

**VENT\_294**

**VENT\_294**

***GEORGE M. THIEL, P.E., S.W.R.S***  
*Principal Engineer*  
*Thiel Engineering Associates, Inc.*

## EDUCATION

University of Washington, 1976  
Continuing Education Courses after graduation

### **REGISTRATIONS:**

Registered Civil Engineer in Nevada  
Certificate Number 6493, 1983  
(Current)

Registered Civil Engineer in California  
Certificate Number 37645, 1984  
(Current)

Registered Civil Engineer in Utah  
Certificate Number 274333, 1994  
(Current)

Registered Civil Engineer in Arizona  
Certificate Number 22825, 1989  
(Current)

Registered Civil Engineer in Idaho  
License # P-12718  
(Pending renewal)

Nevada State Water Rights Surveyor  
Certificate Number 696, 1983  
(Current)

## SUMMARY

Mr. George M. Thiel is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Nevada, California, Arizona, Idaho and Utah, registered in Civil Engineering. Mr. Thiel is a graduate of the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, holding a Baccalaureate Degree in Civil Engineering. He has furthered his professional career by taking master level courses in Air and Water Resources and Solid Waste Management.

Mr. Thiel is also licensed in the State of Nevada as a State Water Rights Surveyor, and has been recognized by the Division of Water Resources as an “expert” in the field of water rights and water resources in technical proceedings and administrative proceedings before the State Engineer as well as the First, Second and Fifth District Courts and Federal Courts in these matters.

Mr. Thiel gained a significant amount of his experience through employment with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Washoe County District Health Department, and the Nevada Division of Water Resources. After spending a substantial amount of his career with these agencies, he left to seek a career in the engineering consulting field. Since he started consulting, he has been involved in a multiplicity of projects throughout the state of Nevada, California, Arizona, Idaho and Utah.

Mr. Thiel has functioned as a Civil Engineer involved in a multitude of Residential Development projects from Planning through Construction in Nevada and Utah. He was the former Principal Engineer for TEC Engineering, Reno, Nevada prior to selling his company to Associates within the firm. He now does private consulting work on Development and Water Projects in the Western States where he is licensed. His most recent endeavor involved working on the developers behalf overseeing the development of water infrastructure and roads involving Design Review, Implementation and Coordination of a Multi-Million dollar construction project in support of Apple’s Cloud Technology Center located outside of Reno, Nevada.

Mr. Thiel has lived in Nevada for over sixty years and offers an excellent ability to fulfill the needs of a client in gaining the expeditious and cost effective completion of a project due to his familiarity of the state.

Mr. Thiel has been involved in consulting for the past 30 years with 7 years working for various County and State agencies.

## Career History

### *NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION-Air Quality Division*

Mr. Thiel through his experience with NDEP, developed Air Quality Models for the department in conformation with the Air Quality Act mandated through Congress for identification and prevention of Air Quality Deterioration in the State of Nevada. His area of

responsibility included evaluating ambient air quality standards and to prepare dispersion models for attainment of air quality standards throughout the State of Nevada. Experience with the Division included assignment to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency with regard to impact to the air quality associated with various pollutants. Representing the State of Nevada Mr. Thiel's analysis of traffic improvements, and other mitigating factors led to appeals by the State of California. The State of Nevada prevailed on the dispute between the two states and based upon this certain infrastructure was allowed to proceed to construction.

*WASHOE COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (Reno, NV):*

Mr. Thiel was employed by Washoe County as a Public Health Engineer. His responsibilities include the review of improvement drawings, water and wastewater treatment facilities and field review of construction associated with these subdivisions throughout Washoe County. Issues associated with PCB contamination of the Truckee River and remediation efforts as well as pollutant discharges to surface water sources was associated with his involvement with the Department. Operations of Water Systems and Wastewater Systems, including operations was part of his responsibility.

*NEVADA DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES (Carson City, NV):*

Mr. Thiel, through his work experience with the State of Nevada, has gained considerable knowledge in the area of water rights. Mr. Thiel's job responsibilities included working with all three sections of the Nevada Division of Water Resources: office, groundwater, and surface water engineering branches.

He has worked extensively with the Carson and Truckee River Decrees and their tributaries. Part of his job duties included deed and title research to complete the chain of title on various water right assignments.

Mr. Thiel has been deemed an expert in various court cases involving the State Engineer's Office, District and Federal Courts. He has interacted closely with the State Engineer in preparing exhibits for hearings and has provided technical input in those hearings. He prepared rulings, denied applications, and conducted field investigations on behalf of the State Engineer. Significant detail was required in every instance as the potential for litigation was always considered a probability.

