton nominates Mark Smith, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Environmental Compliance Officer, to serve as a member of the EPA National Drinking Water Advisory Council to represent the Nation, our land and water resources, our rural water systems across the Choctaw Nation Reservation, and Indian Country as a whole;

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith’s service and leadership in the Choctaw Nation Department of Environmental Protection; his dedication to training, certification, and compliance efforts for tribal drinking and wastewater systems, and his role as a member of the Board of Directors for Bryan County Rural Water & Sewer District #2 demonstrate his skills and expertise in this area;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council supports efforts to build and grow our Nation-to-Nation relationship with the United States of America and the Nation’s relationship and partnership with the EPA, as well as build strong relationships with other tribal nations, states, and community partners to protect our environment and natural resources and provide safe, reliable water systems for tribal members and all community members across the Choctaw Nation Reservation;

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith is highly qualified to serve on the Advisory Council due to his role as a Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Environmental Compliance Officer and service to rural water provisions in Bryan County, Oklahoma, which is home to many Choctaw tribal members and facilities. Mr. Smith has the education and experience working collaboratively with a wide array of partners to ensure communities have safe, reliable drinking water systems and access. Mr. Smith will provide a unique and well-researched voice to this national role; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to support the nomination of Mark Smith to serve on the United States Environmental Protection Agency National Drinking Water Advisory Council as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Resolution be cited as approval for supporting the nomination of Mark Smith to serve on the U.S. EPA National Drinking Water Advisory Council.


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CERTIFICATION


I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that twelve (12) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on April 8, 2023. I further certify that the foregoing Council Resolution CR- 18 -23 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve (12) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.



Ronald Perry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Gary Patton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 4-11-23

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Purpose/Need of Council Resolution: The purpose of this Resolution is to support the nomination of Mark Smith to serve on the United States Environmental Protection Agency National Drinking Water Advisory Council as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Mr. Smith is an Environmental Compliance Officer at the Choctaw Nation and serves on the Board of Directors for Bryan County Rural Water & Sewer District #2. His role on this Advisory Council would positively represent all rural water systems in the Choctaw Nation, as well as across Indian Country and the United States and would give the Nation a national voice in rural water policy and programs.

**Title of Council Resolution: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF MARK SMITH TO
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NATIONAL DRINKING WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Agency: Government Relations

Budget: N/A

Match Required: N/A

Request by: Brian McClain, Executive Director Government Relations; John Hobbs, SEO Communications

Mark Thomas Smith, P.G.
1066 Quail Creek Road
Durant, OK 74701
972-567-1578
mark@mtsgeo.com

Summary of Qualifications

Experienced project and portfolio manager trained in soil and groundwater investigation, remediation, budgeting, forecasting, client development, personnel management, and regulatory agency negotiation. Extensive experience in project design, cost estimating, bidding, scheduling, and coordination.

Professional Experience

February 2019 – Present
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma - Environmental Compliance Officer

Started and oversaw a new environmental compliance group responsible for auditing, scoring, assessment, and training for 200+ tribally owned facilities. Developed a compliance questionnaire covering air, SWPPP, SPCC, UST/AST compliance, material storage, waste management, Tier II reporting, and facility permitting from a conceptual Excel file to a fully functional IScout electronic auditing template.

Ranked facilities by risk and complexity, hired and trained new auditors, and reviewed audit results for consistency across inspectors and facilities. Responsible for PBRs and NSR registrations for tribal properties on both fee (ODEQ) and trust (EPA) land for active and new facilities. Provided oversight, mentoring, and coaching for 5 auditors as the program developed.

Supports training, certification, and compliance efforts for tribal drinking and wastewater systems.

June 2017 – February 2019
GEI Consultants, Inc., 1452 Hughes Road, Suite 130, Grapevine, TX 76051

Senior project manager and client contact for national bottled water provider. Responsible for spring investigations, identification, sampling, well installation, pump testing, and reporting for spring water production operations in Texas. Groundwater monitoring, sampling, and assessment to support on-going spring water production and sustainability evaluation. Due diligence for property acquisition to expand production areas and recharge area protection.

