



Dave Bakunas, Senior Training Supervisor | Ameren Illinois Company

Dave has 33 years in the industry, 18 in the field as a gas Journeyman leadman. The last 15 years have been in training.

Kent Berry, Superintendent, Construction Services | Ameren Illinois Company

I've been with Ameren since 1988. I started in engineering, went to Operations and then Construction Services.

Mike Fisher, Sr. Construction Project Manager | WEC Energy Group - Peoples Gas

Mike oversees contractor execution of the distribution modernization program at Peoples Gas.

Erin Carlson, Engineer | WEC Energy Group - Peoples Gas

Erin is an Engineer in Transmission Engineering for Peoples Gas.

Dan Cempel, Senior Operations Supervisor | WEC Energy Group – Peoples Gas

Dan has been with the gas utilities for 37 years. Dan's main focus is damage prevention.

Rachel Cruse, Engineer, Gas Standards & Procedures | Ameren Illinois

Rachel Cruse is an Engineer in the Gas Standards and Procedures department with Ameren Illinois. She graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville in 2016. She began her career in 2016 with Ameren Missouri working in Electric Distribution and was in this position for about 4 years. In August of 2020, she transitioned to the Gas Standards role she currently is in today.

Devin Frerichs, Sr. Technical Advisor | JanX NDT

Devin Frerich has 15 years of experience in the energy industry. He is responsible for establishing NDE procedures and systems; designating examination methods and techniques; reviewing codes, standards, and specifications; interpreting test results and evaluating discontinuities; overseeing, directing, and implementing quality programs; training, examining, and certifying NDT Level II & I Personnel.

Daniel Grant, Senior Instructor-Welding & PE Joining | WEC Energy Group - Peoples Gas

Daniel started his career at Peoples Gas as an Operations Apprentice (OA) in August of 2010. During his time as an OA, Dan worked in the field in Distribution, Service, and Special Projects Departments. In April of 2012, Dan became a Utility Worker where he spent the next 2 ½ years in the Distribution Department working on Hits and Leaks. In 2014, Dan became an Instructor at Technical Training, training on Distribution tasks. Dan's current emphasis is instructing in Welding and Plastic Pipe Joining for company and contractor personnel. Dan has certificates from McElroy as a Fusion Inspector and CPWI+ (Certified Pipeline Welding Inspector). Dan is also a part time Firefighter for a Southwest Suburban Fire Department.

Jeff Lott, Consulting Safety Supervisor | Ameren Illinois Company

Jeff Lott is a Certified Safety Professional with over 35 years of comprehensive safety experience.

[Max Meredith, Engineering Supervisor | WEC Energy Group- Peoples Gas](#)

Max is an Engineer in Corrosion Control and Pipeline Integrity with Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas in NE Illinois, and has 8 years of experience with the inspection and maintenance of cathodically protected steel transmission and distribution systems, with additional involvement in Integrity Management, Damage Prevention, and Work Planning. He holds a NACE CP-2 Certification, as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Illinois in Chicago.

[Todd Moore, Career Engineer | Ameren Illinois Company](#)

Todd Moore is a Career Engineer at Ameren and is based out of Springfield, Illinois.

[Neal Schroeder, Gas System Analyst | WEC Energy Group - Peoples Gas](#)

Neal is a graduate of Illinois State University, where he majored in Geography. After spending 3 plus years at a parcel mapping firm in the suburban Chicago area, Neal began working for Peoples Gas in 2010. In his tenure at Peoples Gas, Neal has been a part of the GIS as-built team that supports Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas, with his primary role being the sole responsibility of as-building for North Shore Gas.

[Jake Wilken, OQ Manager | WEC Energy Group - Peoples Gas](#)

A graduate of Illinois State University with a BS in Occupational Safety, Jake began his career with Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas in 2004. Jake started as a Sr. Corporate Safety Consultant, working on corporate level projects and also supporting several company locations as well as the System Modernization Project. In 2013, Jake transitioned to the Technical Training Department as a Sr. Instructor and in 2014, became the Gas Training/Operator Qualifications Leader. Jake currently manages a training staff of 11 Instructors who deliver Operator Qualification to +1200 Field Employees and also oversee the qualifications of +400 contractors.