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Carl M. Dupuis, an enrolled member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, has been appointed Chief of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Division of Facilities Engineering, Commissioner of Indian Affairs Morris Thompson announced today.

He is the first Indian to hold this position in the Bureau.

''We are very pleased about this appointment," Commissioner Thompson said. "Carl is highly qualified and will do an excellent job in a field where there are now too few Indians. The Indian community needs to have more of its students move into engineering work."

Dupuis, 38, is a 1963 graduate of Montana State University. Since 1971 he has been President of the Enplan Corporation in Kirkland, Washington. He has worked with other firms in Seattle, Bellevue, and Wenatchee -- all in Washington.

In his new position, Dupuis will be stationed in Albuquerque, New Mexico and will be responsible for all BIA construction of buildings and utilities.

Dupuis is a member of American Society of Civil Engineers, American Indian Council of Architects and Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency Technical Advisory Groups for Municipal Waste Water Systems, American Institute of Architecture-Community Services Advisory Council, Society of Military Engineers, Puget Sound Indian Employment and Training Consortium.

He was born and grew up on the Flathead Reservation at Dixon, Montana. He is married and has two children.