

Biography

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Dr Richard Cresswell



Richard is Practice Leader for Coal Seam Gas related Groundwater at Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM) and is a member of the federal Environment Minister's Expert Panel for Large Coal Seam Gas Projects. He also leads significant groundwater impact assessments for the coal industry in NSW. Richard is the senior hydrogeologist in SKM's Sydney office.

Richard has over 25 years experience in geochemistry and the use of isotopes to study natural and anthropogenic processes, ranging from archaeology, meteoritics, geomorphology, biomedicine and, for the last 15 years, water dynamics. He was team leader within the Great Artesian Basin Water Resource Assessment run by CSIRO and Geoscience Australia and previously, whilst at CSIRO, he led the Northern Australia Sustainable Yields Project was part of the team that delivered the Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields Project. He has worked on projects across Australia and internationally, with an emphasis of water resources, water quality and quantifying surface-groundwater dynamics.

Born and raised in NW London, Richard earned his degree in geology from Sheffield University then achieved a Master's and Doctorate in geology from the University of Toronto, Canada. Following post-doctoral research in the Department Of Nuclear Physics, Australian National University in Canberra, Richard joined the Bureau of Rural Sciences to work on salinity issues under the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality. He moved to Brisbane in 2004 to work with CSIRO and recently moved to Sydney and joined the Natural Resource Management Sector of SKM.

Richard lives on 5 acres of temperate rainforest on the Central Coast and has a keen interest in aikido and horses, though seems to spend most of his spare time in the garden and renovating!