



Senior Construction Project Engineer

Laine Lambarth, McKinstry



Place of Employment

Spokane, WA

Employer

McKinstry

Type of Work

Construction Management for Energy Projects. McKinstry Energy Projects includes scope that enhances energy efficiency and savings in the building environment. This usually includes upgrades to heating and cooling systems, lighting, solar installations, and building envelope such as doors and windows.

Typical Day

My typical day varies. If it is an office day, I come into to work around 7:30am and start to review my priority list and emails. I then work on any of the following; addressing project issues, typing up minutes/notes, creating budgets or forecasts, issuing requests for proposals, creating/updating schedules, assembling operation and maintenance materials. My office days usually wrap up around 5:00pm. On days that I go on-site I may leave as early as 5:45am as I have projects across Eastern Washington. Once there I usually walk the site and review work completed, touch base with my onsite superintendent and have a meeting with the customer or owner's rep, all along taking notes to document the next day in the office. I then drive home and can arrive anywhere from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

What I Love About My Job

What I love about construction management is that every project is different and therefore my job never is boring. Additionally, my job allows me days on the job site meeting with the customers and the tradesmen as well as in the office working schedules, scopes and budgets. Finally, I enjoy that at the end of a project there is a tangible finished product that has contributed to society that I can be proud of being a part of.

Career Pathway

- Receptionist/legal assistant at law firm during college
- Received my B.A from George Fox University in Project Management
- Legal assistant and then Executive Assistant to the SVP of External Affairs at Iberdrola Renewables (a wind/solar energy developer)
- Construction Services Tech, then Associate Project Manager, then Project/Program Manager at Avista Utilities for the Grid Modernization Program which systematically is modernizing Avista's distribution system
- During my time at Avista, I also sat for the Project Management Institute test for Project Management Professional (PMP) which was a pre-requisite to becoming a Project Manager.
- Took some time off to spend with my young children and volunteered with school and local neighborhood association
- Recently joined the McKinstry team as a Senior Construction Project Engineer performing Construction Management for Energy Projects

Most Important Skills Needed

- Communication/interpersonal
- Organization
- Attention to detail
- Prioritization
- Tenacity/problem solver

Science and Engineering Practices I Use

- Math – budgeting/forecasts
- Mechanical Engineering review
- Electrical Engineering review
- Structural Engineering review

Technology and Equipment I Use

- Computer/smart phone
- Budgeting software
- Microsoft Project (scheduling software)
- Bluebeam Revue for contract and drawings edits/mark ups

Education Background Needed

- A B.A. in Construction Management or Engineering