

Bruce E. Beechie

Summary of Qualifications

38 years of professional experience in geology, hydrology, petroleum engineering, abandoned uranium mine reclamation, abandoned underground and surface coal mine reclamation, coal seam fire extinguishment, and surface coal mine permitting, inspection and enforcement.

Education

BA, Earth Science/Geology, minor concentrations in Geography, Biology and Environmental Sciences, Minot State University, 1977-1981

Professional Job Experience

- Hydrologist/Staff Geologist, Reclamation Division, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 2007 to present
- Project Manager, Abandoned Mine Lands Division, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 1991-2007
- Project Inspector/permanent-part time, Abandoned Mine Lands Division, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 1986-1991
- Private Consultant Contract Inspector, Abandoned Mine Lands Division, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 1983-1986
- Service Engineer, Schlumberger Limited, Artesia, New Mexico and Paul's Valley, Oklahoma; 1981-1983

Certifications, Memberships, Training

- Long-standing member of the North Dakota Geological Society
- Authored and co-authored several published AML technical papers and research reports
- Given numerous AML reclamation presentations on local, state and national levels
- Hired as a consultant to the ND Department of Trust Lands to teach their field staff methodologies of coal seam fire extinguishment and reclamation on ND State Lands
- Received specialized training and certifications from OSM in Surface and Groundwater Systems, GPS, GIS, Erosion and Sediment Control, Forensic Hydrologic Investigations, Permitting Hydrology, Quantitative Hydrogeology, Testing and Analysis with Aqtesolv, Groundwater Vistas, Wetlands Identification, Soils and Revegetation and various other geologic, hydrologic and environmental courses and computer applications
- Serves as PSC's technical representative on OSM's Western Region Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) Task Force as the Commission's technical matter expert for UCG
- North Dakota Certified Blaster, now expired

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, and Experience

- Over 35 years' experience in abandoned surface and underground mine reclamation, active surface coal mining operations and reclamation primarily dealing with permitting, inspection, bond release, environmental and hydrologic monitoring, and regulatory analysis.
- Strong technical knowledge of geology, hydrology, cultural resources, alluvial valley floor identification, and general operations and reclamation plans for surface mine permitting, revisions, bond releases and post-mining hydrologic assessment
- Developed and maintain a GIS ground water geodatabase for the NDPSC Reclamation Division, incorporating water level and water quality data for several thousand ground water monitoring wells located across the state dating back to the 1970's
- Experience in drilling, lithologic analyses, ground water monitoring well placement, installation, well completion methods, decommissioning and water quality analyses