## Qualifications

Expert testimony in Judicial Courts, Federal Courts and administrative proceedings before the State Engineer also qualify Mr. Thiel as an expert in the fields of Air Quality, Water Rights, and Water Resources and administrative actions with the office of the State Engineer. Mr. Thiel has also been involved in litigation regarding construction design deficiencies due to his experience involving subdivision planning, design and construction of development infrastructure.

## Consulting Experience

Mr. Thiel started work in the consultant field by working for Consulting Engineering Services (CES) in Reno, Nevada, with responsibilities to oversee design and construction of infrastructure improvements in Nevada as the Senior Engineer for a branch office of the firm. His duties included project planning, design activities and field observation to determine construction compliance with the plans and drawings prepared by subordinate staff.

Mr. Thiel has been involved with various other consultant firms of which he was the Principal Engineer. He founded Thiel Winchell and Associates and TEC Engineering, located in Reno, Nevada. As the Principal Engineer Mr. Thiel gained additional work experience in the planning, design and construction of public works and private development infrastructure in Nevada, Arizona, California and Utah. During his career with TEC Engineer he ran two offices, Nevada and California and administered engineering services with approximately 70 employees at its peak. Through this experience Mr. Thiel has gained a vast amount of knowledge in the Consulting Field within the following areas of expertise.

*DEVELOPMENT/MASTER PLANNING:*

Multiple project planning, design, and Construction Compliance:

- Water Systems
- Waste Water Systems
- Water Development
- Waste Water Treatment Plant Design
- Subdivision Design
- Project Management
- Surface Hydrology

*WATER RESOURCES:*

Qualified as an expert in the following disciplines:

- Water Resources
- Water Rights
- Administrative Procedures – Water Rights-deeds etc.,
- Surface hydrology

*AIR QUALITY:*

- Dispersion Modeling
- Testimony on behalf of the US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Construction related issues with regard to Suspended Particulate discharges (Dust)
- Stack Sampling

Areas of past Qualification

- Administrative Proceedings-Office of the State Engineer, State of Nevada
- Various District Courts-State of Nevada

- US District Court
- Environmental Commission

Recent appearances where qualification as an expert has been recognized, in depositions and in actual proceedings:

- US Fish and Wildlife Service-Administrative Proceedings protested by TCID United States Department of Energy-numeric modeling of 26 hydrographic regions, support in expert testimony on administrative proceedings on the Yucca Mountain Project for the Nuclear Waste Repository in conjunction with the United States Geological Survey
- Bridal Path Subdivision-Expert Engineering Services with regard to forensic engineering on subdivision design issues, water system design, trails etc., Homeowners vs Land Developer, represented insurance company associated with the land developer-deposition
- Heise Ranch v STPUD-condemnation of property by a utility. Area of Qualification was with regard to water rights and administrative proceedings-hydrology etc.-9<sup>th</sup> circuit court.
- Tahoe Regional Industrial Center v Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe/Churchill County-modeling analysis on conveyance of water and the impact on downstream users-administrative proceedings with the State Engineer, appeal settled by all claimants in 2013.
- Wade Development/Lyon County-hearing before the State Engineer on protested applications by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and Churchill County-qualified as an expert in administrative proceedings before the State Engineer in hydrology, geo-hydrology, administrative proceedings etc., appeal pending to the Nevada Supreme Court
- Mott Creek Adjudication-Douglas County District Court-Water Rights, water resources, Title resolution etc.,
- NDOT Condemnation of certain properties held by Washoe Ranch Properties. Counter claims with NDOT by WRP resulted in Arbitration and Mediation. 2012
- Hearing before the State Engineer on Vested Right appropriations by Daniel Venturacci, protested by Eureka County. Week long hearing, in review by the office of the State Engineer. 2013
- Albemarle V Jason King, State Engineer-5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Court, Esmeralda County-Hearing concerned the plugging of wells in Clayton Valley Nevada-2017/18
- DLG V Rainbow Trust, Mark Simoncini, Case #16-CV-01001, Third Judicial Court of the State of Nevada, Lyon County-Case concerning the establishment of water rights title via appurtenancy and successor in interest review of Development Agreement-2017
- Kobeh Valley Ranches, AKA Mt Hope Moly-Diamond/Kobeh Valleys-Eureka County, Rebuttal ReportAdministrative action by the office of the State Engineer, protested water rights-testimony at the administrative hearing-2018
- Others provided upon request
- **Published**-Numeric Modeling for the Armargosa Valley region deep carbonate system underflow and basin infill waters for the US Department of Energy Yucca Mountain Project, as well as the groundwater basin system analysis and

appropriations related thereto-Co-authored with Aigou XU, PHD and Greg Bilyeu,  
Water Rights Specialist with TEC Engineering (2000)

**Compensation:**

Time and Materials:

- Hourly rate is \$150.00/hour-Engineering Consulting
- Hourly rate is \$300.00/hour for court proceedings, hearings, and depositions

All costs are passed through on an expense basis and are billed for reimbursement