

Annual Report

Indiana Department of Labor Indiana Bureau of Mines 2006



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor, State of Indiana

“Our underground coal mines provide great benefits to this state. Coal mining plays an intricate role in economic stability, by providing jobs for Hoosiers and resources for consumption. I am committed to ensuring that Indiana miners are working in safe conditions. The Bureau of Mines, a division of the Indiana Department of Labor has made great strides in ensuring Hoosier mine safety, but there is more work to be done. We will always be striving to provide a better and safer future for our Hoosier workers.”




INside Indiana's Mines

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The Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety, a division of the Indiana Department of Labor, is staffed by the Deputy Commissioner and the Indiana Mining Board. Beginning in July 2007, due to an appropriation by the Indiana General Assembly, a full time Mine Inspector will also join the staff. Under the direction of Governor Mitch Daniels, coal production is an integral part of Indiana's economy. The Bureau of Mines operates to make sure that the mining of coal is done safely and in compliance with Indiana's mining laws.

The bureau conducts quarterly spot inspections at all underground mines in Indiana as well as annual inspections of all augering operations in surface mines. It is also charged with the responsibility of investigating all fatal and serious nonfatal accidents in the mining industry in Indiana.

The Indiana Mining Board administers examinations quarterly to certify coal miners in the following classifications: Mine foreman, Mine Examiner, Belt Examiner, Hoisting Engineer, and Shot Firer.

A fully equipped mine rescue station is maintained by the bureau. Mine rescue equipment, including breathing apparatus, gas detectors, booster pumps, mine rescue van, communication capabilities, and supplies sufficient to accommodate two mine rescue teams, are housed under the direction of the Bureau of Mines. This equipment is available for immediate use.

The bureau also keeps mine maps and records of the mining in Indiana and makes all non-confidential maps and records available to the public via digitized discs on the Indiana Geological Survey Website.

The Indiana Bureau of Mines is dedicated to making sure that the miners are working safely and that the mines in Indiana are a safe place to work.

Sincerely,

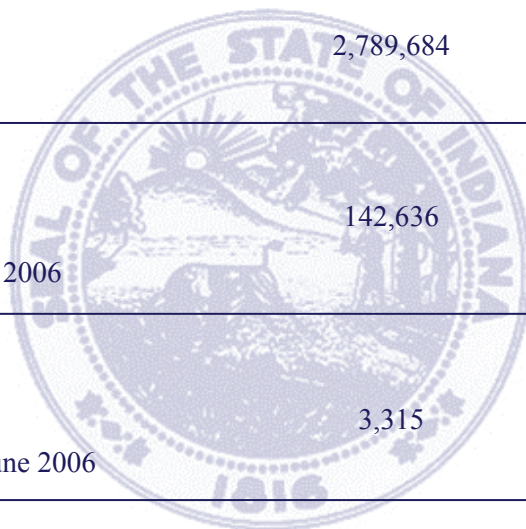


Don "Blink" McCorkle

Deputy Commissioner—Indiana Bureau of Mines

Annual Statistics Report for 2006 Underground Mining in Indiana

| <u>Mine</u> | <u>Tons of Coal Produced</u> | <u>Coal Seam</u> |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Black Beauty Underground, Inc. Air Quality #1 Mine Monroe City, Indiana, <i>Knox County</i> <i>Employees: 301</i> | 2,195,973 | Danville #7 |
| Gibson County Coal, LLC Gibson Mine Princeton, Indiana, <i>Gibson County</i> <i>Employees: 280</i> | 3,572,577 | #5 Seam |
| Five Star Mining, Inc. Prosperity Mine Petersburg, Indiana, <i>Pike County</i> <i>Employees: 340</i> | 2,789,684 | Springfield #5 |
| Sunrise Coal Company Howesville Mine Howesville, Indiana, <i>Clay County</i> <i>Employees: Mining Ceased in June 2006</i> | 142,636 | Indiana Lower Block |
| Sunrise Coal Company Carlisle Mine Carlisle, Indiana, <i>Sullivan County</i> <i>Employees: 69, Mining Began in June 2006</i> | 3,315 | #5 Seam |
| Triad Underground Mining Freelandville Mind Edwardsport, Indiana, <i>Knox County</i> <i>Employees: 58</i> | 466,469 | #5 Seam |
| Black Beauty Coal Company Francisco Mine Francisco, Indiana, <i>Gibson County</i> <i>Employees: 72</i> | 1,132,735 | #5 Seam |
| White River Coal Company Hazleton Mine Hazleton, Indiana, <i>Gibson County</i> <i>Employees: 101</i> | 478,272 | #7 Seam |



