

Volunteer/Unpaid, DENVER, CO – EPA Region 8, Site Assessment Team Intern (CLOSING DATE: 04/05/2019)

Background: Mining has played a pivotal role in the economic development of Colorado and Montana. However, because of mining activities this industry has left a legacy of scarred landscapes and contaminated water across these states. There are over 17,000 known abandoned hardrock mines/features scattered across Colorado alone. Many of these abandoned mines contribute acid mine drainage via underground workings and adits, and contaminated surface water run-off from large tailing or waste rock piles, resulting in significant contamination and environmental impacts to their local watersheds. Most of these sites were mined and abandoned prior to enactment of modern environmental regulations in the 1970's and 1980's. As a result, there is limited regulatory authority and funding to address environmental impacts of these abandoned mine sites.

Job Description: The intern will learn about the complexities and impacts from abandoned mine sites, become familiar with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) program requirements, and develop an understanding of agency collaboration occurring to address these sites. They will come to understand various project components in the assessment of abandoned mine sites by assisting with the following potential tasks:

- Review regulatory guidance related to pre-CERCLA screening (PCS) assessment and preliminary assessments (PA's) (assessment of ground water, surface water and soil targets);
- Assist with preparation of emergency plans, and health and safety plans for various abandoned mine site field events;
- Participate in field screening, and surface water and soil collection at abandoned mine sites;
- Compile mine site data;
- Attend mixed ownership/site technical meetings and develop meeting minutes;
- As a final project, the intern will research details of various draining mine sites and apply EPA guidance to complete several PCS/PA form/s, which would include a completion of a detailed list of site components and details.

Required Skills: Excellent written and verbal communication; Experience with Microsoft Office Suite programs; Ability to work independently as well as in a team setting; and skills in processing large data sets and analyzing critical elements.

Knowledge/Experience (optional, but a bonus): Coursework/knowledge in science, statistics and/or math fields or similar areas of study will be viewed favorably, as well as expertise in excel spreadsheets.

Timeline: The Site Assessment Team internship is estimated to last no more than four months.

Desired hours per week: 16-30 (negotiable)

Desired start date: Flexible

How to Apply: Email your transcripts, resume and cover sheet to: Victor Ketellapper, Ketellapper.Victor@epa.gov by Friday, April 5, 2019.

For More Information: Contact Victor Ketellapper, Site Assessment Team Lead, Preparedness and Site Assessment Section, Emergency Management Branch, Superfund and Emergency Management Division

Human Resources Contact: Elaine Robles, (303) 312-6194 or robles.elaine@epa.gov