

# Overview of the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

EXHIBIT 1  
DATE 2/7/2005  
HB \_\_\_\_\_

**Mission:** The Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) is a non-regulatory, applied-research and public-service agency designated to collect and disseminate information relevant to responsible development of the State's geological resources (minerals, mineral fuels, and ground water). MBMG is the State's geological survey.

**Offices:** MBMG is headquartered in Butte (on the Montana Tech of The UM campus) and maintains a regional office on the MSU-Billings campus.

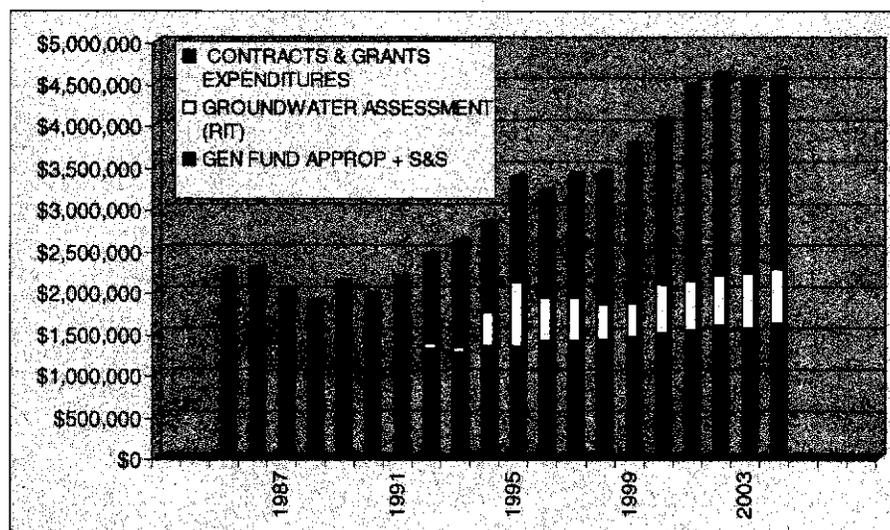
**Staff:** Approximately 60 full-time employees (about half supported by State funds and half by contracts and grants) and about 25 part-time students.

**Partnerships:** During the past 2 years the MBMG has been involved in more than 70 projects either fully or partially funded from outside sources. In these projects we have cooperated with over 100 different organizations, including:

17	Local organizations
25	Conservation districts
11	Counties
14	Federal agencies
13	State agencies and organizations
8	Universities and colleges
3	Indian reservations
9	Private / non-profit organizations
6	Other out-of-State organizations

Bureau staff also provide information for numerous groups and individuals on widely ranging projects or problems that have no outside funding sources.

**Funding:** MBMG is funded through (1) an appropriation from the State's General Fund, (2) designated funds for the Ground-Water Assessment Program, and (3) Contracts and Grants. As shown below, growth has been mostly in contracts and grants, whereas increases of general fund appropriations have averaged only 0.544% per year since 1985.



**The Bureau and Economic Development**  
(selected recent and continuing projects)

**Coal**

- National coal availability and resource assessment
- National coal-quality inventory
- National coal resources data system
- Coal lands hydrogeology

**Coalbed methane**

- CBM-resource-favorability map
- Spring and well inventory
- Ground-water monitoring network
- Ground-water modeling for final EIS
- Hydrologic impacts of CBM development
- Re-injection of CBM produced water

**Geologic mapping**

- More than 75% of the State is now covered by 1:100,000-scale digital geologic maps
- Detailed maps of selected urban areas

**Ground water**

- Ground-Water Assessment Program
- Big Hole watershed management
- Greenfields Bench aquifer evaluations
- Northern Park County water resources protection and management
- Sage Creek watershed evaluation
- Herbicides in ground water and surface water
- Sheridan County aquifer project
- Sunburst water supply renovation
- Flowing wells rehabilitation
- Mining-impact-related projects

**Hazards**

- Earthquake information center
- Landslide location and index pilot project
- Clark Canyon landslide
- Billings area hazards maps

**Minerals and mining**

- Industrial minerals projects
- Small-mine operators assistance program
- Mineral information and statistics program

**Oil and gas**

- Geologic mapping
- Stratigraphic research
- Permo-Pennsylvanian play evaluation

**Tourism**

- Mineral Museum
- Lewis and Clark geology
- Preservation of rock art at Pictograph Cave