

Melissa Breathwaite
Colorado School of Mines
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For quite some time, it has been my sincere aspiration to obtain an education in environmental engineering and to enter an environmental engineering or environmental health and safety-related career path in which I am able to conduct meaningful, collaborative work in the research and resolution of current environmental issues with a variety of disciplines and diverse professionals. Having previously worked as a Process Control Specialist at MillerCoors, LLC. in Golden, Colorado, in an industrial production setting, it has also been an ongoing ambition to bridge the communication gap between engineers, management, emergency responders, and operators. Upon completion of my degree(s?), it is my intention to return to industry to effectively apply the knowledge I obtain, combined with my personal workplace experiences, in the hopes of serving as a more empathetic, informed coworker, valuable employee, and engineer-in-training. I hope to effectively advocate on worker's behalf to not only create a safer, healthier work environment in industry, but to foster a workplace culture more conducive to preserving and protecting our environment through more sustainable industrial practices. Additionally, I hope to proactively contribute in efforts to mitigate the myriad environmental issues my beloved home state Colorado faces, and to actively participate and engage within the environmental health and safety community at large to innovate and learn as much as possible throughout my career.

Working for the Colorado School of Mines Environmental Health and Safety department has been a huge inspiration for pursuing further continuing education in environmental engineering, industrial hygiene, or perhaps even law school to fulfill what has become an insatiable desire to learn as much as I can within the realm of all things environmentally-related. It has been quite exciting already to see the principles of environmental law, regulation, and engineering applied firsthand through EH&S work. It has also been tremendously fulfilling to see how engineering as a discipline overall can proactively contribute towards generating solutions for some of the most pressing environmental issues Colorado faces regarding air pollution control and regulation, water resource management, amongst myriad other topics in hazardous waste management, remediation, etc.

I confess prior to this scholarship's existence being brought to my attention, I regrettably had no idea that the Colorado Environmental Management Society existed, but the knowledge such an organization does indeed exist is incredibly exciting. I certainly hope to learn more about CEMS and any other organizations and forums that exist in Colorado that work to accomplish such an exchange of information as I would love to learn as much as I can about any and all developments in the field of environmental health and safety management as such a community will undoubtedly provide invaluable insights into the field.