



## Engineer Sergio Avila Ceceña

Director of the State of Sonora Water Commission

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Engineer Sergio Avila Ceceña has served as Director, State of Sonora, Mexico Water Commission (CEA) since 2015. As Director of the State of Sonora Water Commission, he manages a \$29 million (US DOLLARS) annual operational budget and 500 employees and a budget for infrastructure of \$52 (US DOLLARS) million annually. Engineer Avila also serving in his second two-year term as Vice President for the Mexican Association of Water and Sanitation (ANEAS). From 2006-2009, he served as director of development and growth of water institution in the State of Sonora, an area that is responsible for creating self-sufficiency within municipal water utilities. Before this position also within CEA, he was the director of construction bidding. He was involved in the 2006 effort to formulate the State of Sonora's water law and formerly served as the Administrative Director of the water utility of Obregon City (500,000 pop.).

Sergio holds a degree in civil engineering from (Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, Mexico) and has taken a certification program on water operations management from Universidad Autonoma de Mexico. He is a graduate of the four-module program from the Utility Management Institute of the North American Development Bank.

Eng. Avila serves as Co-chair of the binational Mexico-United States desalination workgroup established according to Minute 323 of the International Boundary and Water Commission. Within the State of Sonora, he is the leader for bidding and project oversight for a desalination plant for the Guaymas/Empalme region serving a population of 180,000. He is also chief director of the water utilities for the municipalities of Guaymas, Empalme and Cananea.