

**Armando J. Sanchez**

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Armando J. Sanchez has more than 30 years of experience performing and coordinating environmental impact studies for mining, infrastructure projects and industries.

He has participated in environmental impact studies for mining in the stages of prospecting, exploration, exploitation and mine closure in projects of precious metals, base metals, energy minerals, lithium (brines and pegmatites) and industrial minerals in the Provinces of Jujuy, Salta, Catamarca, La Rioja, San Juan, San Luis, Mendoza, La Pampa, Rio Negro, Chubut and Santa Cruz.

Extensive experience in environmental issues, in the stages of project formulation, construction and inspection of infrastructure works - hydropower, renewable energies (solar and wind), transmission lines (medium and high voltage), irrigation, drainage, roads, civil constructions, etc. - for federal and provincial government agencies and private companies, including works financed by multilateral credit organizations (WB, IDB, CAF).

He has conducted environmental impact studies and environmental audits for the cement, construction materials, agri-food, etc. industries.

### **Professional Experience**

#### **Environmental Consultant. San Juan, Argentina 1998 - present**

Plans, directs and executes environmental activities related to environmental impact studies for mining, infrastructure works, industrial activities, etc. Design of baseline studies and environmental monitoring. Coordination of multidisciplinary teams for the preparation of environmental impact studies (geologists, engineers, hydrologists, biologists, archaeologists, sociologists, economists, etc.). Provides support to the client in all stages of the evaluation process of an environmental impact study and regulatory support at the federal and provincial levels. Conducting environmental audits and environmental due diligence.

#### **Minas Argentinas SA. San Juan, Argentina 1994 - 1997**

Evaluation and development of precious metals (Au - Ag) exploration projects, occupying the position of assistant to the Country Manager. Responsibilities included mineral ownership, permitting and pursuit of business opportunities. Participation in the discovery of the Gualcamayo mine and responsible for the preparation of the first environmental impact report for the future mine.

#### **EULA Program (Europe - Latin America). Concepción, Chile 1990 - 1993**

Participation in the environmental baseline studies of the Bio Bio river basin and particularly of the Ralco and Pangué hydroelectric sites. Geological and geomorphological mapping, hydrological and hydrogeological investigations.

## **Key Projects (2010 – 2021)**

Some of the most relevant projects in which he has worked, in the period 2010 - 2021, are described in the following paragraphs:

**2011 - 2021 Los Azules.** Technical Responsible for the Exploration Environmental Impact Report, including the following tasks:

- Development of baseline studies and environmental monitoring (terms of reference for studies, selection of consultants, quality control of documentation, etc.);
- Development of local consultants network (individual and institutional);
- Processing and obtaining sector environmental and operational permits;
- Representation of McEwen Mining before local regulators on highly sensitive environmental, permitting and regulatory issues (glaciers and wetlands);
- Advised on environmental and regulatory issues considered in NI43-101 2013 (Samuel Engineering) and 2017 (Hatch).

In the period 2018 - 2019 represented McEwen Mining before Ausenco in the preparation of the Exploitation Environmental Impact Report being in charge of the overall review of the documents produced by the consultant and establishing strategic guidelines to address technical and regulatory issues.

Advised company executives on all environmental and regulatory aspects of the project's infrastructure works - power transmission line, northern road, airstrip, etc. - and of certain critical project components - TSF, WRSF, etc. - respectively.

Mr. Sanchez was also the Technical Responsible for all environmental reports, studies and permits for McEwen Mining's exploration operations in Santa Cruz Province (Las Yaretas SA).

**2016 - 2021 Cerro Amarillo Waste Rock Storage Facility.** Technical Advisor and Expert Witness of Antofagasta PLC in the litigation with Glencore related to the Cerro Amarillo WRSF of Los Pelambres mine (Argentina - Chile). Conducting and interpretation of ARD studies and tests. Participation in the design and environmental follow-up of the tailings disposal plan (location of monitoring wells, follow-up of surface and subway water quality evolution, evolution of high altitude wetlands, etc.). Technical representation of Antofagasta PLC before the National Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Mining of San Juan.

Mr. Sanchez, in 2015, was part of the Ausenco team in charge of the environmental impact study of the closure plan of the Cerro Amarillo tailings dump that was submitted to the Government of the Province of San Juan. He was in charge of the drafting of the Geology of the area and the general review of the Environmental Description chapter of the document.

**2016 - 2021 Energía Provincial Sociedad del Estado (EPSE).** Environmental consultant of EPSE and coordinator of the Environmental Impact Study Update of the 2nd Stage of Construction of the Multipurpose Hydroelectric Development El Tambolar on the San Juan River. He is currently advising EPSE in the follow-up of the environmental obligations of the project. He has coordinated the preparation of environmental impact studies of power transmission lines, solar parks, wind farms and biomass power generation projects.

**2010 - 2016 Casposo Mine.** Environmental consultant for Troy Resources and Austral Gold. Participated in the environmental studies of prospecting, exploration, construction and operation until the mine entered "care & maintenance". Coordinated most of the baseline studies and was general reviewer of the Environmental Impact Report Exploitation Stage. Advisor in the processing of environmental and operational permits during the construction and operation of the mine, general coordinator of compliance with environmental conditions and obligations of the EIS and also collaborating with the community relations area of the company (which allowed him to gain a broad knowledge of the different social actors of the Calingasta Department). He advised the company on environmental issues for ISO 14001 certification and in the process of implementing the International Cyanide Management Code.

Mr. Sanchez has coordinated and participated in the preparation of environmental impact studies and environmental audits in Argentina for the following companies: AbraSilver, Aldebaran Resources, AngloGold, Anglo American, Cameco, Cardero Resources, Cauldron Energy, Cia. Minas Buenaventura, Cia. Minera Piuquenes SA, Challenger Exploration, Elementos, Etex Group, Filo Mining, Fortescue, Galaxy Resources, Genesis Minerals, Goldcorp, Grosso Group, Malbex Resources (Aurelian Resources), MH Argentina SA, Minsud - South 32, Newmont, Loma Negra, Orvana, Rio Tinto, Sable Resources, Teck, Turmalina Metals, etc.

### **Education**

Specialization in Hydrology with emphasis on groundwater hydrology. Universidad Nacional del Litoral (Santa Fe), Universidad de Cuyo (Mendoza) and Universidad Nacional de San Juan (San Juan). OAS-UNESCO Fellowship. Argentina, 1989.

B.Sc. in Geological Sciences, National University of San Juan. Argentina, 1988.

Numerous seminars and training courses in environmental impact assessment, baseline studies and environmental monitoring, regulatory aspects, etc.

### **International Experience**

Argentina, Chile, Peru, Paraguay, US

### **Languages**

Spanish (fluent, read/speak/writes)

English (solid working knowledge, read/speak/writes)

### **Professional Registration**

Professional Geologist Argentina - Registration N° 2398

Professional Geologist San Juan - Registration N° J-104

Specialist in Environmental Impact Assessment - Registration N° 330. National Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.

Consultant Registry of the Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development of San Juan - Registration N° 137.