

2016 COAL REPORT

INDIANA BUREAU OF MINES AND MINE SAFETY
AN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



Commissioner's Welcome



It is with great pride and pleasure that the Indiana Department of Labor and the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety tender the annual Coal Report to our Hoosier stakeholders for the 2016 calendar year. This annual report reflects the hard work, dedication, and safe operation of southwest Indiana's underground coal mines.

According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics' Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, the nonfatal occupational injury and illness rate for the coal mining sub-industry in 2015 was 2.7 per 100 workers. This rate remained unchanged from the previous year. The Hoosier coal mining industry did not experience any workplace fatalities in 2015.

Fostering a culture of workplace safety and health excellence requires the cooperation of the industry in its entirety—mine management, labor, government, and many others.

In 2016, Hoosier coal miners mined more than 12 million tons of clean coal. The Indiana Department of Labor applauds the efforts of our Hoosier coal mine operators and miners for the work they do each day to provide this reliable energy source.

To your health and wealth,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Rick J. Ruble". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "J".

Rick J. Ruble
Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Labor

About the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety

The Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety is a division of the Indiana Department of Labor. The Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety, located in Vincennes, Indiana, works very closely with mine management, labor, the Indiana Coal Council, and the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). The Bureau is staffed by the Assistant Commissioner, Chief Mine Inspector, and the Indiana Mining Board.

Statutory requirements necessitate the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety conduct an inspection of each underground coal mine

in the state at least once per quarter. These inspections are conducted by either the Assistant Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety or the Chief Mine Inspector. Both are certified mine foreman. All safety and health violations identified during these inspections must be immediately corrected. In addition to the state's inspections, MSHA inspectors also conduct frequent enforcement inspections.

For more information about the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety, please visit www.in.gov/dol/mines.htm.



IT seems as though it was just yesterday that then-Commissioner of Labor, Miguel R. Rivera, hired me to serve as the head of the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety. Since that day in 2006, I've had the pleasure of serving three additional Commissioners of Labor—Lori Torres, Sean Keefer, and Rick J. Ruble—and two governors—Mitch Daniels and Michael Pence.

In the 11 years that I served as the head of the Indiana Bureau of Mines, I have been truly blessed to have associated with many special people—first and foremost—members of the Indiana mining community. From the Hoosier coal mines and mine operators to the Indiana mine rescue teams, and the Indiana Coal Council and Indiana Mining Board, my life has been forever shaped by our interactions—some of them one-on-one in a mine emergency response drill and training exercises and some in a group setting while working on projects to further enhance the safety and health of Hoosier miners.

I have also been very fortunate to have some of the best coworkers one could ask for at the Indiana Department of Labor. I could not begin to list the names of all who have helped me through the years for fear of leaving someone out, but please know that I will remember each and every one of you fondly.

This job has given me far more than I could have ever given it. Alongside Indiana's bravest men and women working in the mines, we've celebrated many successes – reductions in underground coal mining injury and illness rates as well as the development of new mine training facility at Vincennes University, to name a couple.

Thank you for your support these past 11 years and for defining my passion.

With a very heartfelt thank you,

Don "Blink" McCorkle
Retiring Assistant Commissioner, Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety



Indiana Mining Board

The Indiana Mining Board is a five-member board appointed to a four-year term by the Governor of the state of Indiana. The members of the Indiana Mining Board are charged with administering the laws of the state of Indiana concerning underground coal mines.

By state statute, two members of the Indiana Mining Board must be experienced underground coal miners in non-supervisory roles. Two other members must be experienced underground coal mine operators. The fifth member appointed to the Indiana Mining Board must be a member of the general public who is not affiliated with the underground coal mining industry. Each year, the Board elects a chairman who will serve a one-year term.

The Indiana Mining Board collects and provides information pertaining to the occupational safety and health of Hoosier underground coal miners. The Indiana Mining Board is also responsible for promoting the technical proficiency of all underground coal miners. The Indiana Mining Board administers certification examinations to Hoosier coal miners to help ensure coal miners understand and can carry out special tasks. Testing is offered on the second Saturday of January, April, July, and October for the following certifications: mine foreman, mine examiners, hoisting engineers, shot firers, and belt examiners.

