

John M. Mercier

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Price, Utah 84501

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Career Objective

Management and Engineering for exploration and mine development.

Summary

Twenty-six years experience in energy minerals exploration and development. Skilled in project planning and scheduling, mine geology program development, property evaluations, resource management, underground mapping and hazard analysis, liaison between geologic, engineering and safety disciplines.

Education

M.S. Geology, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, 1976

B.S. Geology, University of Redlands, Redlands, California, 1970

Professional Experience

October 1980 to November 2000

RAG AMERICAN/CYPRUS AMAX COAL COMPANY

(Formerly Getty Mining Company/Texaco)

Geologic/Resource Supervisor (February 1992 to November 2000) Helper, Utah

Technical planning and geologic overview responsibilities for several underground coal mines including acquisition projects, regional resource management, exploratory and development drilling programs, new mine development, methane and hydrocarbon evaluations, geotechnical and research projects, underground drilling, mapping and hazard analysis.

Accomplishments:

- Completion of large directionally drilled Gob Vent Borehole systems for longwall mine methane drainage.
- Planning and supervision of multiple million dollar phased drill programs.
- Design and implementation of underground predictive hazard projections.

San Juan Coal Co. Exhibit No. 21
Before the Oil Conservation Commission
Hearing Dates: October 29-31, 2002

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Chief Geologist (June 1988 to February 1992) Denver, Colorado

Technical overview responsibility for geologic programs for nine surface and underground coal operations across the U.S., annual company reserve report (S.E.C.), special projects, annual technical meetings, standards, data and technology dissemination and property evaluations.

Accomplishments:

- Standardization and reserve tracking for nine large coal mines; annual production of about 40 MM tons per year.
- Development of technical corporate central files.
- Planned and initiated annual geotechnical meetings for all company geotechnical personnel.
- Assisted in the completion of property evaluations which resulted in the purchase and opening of two major coal mines during a period of industry constriction.

Senior Geologist (October 1985 to June 1988) Denver, Colorado

Geotechnical support for Cyprus operations and resource evaluations for numerous potential acquisitions. Development of reserve base studies, regional analysis and mine geologic programs.

Project Development Geologist (June 1983 to October 1985) Salt Lake City, Utah

Coordinated mine geology programs for five coal operations, planned and conducted exploration programs, and made resource and development evaluations of company properties and potential acquisitions.

Accomplishments:

- Completed dilution and depositional modeling studies on large new underground mines utilizing multi-parameter analysis – identifying areas of high risk.

Mine Geologist (October 1980 to June 1983) Price, Utah

Developed a new geologic program and interfaced with engineering and safety, underground mapping and modeling, survey duties, exploration programs and regional studies.

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Accomplishments:

- Developed and implemented a geologic program for a 2MM tons per year coal mine.
- Applied depositional modeling and risk analysis for planning and operations.
- Proposed and built a 10,000 feet per year underground core drilling unit.

October 1978 to October 1980

SEEGMILLER INTERNATIONAL
Salt Lake City, Utah

Geologic Engineer

- Rock mechanics engineering site mapping and evaluations, sample and data collection, strength testing and analysis, stress monitoring, and mine slope design in a wide variety of metal and coal mines in the western U.S. and overseas.

Accomplishments:

- Independently initiated a combined depositional and strata mechanics evaluation of an underground coal mine identifying significant roof discontinuity zones.
- First western engineers (Fall, 1978) to areas in eastern and northern China since WWII; evaluations of several large iron ore mines.

1976 to October 1978

UTAH POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY
Salt Lake City/Huntington, Utah

Senior Mine Geologist (January 1977 to October 1978)

Developed and implemented a new mine geologic program for five adjacent underground coal mines (5mm tons per year). Conducted surface and underground drilling and mapping projects, and initiated and conducted quality sampling.

Accomplishments:

- Completed an extensive quality sampling and monitoring program from the underground face to the power plant – helped identify plant slagging and fouling constituents leading to major plant boiler design changes.

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Consulting Geologist (1976 to 1977) Various locations in Utah

Planned and conducted coal and uranium exploration programs in Utah.

1974 to 1975

RESOURCES COMPANY/KAISER ENGINEERS
Southern Utah/Arizona

Consulting Geologist

Coal exploration on the Southern Kaiparowits Coal Project.

1971 to 1973

UNITED STATES ARMY
Western U.S./Japan

Military Service – SP4/E-4 Honorable Discharge

Professional Affiliations and Achievements

- American Association of Petroleum Geologists – Active Member
- Energy Minerals Division (AAPG), Member
- Councilor, Rocky Mountain Section, AAPG, 1991 to 1992
- Past President, Habitat for Humanity, Central Utah Section
- Coal Mine Fire Boss Rating – State of Utah (1993)
- Registered Professional Geologist – Wyoming (PG-1786)
- Author/Co-Author on approximately 12 professional papers on various geologic and mining themes