Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 72-4B, the Water Data Act, the NM Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources is convening water related agencies toward a shared and interoperable water data service. This multiyear, multifaceted "project" requires skills from a specialized team of information technology (IT) support, especially familiar with water data and with the other state level data management practices and techniques. New Mexico is the 2nd state in the country to enact legislation requiring open and interoperable water data, and while there are many different approaches to solving the "interoperable" data challenge, we are building our own open source data service platform, our "project," to fit the ranges of needs for our data providing agencies and the data users using the most current data integration and data management practices.

The selected Water Data Act data sharing platform, catalog.newmexicowaterdata.org, is run on a Comprehensive Knowledge Archive Network (called CKAN), which is an open-source open data portal for the storage and distribution of open data. We require hosting and support of our New Mexico Water Data Act CKAN instance be provided by a vendor with depth of experiences working on other state level open source project, especially with experience on complex water data. We require the vendor is located in the US. Our sole source vendor for this work is Dathere, who has developed custom water-centered extensions and plugins to the CKAN instance, which they will make available to New Mexico Water Data, and which will significantly advance our data sharing abilities.