December 2014 – August 2016
W&M Environmental Group LLC, 906 East 18th Street, Plano, TX 75074

Regional manager responsible for operations in Plano and Fort Worth offices. Directly oversaw the quality and performance of the North Texas teams responsible for Phase I & Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, soil and groundwater remediation projects, and environmental compliance. Successfully grew the technical staff from 8 to 11 employees through performance evaluations, coaching and strategic hiring. Helped solidify client relationships in North Texas with banks, commercial real estate developers, law firms, manufacturing companies, and a national convenience store chain. Also served as senior technical consultant and a member of the company leadership team.

March 2006 – November 2014

Apex TITAN, 2801 Network Boulevard, Suite 200, Frisco, TX 75034

Senior project manager for soil and groundwater investigation and remediation projects. In September 2006 deployed to work full-time in client's office managing a national portfolio of soil and groundwater remediation projects. I provided financial and technical oversight for all aspects of 125+ projects in 15 states and managed annual budgets ranging from \$4M to \$7M. Prepared life cycle (cost-to-closure) projections for corporate accounting. Advised legal department on possible cost recovery claims, Superfund issues, offsite migration, closure negotiations, and served as client representative during third party litigation. Supported various business units dealing with third party contamination, responsible party identification, spill response, and waste management. Oversaw development of remediation project tracking database and subsequent data management. Successfully closed over 100 projects in 8 years.

January 1994 – March 2006

Delta Environmental, 840 Central Parkway East, Suite 120, Plano, Texas 75074

Employed in January 1994 as Project Manager for soil and ground water investigations, remediation design, permitting, and evaluation of soil and ground water remediation systems. Prepared proposals and budgets, contracted and coordinated with approved subcontractors, and scheduled all aspects of project work. Supervision and training of Delta and subcontractor employees was necessary for cost effective completion of project goals. Risk-Based Corrective Action evaluation and site closures were achieved at numerous industrial and petroleum storage tank sites.

In May 1995 promoted to senior technical resource for investigation and remediation program in the Texas region. Managed a portfolio of petroleum release sites and supervised investigation and remediation projects nationwide for major petroleum pipeline client and an international oilfield services firm. Provided construction oversight and H&S monitoring for landfill closure project at largest sulfur mine in the U.S. Completed nationwide due diligence investigation with environment, health, and safety audits at bulk fuel storage terminals for pre-acquisition analysis. Conducted pre-acquisition audits for several hundred gas production sites in south Texas for SPCC, spills, and NORM.

In February 1999 promoted to Unit Manager responsible for a business unit consisting of seven remote resources (Denver and Houston). Performed financial planning, revenue enhancement, utilization, productivity, and client development.

From January 2002 to February 2005 supported a major oil company as contract Environmental Business Manager with responsibility for approximately 35 pipeline projects across the U.S. Provided strategic direction and technical oversight for consultants, financial support, and forecasting. Prepared lifecycle forecasts for all projects and validated closure strategies and annual schedule, scope, and budget. Participated on national Emergency Response Team.

From February 2005 until March 2006 supported General Manager as Senior Consultant facilitating office efficiencies and personnel training. Acting Dallas area (Dallas, Denver & Houston) office manager from January 2004 through March 2006.

January 1992 to December 1993

Applied Earth Sciences, 16415 Addison Road, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75248

Employed as a field hydrogeologist with responsibilities for field investigations & construction oversight. Field activities included monitor, recovery, air sparge, and soil vapor extraction well installation. Office duties included design, permitting, and regulatory negotiating for remediation system installation and operation.

Professional Affiliations and Certifications

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - Corrective Action Project Manager #100

Texas Professional Geoscientist #750

Education and Training

1981 Oklahoma State University Bachelor of Science: Geology
Minor: Petroleum Engineering

1991 University of Texas at Dallas Hydrogeology
Surface Water Contaminant Transport

Annual OSHA Hazardous Worker Refresher
On-going CAPM and other technical refreshers

References

Richard Mosman – Operations Manager, Consolidated Consulting Group, LLC, 817-424-9085

John Ruff, Senior Project Manager, Aptim Environmental, 972-658-7438

Mike Allred – Due Diligence Manager, Corporate Real Estate, AT&T Services, 972-792-2304