SMA Operations currently operates three facilities in Northern New Mexico:

- Taos Valley Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility
- San Felipe Pueblo Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Tesuque Pueblo IGC Wastewater Treatment System

Other projects include assisting SMA in planning, design and startup services, and water and wastewater system compliance monitoring and troubleshooting.

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SMA Ops is a Joint Venture between Souders, Miller & Associates (SMA) and Aqua Environmental Services (AES), an affiliate of AQUA Engineering (AQUA).

Our two companies have been working together for over 12 years and have designed, built, and overseen startup of four larger Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs) in New Mexico, including the San Felipe Pueblo, the Town of Taos, Pata-Ko and Edgewood.

Collectively we have designed, built, started up and operated close to 20 similar systems in the Rocky Mountain region.

SMA Ops has the flexibility and experience to shift resources as necessary based on the needs of each facility: this allows for major repairs, cleaning or modifications to the process for improved treatment capabilities.

The staff is in regular communication to troubleshoot and optimize facility operations, including a weekly status call where facility managers provide plant updates to the team. Our operators live in Northern New Mexico – our response time is minimal – and SMA Ops works closely with SMA and AQUA for access to engineering services for design and technical support.

We work to integrate our facilities with instrumentation and controls that can be linked into SCADA and remote-monitoring systems to allow better access to information for both our operators and our Clients. The years of practical experience our operators bring to SMA Ops allow the team to offer creative solutions for improved facilities.
SMA Operations brings a combined 90 years of experience to the water and wastewater operations industry, having provided specialized services and assistance to small water and wastewater systems and tribal entities.

SMA Operations key members are:

- **Gene Salazar** is a certified Level IV Water and Level IV Wastewater Systems Operator with over 35 year of experience operating systems in northern New Mexico. His skills include equipment repair and maintenance, process troubleshooting and optimization, planning and design, budgeting and staff management.
- **Marvin Martinez** is certified as a Level IV Water Systems operator and Level II Wastewater Systems operator and has over 30 years of experience in the installation, operation and maintenance of water and wastewater systems. Mr. Martinez has experience in project planning, budgeting and implementation, and is regularly involved in training operators around the state.
- **Larry Hall** has over 25 years of experience in the water and wastewater industry having worked as an operator, lead operator, facility manager and department head for wastewater and water treatment operations. Mr. Hall is skilled in advanced methods and theories of industrial and domestic wastewater and water treatment, distribution, compliance, maintenance and repair, as well as laboratory analysis, methodology and QA/QC.

The team's experience includes providing consulting, equipment installations, and turnkey projects for treatment plants in New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada and Idaho, as well as providing plant optimization services. Treatment systems the project team has direct experience operating include:

- MBRs (Membrane Bio-reactors)
- Activated Sludge
- Trickling filters
- Rotating biological contactor (RBC)
- Air strippers
- Mixed bed media filters
- Granular activated carbon (GAC) filters
- Reverse Osmosis
- Ultra-filtration membrane plants
- Sodium hypochlorite generators
- Anaerobic and Aerobic digesters
- Dissolved air flotation (DAF) units
- Treatment lagoons

SMA Operations employs seven (7) Staff operators and lab technicians at our multiple facilities, with certifications including Level III Wastewater Operator and Level II Lab Technician. Although the staff has a regularly-assigned location, the staff is mobile and frequently assists in tasks at each of the various facilities.

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**Tesuque**

SMA Ops began operating the WWTP at Tesuque IGC in March of 2017 after we assisted the Pueblo with startup activities. The WWTP receives influent flows of 7,000 to 20,000 gallons per day; the flows vary seasonally. The facility is equipped with automated alarm call-outs on a selection of alarms throughout the facility. SMA Ops visits the site daily during the weekdays and only as needed during weekends and holidays. SMA Ops also maintains several lift stations throughout the collection system.

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**San Felipe**

SMA Ops took over contract operations of the Pueblo’s Wastewater Treatment Plant in February 2017. The plant was designed by SMA and AQUA in 2008 and incorporates Kubota flat-plate membranes. It currently treats approximately 180,000 gallons per day (gpd) and is capable of treating up to 300,000 gpd. The plant was built in two phases: Phase 2 will include installation of additional equipment to bring the capacity of the facility up to 600,000 gpd. The facility is staffed by one full time and one half-time operator.

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**Taos WWTP**

SMA and SMA Ops have provided professional consulting services to the Town of Taos on a variety of infrastructure improvements projects for more than fifteen years. The Taos WWTF upgrades began in 2007 with modifications to the facility Headworks. In 2010, the facility underwent a major upgrade to the Zenon Zeeweed membrane system. The facility was built to 2.0 million gallons per day (MGD) capacity and can be expanded to 2.5 MGD. It currently treats approximately 1.1 MGD. SMA Ops took over operation of the facility in July 2016.