For more information about the Indiana Mining Board, please visit the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety website at www.in.gov/dol/mines.htm.

Indiana Mining Board Members

Tim Emmons (Chairman)

For the past 22 years, Tim Emmons has served as Chairman of the Indiana Mining Board. A veteran coal mining professional, Mr. Emmons is a certified MSHA trainer with more than 30 years of experience in coal mining.

John Stachura

John Stachura has served on the Indiana Mining Board since 1985 and has 43 years of experience in all areas of coal mining from machine operation to senior-level management.

Paul Lake

Serving as the Indiana Mining Board's representative of the public since 2012, Paul Lake is the Executive Director of the Pike County Economic Growth and Development Council.

Greg Xanders

Appointed to the Indiana Mining Board in 2014, Greg Xanders is a seasoned Mine Safety Trainer with more than 40 years of experience in coal mining.

Chris Whitehead

Chris Whitehead is an engineer with Boyd Brothers Construction. Chris Whitehead was appointed to the Indiana Mining Board in 2007.

Mining Certifications

In 2016, the Indiana Mining Board issued 67 certifications for the following mine foreman, mine examiners, hoisting engineers, shot firers, and belt examiners. A table below provides a breakdown of certifications issued.

Certification	Mine Foreman	Mine Examiner	Shot Firer	Hoisting Engineer	Belt Examiner
Number Issued	44	10	0	13	0

Mining Permits and Licenses

Mining applicants seeking employment in the underground coal mines must receive a miner's permit from the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety. Indiana law requires that anyone employed in an underground mine must demonstrate sufficient intelligence and character as to not be a danger to life and property. A total of 52 miner's permits and licenses were issued in 2016.

Permit/License	Miner's Permit	Miner's License
Number Issued	8	44

2016 Indiana Coal Production

The table below illustrates amounts of clean coal produced by each Indiana underground coal mine in 2016.

Coal Mine	County	Employees	Tons of Clean Coal Produced	Coal Seam
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #1 Mine	Knox	368	3,827,739	Indiana 5
Peabody Coal Mine Francisco Mine	Gibson	290	2,153,789	Indiana 5
Gibson County Coal Gibson South Mine	Gibson	285	3,943,330	Springfield 5
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #2 Mine	Knox	234	1,946,919	Indiana 5
Sunrise Coal Company Carlisle Mine	Sullivan	22	3,957	Indiana 5
Gibson County Coal Company Gibson Mine North	Gibson	17	1,396	Springfield 5
ERC Mining Indiana Corporation Gold Star Mine	Green	6	14,871	Indiana 4
Triad Underground Mining Log Creek Mine	Pike	2	249,316	Indiana 5
Triad Underground Mining Freelandville West Mine	Knox	0	137,575	Indiana 5
TOTAL TONAGE OF CLEAN COAL PRODUCED			12,278,912	

Indiana Mine Rescue

Under the supervision of the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety at Vincennes University, the state of Indiana maintains a fully-equipped mine rescue station. This mine rescue station has all the required equipment to outfit two fully-trained mine rescue teams.

The state of Indiana has a fully trained mine rescue team that exceeds federal training requirements. These dedicated individuals are volunteers from [Sunrise Coal Company's Carlisle Mine](#); [ERC Mining Indiana Corporation's Gold Star Mine](#); and [Triad Coal Company's Freelandville West](#) and [Log Creek Mines](#). To ensure adequate protection and compliance with 30 CFR 49, the team also contracts with [Peabody Coal Company's Francisco Mine](#) Rescue Team.

In addition, the Indiana coal mining industry has the extra protection of having four additional fully trained teams. These teams are comprised of representatives from Gibson County Coal and Sunrise Coal Company. The 2016 Indiana Mine Rescue Team is trained by Assistant Commissioner Don "Blink" McCorkle and Chief Mine Inspector Steve Riley. Riley also serves as an Indiana Mine Rescue Team member. The Indiana State's Mine Rescue Teams competed in two separate mine rescue contests and a mine rescue skills competition this year. Contests were held in Vincennes, Indiana and Madisonville, Kentucky. Exercising both physical and mental capacities, participation in these contests is important. Participation in these contests provides opportunities for the mine rescue team members to engage in variety of hands-on tasks including firefighting and fire hose management and administering first aid as well as gaining proficiency in the use of mine rescue equipment and apparatuses that are likely to be used during mine emergencies.

