

Victoria Konieczka, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY, for her project: *CO₂-Water-Rock-Interactions and Metal Mobility from The Opeche Formation, Powder River Basin, WY, USA*.



Victoria Konieczka is starting her second year as a master's student in the Geology & Geophysics Department at the University of Wyoming. Her advisor is Dr. John Kaszuba, a geochemist who specializes in water-rock interactions. Victoria's research investigates potential metal mobility and the geochemical caprock integrity of the Opeche Formation in the Powder River Basin. The Opeche Formation is the primary seal to the Minnelusa Formation, a target CO₂ reservoir. Her research aims to 1) constrain the potential metal release from the Opeche Formation upon interacting with CO₂ and 2) access the geochemical differences between the basal gray conglomerates and red mudstones of the Opeche Formation.

Victoria received her bachelor's degree in Geology from Central Michigan University (CMU). During her time at CMU, Victoria studied trace element zoning within a giant spodumene crystal using portable XRF with Dr. Mona Sirbescu. During her undergraduate studies Victoria also worked in Analytical Sciences at the Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Michigan.

Victoria enjoys spending time with her best friend Donovan and her family. She also enjoys hiking, camping, and hammocking outside in nature.

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