

Don Collins

Don Collins is the Chief Executive Officer of Western Research Institute located in Laramie, Wyoming. He and his team focus on transitioning scientific and applied research into technologies for clean zero-emission energy, environmental emissions capture, in-situ environmental remediation, water conservation and reuse, and lower cost methods for building highways.

He has 29-years of experience in engineering and management of research, design, and deployment of new technologies.

Prior to arriving at WRI, Don managed groups of scientific and engineering project managers in pursuit of the U.S. Department of Energy Clean Coal Technology RDD&D goals. For about 6.5-years he managed DOE RDD&D programs focused on fuel cells and energy storage technology for distributed and central power applications, including smart grid technologies. In this role, he was responsible for hydrogen turbines and high efficient CO₂ compressor development under the DOE's FutureGen and Carbon Sequestration programs.

Don's first 17-years were dedicated to submarine technologies and integration of complex systems for SEAWOLF and VIRGINIA Class submarines, for the U.S. Navy, including CO₂ scrubber technology.