



The Leichhardt Award 2021 | Citation

Ken Preston

Summary of Original Contributions to Coal Geology and Related Disciplines in Queensland

Ken Preston has 40 years' experience working as a geologist and has been intimately involved in virtually all facets of coal geology, coal exploration, coal beneficiation, coal technology, mine technical services, project evaluation, and mine development studies.

Ken's experience has ranged over the areas of grassroots exploration for coal, delineation and evaluation of known coal resources, coal resource and coal reserve estimation and reporting, management of mine development studies, commercial evaluation and ranking of projects, coal quality and coal processing studies and technical involvement in project promotion and coal marketing.

Ken has had major involvement in the feasibility study stages of four significant coal mine developments, namely Blair Athol, Hail Creek, Clermont and the Kestrel Mine extension. Ken's specialties include coal quality studies and coal resource estimation and reviews of resource estimates.

The 2021 Leichhardt Award has been awarded in recognition of being a leading coal quality and resource evaluation expert in working with Dick Sanders to recognize the importance of in situ moisture and density in assessing coal reserves, with the Preston & Sanders formula now part of recognised procedures in this area.

Nominated by: Chris McMahon | Seconded by: Marko Seppanen