

Gregory L. "Bernie" Mason has held several senior level management positions within the coal industry over the past 46 years. Most recently, Mason owned and operated his own mining company, with operations in Virginia and West Virginia. Prior positions include President and CEO of Xinergy LTD, a TSX listed mining company with multiple mining sites throughout Central Appalachia. Prior to Xinergy, Mason was Vice President and COO of a 10-million-ton Central Appalachian coal producer operating thirteen separate mines. During the 1990's Mason was Vice President of Technical Services and Business Development for the 4th largest coal mining company in the United States, with 60 million tons of annual production located in nine states. Mason is a graduate of Morehead State University, with a B.S. Degree in geology. He began his career as a field geologist and spent his early years evaluating the mining potential of coal and precious metals projects throughout North America. Mason is a member of the Oakland Avenue Baptist Church in Catlettsburg, KY, and an active member of Gideons International. Mason is currently an ambassador and former member of the Board of Directors of Samaritans Feet, an international charity based in Charlotte, NC. Mason is currently serving his second term as a member of the Kentucky Commission on Oil and Gas, after a recent appointment by Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear. Bernie and his wife Marilyn reside in Ashland, Kentucky.