Indiana Mining Incidents—2006

In 2006, Indiana Mines remained fatality-free.

| <u>Mine</u> | <u>Incidents</u> | <u>LTA</u> | <u>Non-LTA</u> |
|---------------------|------------------|------------|----------------|
| Air Quality #1 Mine | 16 | 9 | 7 |
| Gibson Mine | 16 | 8 | 3 |
| Prosperity Mine | 11 | 8 | 3 |
| Howesville Mine | 11 | 6 | 5 |
| Carlisle Mine | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Freelandville Mind | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| Francisco Mine | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Hazleton Mine | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| <i>Total</i> | 67 | 35 | 32 |

Permits, Licenses, and Certifications Issued in 2006

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Miner's Permits..... | 187 |
| Miner's Licenses..... | 170 |
| Certifications for: | |
| Mine Foreman..... | 24 |
| Fireboss..... | 16 |
| Belt Examiner..... | 5 |
| Hoisting Engineer..... | 6 |
| Shot Firer..... | 2 |

The state testing format was changed in October of 2006. The testing, grading, and mapping formats were updated. There are now two practical parts of the testing done along with the written portion and these include gas testing and air reading practical tests. New study guides were put on computer disc which are provided to each mine and as the testing is updated the mines will be updated with a disc with the information needed. The new testing format was an effort contributed by the Indiana Mining Board, Greg Xanders of Peabody Coal, Mike Stanley of Gibson Coal Company, and Don McBride from Illinois State Bureau of Mines.

Indiana's Mining Board

Timothy Emmons/Chairman
Don Fiestal
Joe Hamilton
Terry Mooney
John A. Stachura, Jr.

Members of the Indiana Mining Board are appointed by the Governor of the State of Indiana to a term of four years. The Indiana Mining Board executes and administers the laws of the State of Indiana concerning coal mines and collects and distributes information concerning the health and safety of the mines and miners. The board promotes the training of mine personnel and examines all applicants for state certification as Mine Foreman, Mine Examiner, Shot Firer, Hoisting Engineer and Belt Examiner.

Indiana Mine Rescue Team

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cory Baker | Julie Bedwell | Troy Goodman | Eric Head | Tory Hinton |
| Mark Lyon | Shane Meadows | Bob Mowery | Steve Riley | David Roach |
| Terry Thombleson | Tony Wilson | Mike Workman | | |

The Indiana Mine Rescue station is housed under the direction of the Indiana Bureau of Mines and is located at the Bureau of Mines office site on the campus of Vincennes University.

The bureau is actively involved with the Indiana Mine Rescue Association (IMRA) which is a member of the National Mine Rescue Association. The Bureau of Mines has two fully trained and equipped mine rescue teams, which provide rescue and recovery services for all underground mines in the state of Indiana. One of Indiana's mines, Gibson County Coal Co., has its own mine rescue team, which will provide support should the need arise.

Indiana's Mine Rescue Team is trained by Greg Xanders, Instructor, Peabody Training Center, and Don "Blink" McCorkle, Deputy Commissioner for the Indiana Bureau of Mines. The teams participated in four mine rescue competitions. The competitions simulate different mine disaster scenarios and the teams work through these scenarios with their equipment and training to solve the given problem. They are scored by their peers and federal and state officials on how well they performed the given exercises. Indiana's Mine Rescue Team is comprised of employee representatives from each of Indiana's underground mines.

These employees are dedicated and responsible individuals who give their time to ensure Indiana Mines are a safe place to work. In the four competitions in which the team competed, they finished first in the Western Kentucky Mining Institute Contest and third in the Kentucky State Contest.

2006 Indiana Mine Disaster Drill

Though 2006 was one of the safest years in Indiana mining history, the rest of the mining community was not so lucky. The tragedy in West Virginia at the Sago mine gave genesis to what has become a deepening relationship of cooperation between the Indiana Coal Council, Indiana's underground coal mining industry, the Indiana Bureau of Mines and the Indiana Department of Labor. The result in Indiana was the planning and execution of a first-of-its-kind mine drill.

With Governor Daniels' encouragement, a committee of Indiana's best underground coal miners, Federal Mine Safety and Health Administration, state government, and the Indiana Coal Council met in secret for six months planning the unannounced mine disaster and rescue drill. The drill was held on June 20, 2006 at the Black Beauty South Hart St. Portal of the Air Quality Mine. We learned a lot and specific improvements are planned as a result.

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