

Paul M. Becks, CPG, LRS
President & Environmental Geologist
P.O. Box 426
Tallmadge, Ohio 44278
330.472.2137



Education and Professional Affiliations

M.S., Geology with Emphasis in
Geochemistry, 1997
University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio

B.S., Geology, 1993
University of Akron, Akron, Ohio

OSHA 40-Hour Hazardous Waste
Operations and Emergency Response
Training, 1995

OSHA 8-Hour Refresher Training, 2015

National Ground Water Association
(NGWA)

Environmental Professional

Certified Professional Geologist,
American Institute of Professional
Geologists, CPG-10928, 2005

Licensed Remediation Specialist
West Virginia Department of
Environmental Protection
LRS # 225, 2008

Asbestos Hazard Evaluation Specialist
State of Ohio, Department of Health
Certification # ES35590

Paul M. Becks has over 19 years of experience in Phase I environmental assessments, Phase II subsurface investigations, remediation, and environmental compliance. He has conducted and managed Phase I environmental assessments, Phase II subsurface investigations, and evaluated remedial options for soil and groundwater, supervised underground storage tank (UST) removals, and collected soil and groundwater samples at sites in Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, New York, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Indiana. Mr. Becks also addresses compliance issues related to storm water, groundwater, and hazardous waste. This includes preparing Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) and Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPP) plans, and the closure of hazardous waste units under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). He has extensive experience in field activities and report development involving the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) Voluntary Action Program (VAP) and has working knowledge of regulatory guidelines and requirements affecting environmental management and remediation, including those of RCRA, Ohio EPA VAP, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Land Recycling Program (Act 2), Ohio State Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR), West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP), and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

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Project Experience

Phase I Environmental Site Assessments

Commercial and Industrial Properties

Mr. Becks has conducted and managed multi-site portfolio site assessments for commercial and industrial facilities in Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, New York, West Virginia, Virginia, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and Indiana. The properties have included industrial properties, office buildings, dry cleaning facilities, gasoline filling stations, steel plants, hotels, and other commercial/industrial properties. Mr. Becks used aerial photographs, fire insurance maps, city directories, and United States Geological Survey maps and reviewed an environmental database to thoroughly research each property's historical uses. He managed professional staff, reviewed project design and budgeting, and prepared proposals. Mr. Becks provided technical review and quality assurance, coordinated and scheduled projects, and maintained client contacts.

Phase II Subsurface Investigations

Heavy Equipment Manufacturer

Mr. Becks conducted soil and groundwater sampling for a Phase II Subsurface Investigation to identify areas of petroleum impact and metal contamination. He delineated areas of soil impacted by a petroleum release and numerous metals and determined the approximate amounts of contaminated soil to be removed and properly disposed offsite.

Dry Cleaning Facility

Mr. Becks conducted soil and groundwater sampling for a Phase II Subsurface Investigation to identify areas of chlorinated solvent and petroleum hydrocarbon contamination in fractured bedrock. He delineated areas of soil and groundwater impacted by a chlorinated solvent and petroleum release, assisted with determining the most cost effective remedial approach to address the contamination, and developed a remedial work plan for submittal to the Ohio EPA. The proposed remedial approach involved the injection of a carbon source (sodium lactate) into the bedrock aquifer to accelerate the natural degradation of the contamination.

UST Removal Management

Public School Bus Garage

Mr. Becks supervised the removal of two USTs and collected confirmatory closure samples for the two tanks. His services, which included the preparation of a UST Closure Report following the Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) guidelines, led to a ~~No~~ No Further Action+status for the site.

Former Gasoline Filling Station

Mr. Becks acted as the project manager, oversaw field staff, and senior reviewed the closure reports during the removal of nine USTs from a former gasoline filling station located in Pennsylvania. His services led to a ~~No~~ No Further Action+status for the site so that the property could be redeveloped as a retail drug store.

Emergency Response

Insurance Industry – Gasoline Spill

Following a gasoline release from an overturned gasoline truck tanker, Mr. Becks worked with the tanker truck company's insurance company. He provided technical assistance to the insurance agent regarding clean up, assessment, and remediation activities.

