Preston J. Ripplinger

Summary of Qualifications
Seven years of professional experience in geology, hydrology, abandoned coal mine regulation, surface coal mine permitting, inspection and enforcement, solid waste and hazardous waste permitting, inspection and enforcement.

Education
BA, Geology, University of North Dakota, 2014

Professional Job Experience
- Hydrologist/Geologist, Reclamation Division, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 2021 to present; Started training for Hydrologist position under Bruce Beechie in 2019
- Environmental Scientist, Reclamation Division, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 2017 to 2021
- Environmental Scientist, Solid Waste Division, Department of Health, 2015 to 2017
- Inspector, Abandoned Mine Lands Division, North Dakota Public Service Commission, 2015

Certifications, Memberships, Training
- Member of North Dakota Geological Society.
- Received specialized training and certifications in GIS, Global mapper, Erosion and Sediment Control, Soils and Revegetation, Blasting, and Bonding from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.
- UND Augite Member, with geological fieldwork in Belize regarding general geology, paleontological work on non-marine snails in North Dakota, and heavy mineral analysis of the Chadron formation.

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Experience
- Five years of experience in surface coal mining operations and reclamation.
- Knowledgeable in geology, hydrology, alluvial valley floor identification and post-mining hydrologic assessment.
- Knowledgeable about North Dakota's requirements for surface coal mining permit, revision, and bond release applications.
- Knowledgeable in North Dakota's surface coal mining laws, rules, and policy memorandums.
- Experience inspecting surface mining and reclamation operations to ensure mining and reclamation activities are carried out in compliance with permits and regulations.
- Maintain a GIS groundwater geodatabase incorporating water level and water quality data for all monitoring wells required for mining.