

Candidate for IUGS Nominating Committee

Name: Zhao Wenzhi

Affiliation: CNPC Research Institute of Petroleum Exploration & Development (RIPED)



Biography:

Professor Wenzhi Zhao, born in 1958 in Changli, Hebei Province, is an academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE). He received his bachelor's degree from the Geology Department at Northwestern University in 1982. And completed his master's degree of Petroleum Geology and Exploration and doctoral degree of Mineral Resource Prospecting and Exploration from RIPED, respectively in 1984 and 2003. Visiting scholar at the University of Utah/Utah Geological Survey in the United States from 1991 to 1992. He has been employed at the RIPED since 1984, holding various positions including Office Director, Deputy Director and Director of the Petroleum Geological Research Institute, Vice-Dean and Dean of the RIPED, as well as the deputy general manager of CNPC Exploration and Production Limited Company. He presided over two major projects of the Risk Exploration and the Scientific Exploration Wells, which achieved a number of new oil and gas discoveries. He successively served as the chief scientist of the national "973" program for two terms, and the leaders for national major oil and gas projects.

For over 40 years, he has been engaged in research on the evolution of China's petroliferous basins, the distribution and accumulation regularities of oil and gas, and petroleum exploration practices. He has introduced new theories such as "sag-wide oil-bearing theory", "relay gas generation of organic matter", "multiple-staged 'gold zones' of exploration in superimposed petroliferous basins", and "large-scale accumulation and distribution of medium-low abundance hydrocarbon resources". These theories have significantly contributed to the field expansion of China's onshore oil and gas exploration and reserve discovery since the end of the last century.

He discovered the Tuha oilfield, played a crucial role in the major discovery of the Mahu billion-ton oilfield in the Junggar Basin, Xinjiang, and contributed to the discovery of natural gas reservoirs in the Sichuan Basin. He has been awarded 1 National Science and Technology Progress First Prize, 3 Second Prize, and 10 Provincial and Ministerial Science and Technology Progress and Technology Invention First Prizes. He has authored eight monographs and over 130 academic

papers as the first author. He has been honored with the Li Siguang Geological Science Award, the He Liang He Li Technology Innovation Award, and the Sun Yueqi Energy Award. He was elected as an academician of the CAE in 2013.