

# Woman opens a consulting business

**BUSINESS** | COMPANY'S FOCUS IS GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

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**EDMOND** — Kristi Bumpas works a lot of hours.

She has to. She runs the one-woman shop, Red Rock Consulting LLC, in Edmond.

Bumpas struck out on her own after her former boss sold his company. So in July, she opened Red Rock Consulting in her home, specializing in geotechnical engineering in Oklahoma and Texas.

"I knew that there were lots of opportunities for woman-owned and small businesses with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the federal government," she said. "So I figured it was as good a time as any because there is so much available in transportation and government work."

She describes geotechnical engineering as making sure any structure being built has a firm foundation. "I go out with a drill rig and test soil samples to see what the site has to offer and give foundation recommendations," she said.

Her experience includes



Kristi Bumpas works out of her Edmond home for her company, Red Rock Consulting.

PHOTO BY PAUL B. SOUTHERLAND, THE OKLAHOMAN

managing the geotechnical aspects of portions of large-scale projects such as the \$600 million Cross-town Expressway relocation in Oklahoma City, the \$70 million Interdisciplinary Science Research Building at Oklahoma State University and the \$23 million Oklahoma City Zoo Asia Exhibit.

Bumpas said she decided to launch her own business with the encouragement of former clients.

"I have some clients that I have excellent relationships with that gave me the push and said they would use me," she said.

Janet Yowell, Edmond

Economic Development Authority executive director, said more companies associated with geotechnical and small oil companies are choosing Edmond.

"What we're seeing are the entrepreneurs that come up with an idea to start something because they are in a position either through a layoff or wanting to make a change," Yowell said.

Bumpas said even in this economy it's the right time for women to consider starting a business. "I'd encourage women to step out as long as they are willing to work and produce," she said.

## TO FIND OUT MORE

For more information about Red Rock Consulting, go to [www.redrockgeo.com](http://www.redrockgeo.com).