
Associate Principal Hydrogeologist

Expertise Environmental Hydrologic Impact Assessments, Mining Hydrology, Dewatering, Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Transport Modeling, Glaciology

Education Ph.D. (Geophysics), 1993
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
B.A. (Geology and Physics) magna cum laude, 1988
University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA

Professional Affiliations Member: American Geophysical Union; National Ground Water Association; Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration; International Glaciological Society

Professional Experience

2007 – Present ITASCA Denver, Lakewood, Colorado
Principal Hydrogeologist

1996 – 2007 Geomega, Inc., Boulder, Colorado
Senior/Principal Hydrogeologist

1993 – 1996 Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, Boulder, Colorado
Postdoctoral Research Associate

1990 – 1993 Snowline Research & Consulting Ltd., Vancouver, Canada
Hydrologic Consultant

Project Experience

Planned, performed, and directed hydrogeologic, geophysical, and glaciological studies for various mining companies, industrial and commercial clients, and governmental agencies in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Ecuador, Russia, Australia, and Antarctica. Experience includes the conceptualization, development, calibration, optimization, predictive use, and documentation of analytical and numerical models, with applications involving regional- and local-scale hydrologic forecasting, chemical fate and transport, density-dependent flow, dewatering-induced land subsidence, and groundwater/surface-water interactions. Project work also has involved numerous non-modeling hydrologic studies, including the following: mine planning (scoping through feasibility) and permitting; construction dewatering; aquifer testing; safe yield; water balance; monitoring program design/optimization; contaminant source discrimination; subsurface mapping using ground-penetrating radar, borehole logging, and seismic techniques; mine facilities closure; and baseline characterizations for NEPA and CERCLA analyses. Experience includes litigation support, public testimony, and expert reports.

Areas of specific expertise are as follows: numerical modeling to predict groundwater inflows to mines and the potential impacts of mining on hydrologic systems; design and interpretation of hydrogeologic data collection programs; hydrogeologic site characterization and conceptualization relative to mining and groundwater contamination; evaluation of remedial measures for site clean ups; and applied glaciology.

Mining work has included technical studies for planning, feasibility, engineering-design, permitting, mitigation/remediation, and closure projects, as well as for due-diligence assessments and 3rd-party contractor reviews/EIS preparation for NEPA studies. Domestic mining hydrogeology projects have included Placer Dome's Pipeline/South Pipeline Mine; Barrick's Cortez Hills and Turquoise Ridge Mines and Goldrush/Four-Mile Project; Newmont's Gold Quarry, Leeville, Twin Creeks, and Lone Tree Mines; Bactec's Tonkin Springs Mine; General Moly's Mount Hope Project; Sibanye-Stillwater's PGM Stillwater Mine; EP Mineral's Celatom Mine; the Natural Soda nahcolite mine; American Vanadium's Gibellini Project; Metallic Goldfield's Gemfield Project; and AngloGold Ashanti's Silicon Project. Foreign mining hydrogeology projects have included Vale's Voisey's Bay nickel mine in Labrador, Kinross's Fruta del Norte (gold) Project in Ecuador, ARMZ's Elkon uranium mine in Russia, Xstrata's Ernest Henry and Mount Isa copper/gold mines in Australia, Excellon's La Platosa silver-lead-zinc mine in Mexico, and Geddes Resources' Windy-Craggy (copper-cobalt-gold) Project and Cominco's Snip gold mine in British Columbia.

Research Experience

Created theoretical and numerical models describing groundwater flow between boreholes and aquifers and incorporating the effects of turbulent flow conditions in a porous medium. Developed inexpensive borehole sensors for monitoring the turbidity and electrical conductivity of subsurface water. Formulated improved methods for estimating groundwater recharge distribution in alluvial basins and for incorporating high-wall runoff into mine pit-lake model simulations.