Insurance Industry – Ammonia Spill

Following an ammonia release from an overturned tanker truck, Mr. Becks worked with the tanker truck company's insurance company. He provided technical assistance to the insurance agent in supervising the clean up activities and negotiated the final remedial/cleanup objectives with the Ohio EPA in order to minimize unnecessary costs.

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Soil and Groundwater Remediation

Transformer Manufacturer

Mr. Becks managed and oversaw the assessment, removal of contaminated soil, and treatment of groundwater contaminated with tetrachloroethylene (PCE), trichloroethylene (TCE) and cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE) for a transformer manufacturer in Cortland, Ohio. The groundwater treatment involved the placement of CI-out™, which is composed of non-pathogenic bacterial strains that reduce a wide range of chlorinated organic compounds. Mr. Becks prepared approximately 385 gallons of CI-out™ onsite, making it into a slurry-type material that was applied to the excavation following the removal of the contaminated soil.

Dry Cleaning Facility

Mr. Becks managed and oversaw the removal of soil and the treatment of groundwater contaminated with PCE, TCE, cis-1,2-DCE, and vinyl chloride (VC) for a dry cleaning facility located in northwest Ohio. The groundwater treatment involved the installation of shallow and intermediate injection wells (22 total injection wells) in the bedrock aquifer followed by the injection of 8,250 gallons of a dilute sodium lactate solution (WILCLEAR™) to accelerate the natural attenuation of the contaminants.

SWPP and SPCC Plan Development

Electrical Motor Manufacturer

Mr. Becks, under the direction and supervision of an Ohio licensed P.E., prepared an integrated SPCC and SWPP plan for a small electrical motor manufacturer located in northeast Ohio. He inspected the facility's onsite operations, storm water flow patterns, and product storage areas, verified secondary containment capacities, and reviewed best management practices. Mr. Becks then made recommendations to the client for modifications necessary to meet the requirements of 40 CFR Part 112, and to minimize the potential for storm water pollution.

Soap Manufacturer

Mr. Becks, under the direction and supervision of an Ohio licensed P.E., prepared an integrated SPCC and SWPP plan for a large hand soap manufacturer located in northeast Ohio. He inspected the onsite operations, storm water flow patterns, and product storage areas, verified secondary containment capacities, and reviewed best management practices. Mr. Becks then made recommendations to the client in order to comply with the new SPCC regulations.

Ohio EPA VAP NFA

Manufacturing Facility

Mr. Becks, under the direction and supervision of an Ohio Certified Professional (C.P.), prepared a VAP Phase I ESA and performed subsequent Phase II and Remedial Work in order to achieve a No Further Action (NFA) from the Ohio EPA. Mr. Becks assisted with the preparation of the NFA Letter and a Covenant Not to Sue (CNTS) was issued by the Ohio EPA.

PADEP Act 2

Manufacturing Facility

Mr. Becks, on behalf of the client and under the direction and supervision of a Pennsylvania Professional Geologist (P.G.), entered a large manufacturing facility in western Pennsylvania into the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Act 2 Land Recycling Program. The work consisted of completing a Phase I ESA followed by extensive subsurface investigation and completing the Notice of Intent to Remediate (NIR) to enter the site into the program. The investigative work consisted of collecting soil, sediment, groundwater, and soil gas samples. Groundwater to surface water impacts were evaluated through Pennsylvania's PENTOXSD surface water mixing model and an indoor air evaluation was performed through the Johnson and Ettinger (J & E) model utilizing the 95% Upper Confidence Limit (UCL) of the soil gas data. The Final Report was submitted to PADEP and the Environmental Covenant was finalized, including use restrictions recorded on the deed prohibiting the use of groundwater and the residential use of the property. A Relief of Liability was issued in 2009.

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WVDEP VRP

Retail Drugstore

Mr. Becks, on behalf of the client, entered a commercial site in northwestern West Virginia into the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP). The work consisted of completing a Phase I ESA followed by completing an application to enter into the VRP. Mr. Becks, on behalf of the client, finalized the Voluntary Remediation Agreement (VRA), and prepared and submitted a Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) to the WVDEP in order to characterize the site. The investigative work consisted of collecting soil and groundwater samples, and conducting a geophysical survey to evaluate the potential presence of unknown USTs. One orphan+UST was identified and removed following WVDEP protocol. Mr. Becks prepared and submitted a Site Characterization Report (SCR) to the WVDEP. Following the approval of the SCR, a Risk Assessment (RA) was performed and submitted to WVDEP. Once the RA is approved, the Final Report will be prepared and will include an Environmental Covenant prohibiting the use of groundwater and the residential use of the property. The Final Report requested a Certificate of Completion from the WVDEP, which was received in 2009.