It is the discipline to prepare that leads to success, and through the training and dedication of these individuals and all mine rescue teams nationwide, this has proven to be true. Some mine rescue teams nationwide have been in rescue and recovery operations, and others have not, but all are ready and prepared at a moment's notice. Mine rescue team members are a special breed, because they are willing to risk their lives for those of their coal mining brothers and sisters who may need help.

2016 Indiana Mine Rescue Team Members

OAKTOWN MINE

Dave Daniels
William Hamilton
Robert King
Chad Smith

LOG CREEK MINE

Mike Hersel
Joby Johnson
Patrick "Pup" Smith

FREELANDVILLE WEST MINE

Neal Stakeman

CARLISLE MINE

Rusty Berry

GOLD STAR MINE

Chris Gibson

FRANCISCO MINE

Justin Johnson
Terry Morson

GIBSON SOUTH MINE

Cody Robinson
Ethan Harvey

INDIANA BUREAU OF MINES AND MINE SAFETY

Steve Riley

DEFINITIONS

Occupational Injuries

An injury that requires medical attention or results in death, loss of consciousness, temporary reassignment, or transfer to another job is classified as an occupational injury.

Occupational Illnesses

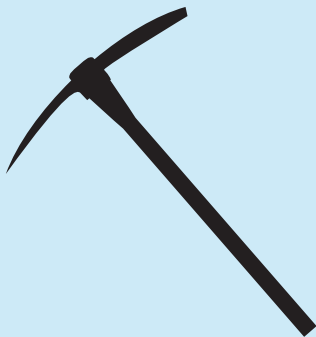
An occupational illness is an illness or disease that results from work at the mine and for which compensation is made.

Accidents

Accidents are incidents resulting in life-threatening injury, death, entrapment, inundation of gas or liquid, unplanned fires, explosions, unstable conditions, or roof collapses.

Incident Reporting

Mine operators must report each occupational injury or illness occurring at a mine within ten working days. Accidents must be reported within 15 minutes of the operator learning of the accident.



Right: A newly hired miner receives training on the battery scoop. The battery scoop is used to clean the coal or rock from the floor, ribs, or feeder in the mine.

Occupational Injuries in Hoosier Coal Mining

The Indiana Department of Labor and the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety, along with our partners at MSHA and every Hoosier mine operator, are dedicated to reducing and eliminating workplace hazards in the underground coal mines. In 2016, there were about 30 percent fewer reportable accidents than in 2015. See the chart below.

Coal Mine	County	Employees	Reportable Accidents	Lost Time Accidents
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #1 Mine	Knox	368	20	9
Peabody Coal Mine Francisco Mine	Gibson	290	12	5
Gibson County Coal Gibson South Mine	Gibson	285	6	4
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #2 Mine	Knox	234	10	6
Sunrise Coal Company Carlisle Mine	Sullivan	22	1	1
Gibson County Coal Company Gibson Mine North	Gibson	17	0	0
ERC Mining Indiana Corporation Gold Star Mine	Green	6	0	0
Triad Underground Mining Log Creek Mine	Pike	2	1	0
Triad Underground Mining Freelandville West Mine	Knox	0	1	1
TOTAL		1,224	51	26



Follow the **#IDOL** on Social Media

News Releases · Event and Campaign Announcements · OSHA Updates · Seasonal Safety and Health · Teen Worker Resources · Best Practices for Employers · Job Openings · And much more!
Click below to find us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), & [Youtube](#)!

Remember!!

@INDeptofLabor



facebook.com/
IndianaDepartmentofLabor



youtube.com/IndianaDOL





Commissioner Rick J. Ruble
402 West Washington Street, Room W195
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-2655 | www.in.gov/dol