

Robert J. Laughner

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Versatile with extensive petroleum engineering experience in oil and natural gas production operations. Proven leadership skills in developing and motivating people. Thrive in challenging and dynamic environments where innovation and creativity are required to solve complex problems. Goal-oriented strategic thinker with a reputation for developing and implementing cost effective/sustainable solutions.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Chief Oil & Gas, LLC

Oil and Natural Gas Exploration & Production
Wexford, Pennsylvania

Production Engineering Manager

July 2014 – Present

- **Production Operations Management:** Supervised a highly dedicated team of Production Operations staff to optimize Chief's northeastern Pennsylvania Marcellus Shale day-to-day production operations from both a well production and a lease operating expense (LOE) perspective.
- **Well Pad Facility Construction Optimization:** Advised and counseled Chief's Production Operations group in optimizing a Marcellus Shale "dry gas" well site equipment facility construction.
- **Production Optimization:** Engaged Chief Production Operations staff to implement a production optimization program which included installing tubing into wells, installing plunger lift systems, soap/foamer injection systems, and installing temporary well pad compression systems.
- **Production Logging Program:** Coordinated an eight well production logging program with Chief Completion staff & a 3rd party provider to garner zonal Marcellus Shale production contribution in northeastern Pennsylvania.
- **Engineer Training Program :** Designed and implemented a program to indoctrinate, mentor, and train a new hire engineer to the company so that he or she could understand basic oil and gas operations.

Chevron – Appalachian Michigan Business Unit (AMBU) (acquired Atlas Energy Resources, LLC – Feb 2011)

Oil and Natural Gas Exploration & Production
Moon Township, Pennsylvania

Senior Production Engineer

May 2010 – July 2014

- **Asset Development:** Acted as the prime technical operations interface between the AMBU Fayette and Westmoreland County, PA Asset Development (AD) teams (Land, Geology, Reservoir, Drilling, and Completions). This also included conducting two well reviews per year with these same AD teams.
- **Well Production Management and Optimization:** Includes initiating pilot plunger lift program, choke management program, management of chemical injection program and working with field production staff to optimize the same.
- **Well Operating Expenses (OPEX):** Assisted AMBU Fayette and Westmoreland Co, PA operations supervisor in management of OPEX to reduce lifting costs.
- **Mid-Stream Coordination:** Spearheaded and guided weekly meetings with Chevron's mid-stream partner, Williams – L.M.M., to discuss general pipeline and compression operating conditions.
- **Lean Sigma:** Became Lean Sigma/Green Belt certified Fall 2013. Using Lean Sigma to perform operations more efficiently and to save operational expenses.
- **Base Business Support:** Assisted AMBU Base Business manager to control and to better understand reasons for Lost Production Opportunity (LPO).

Daugherty Petroleum, Inc. (NGAS)
Oil and Natural Gas Exploration & Production
Lexington, Kentucky

Chief Engineer

August 2004 – March 2010

- **Production Management:** Directed a staff of 4 supervisors and 30+ field personnel operating over 1000 wells (including 45 horizontal Devonian Shale wells) over a nine county area of west and southeast Kentucky, northeast Tennessee, and southwest Virginia.
- **Production Analysis:** Analyzed regular production variance reports and provided production curves and analysis to Senior Management for review prior to year-end company reserve assessment. Conducted well reviews with field production personnel.
- **Lease Operating Expense (LOE) Control:** Led a cost cutting effort resulting in a reduction of LOE costs from \$6.7 million in 2008 to \$5.4 million in 2009 (nearly a 20% reduction).
- **Facility Design and Operation:** Co-designed and supervised the installation of compressor facilities, natural gas dehydration equipment, and pipeline systems at several sites in eastern Kentucky and southwest Virginia.
- **Oil Production Management:** Designed pumping unit program for company's oil wells and instituted implementation of a maintenance program. Evaluated production performance using fluid level and dynamometer data
- **Injection Well Design:** Designed a USEPA (Region IV) Class II injection well facility and coordinated permitting and construction of facility; implemented program for scale and bacteria control.
- **Electronic Measurement:** Directed implementation of field-wide electronic metering program to measure pertinent data and conduct real time analysis on company's horizontal wells and strategic facilities.
- **Regulatory Liaison:** Acted as company's liaison with federal and state agencies in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee (USEPA, USDOT, state oil & gas divisions, and state divisions of air quality).
- **Well Database Management:** Instituted a well and technical database system to assist field personnel in well production surveillance and monitoring.
- **Production/Operations Logistics:** Coordinated monthly production/operational meetings to discuss perceived production problems as well as production enhancement projects.

Equitable Production Company (EQT)
Oil and Natural Gas Exploration & Production

Senior Production Engineer
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

January 2002 – August 2004

- Responsible for the production engineering & management of 1500 wells (300 CBM/1200 conventional) in southwest Virginia.
- Designed programs for de-watering efficiency and carbonate scale remediation on CBM wells.
- Designed wellhead and pod compression in CBM fields to reduce line pressure and enhance production.
- Identify candidates for plunger-lift systems and monitor performance.
- Identify candidates for workovers and recompletions.
- Designed a USEPA (Region III) Class II injection facility.

Senior Production Engineer
Prestonsburg, Kentucky

August 1995 - January 2002

- Responsible for the production engineering & management of some 5000 wells (Devonian Shale, Big Lime, Maxon Sand, and Berea Sandstone) over a nine county area of eastern Kentucky at Kentucky West Virginia Gas, an Equitable subsidiary.
- Performed evaluations for well divestitures to various coal companies and to the Kentucky Department of Highways.
- Implemented a field-wide gas measurement program to identify and address pipeline line loss and well performance.

Staff Production and Reservoir Engineer
Kingsport, Tennessee

February 1986 - August 1995

- Conducted a wide range of reservoir engineering tasks including reserve analysis and economic evaluations.

- Designed, with assistance from service company engineers, well cementing and completion programs for various oil and natural gas wells

Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation

Oil and Natural Gas Exploration & Production

Reservoir Engineer

Pampa, Texas

October 1985 - January 1986

- Performed production and log analysis on wells in Cabot’s Hugoton Field (Kansas and Oklahoma).

Financial Analyst

Houston, Texas

October 1984 - October 1985

- Worked in Cabot’s Houston Region headquarters in a year-long internship for the General Manager performing production and financial analysis by preparing spreadsheets with price and production forecasts.

Field/Completions Engineer

Meadville, Pennsylvania

January 1981 - October 1984

- Assisted drilling contractors in the field as part of a program to become familiar with daily drilling operations.
- Assisted various service companies to become familiar with cement and completion jobs.
- Performed a six month internship as a well tender in Cabot’s Medina Sandstone Field in northwestern Pennsylvania.

EDUCATION

University of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona

Masters of Business Administration

2000

West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia

Bachelor of Science – Petroleum Engineering

1980

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Petroleum Engineers – Pittsburgh Section

Marcellus Shale Coalition

Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association

West Virginia University, College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, Mineral Resources Alumni Chapter