RCRA Closure

Wood Preserving Industry

Mr. Becks, under the direction and supervision of an Ohio licensed P.E., prepared a Closure Plan for submittal to the Ohio EPA Division of Hazardous Waste Management (DHWM) regarding the closure of a hazardous waste unit (drip pad) formerly utilized in the wood preserving industry. The constituents of concern included arsenic and chromium that were historically utilized to treat lumber. The Closure Plan was approved by Ohio EPA and Mr. Becks oversaw the closure, which involved soil excavation followed by confirmatory sampling and statistical analysis of the results in order to achieve a clean closure of the former hazardous waste unit.

Chrome Plating Industry

Mr. Becks, under the direction and supervision of an Ohio licensed P.E., prepared a Closure Plan for submittal to the Ohio EPA, DHWM, regarding the closure of an unpermitted hazardous waste unit located in the basement of a chrome plating facility. The constituents of concern included nickel and chromium containing wastes that were stored in the basement for greater than 90 days, as well as nickel and chrome plating solution that was accumulating on the floors and walls of the basement. The accumulated plating solution on the floors and walls was associated with spillage from the plating operations located on the first floor of the building. The Closure Plan was approved by Ohio EPA and Mr. Becks oversaw the closure, which involved three washes and rinses of the walls and floors followed by confirmatory rinse water sampling in order to achieve a clean closure of the former hazardous waste unit.

Aluminum Extrusion Industry

Mr. Becks, under the direction and supervision of an Ohio licensed P.E., prepared a Closure Plan for submittal to the Ohio EPA, DHWM, regarding the closure of a hazardous waste aboveground storage tank (AST) located outside the facility in a loading dock area. The constituents of concern included chrome and corrosive containing wastes that were generated in a die etch process line. During a RCRA inspection, the Ohio EPA documented that the AST and associated piping were leaking the hazardous waste to the surrounding environment and required that the AST be closed. The Closure Plan was approved by Ohio EPA and Mr. Becks oversaw the closure, which involved cleaning and scrapping the AST, cleaning the loading dock area followed by confirmatory rinse water sampling, and the collection and laboratory analysis of soil samples in order to achieve a clean closure of the hazardous waste unit.

Employment History

Site Environmental Consulting, LLC . Tallmadge, Ohio
President/Environmental Geologist
2011 to Present

Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. . Akron, Ohio (Formerly Clayton Group Services, Inc.)
Manager, Environmental Services
2009 to 2011

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Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. . Akron, Ohio (Formerly Clayton Group Services, Inc.)
Senior Project Manager, Environmental Services
2006 to 2009

Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. . Akron, Ohio (Formerly Clayton)
Project Manager, Environmental Services
2000 to 2006

Clayton Group Services, Inc. . Akron, Ohio
Geologist, Environmental Services
1998 to 2000

SAS Environmental . Akron, Ohio
Staff Environmental Geologist, Environmental Division
1997 to 1998

Toledo University . Toledo, Ohio
Graduate Assistant/Research Assistant
1995 to 1997

Secor International . Canton, Ohio
Staff Geologist
1995

Akron University . Akron, Ohio
Associate Lecturer (Part-Time), Geology Department
2000 to Present

Publications and Presentations

Becks, Paul M. and Spongberg, Alison L. 1997. Soil and Groundwater Contamination from Cemetery Leachate. Master's Thesis. University of Toledo.

Becks, Paul M. 1996. Soil and Groundwater Contamination from Cemetery Leachate. Paper presented at the 19th Midwest Environmental Chemistry Workshop, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

Spongberg, A.L. and P. Becks. 2000. Organic Contamination in Soils Associated with Cemeteries. Journal of Soil Contamination. 9(2):87-97.

Spongberg, A.L. and P. Becks. 2000. Inorganic Contamination from Cemetery Leachate. Water, Air, and Soil Pollution 117:313-327.