

Indiana Coal Mine Safety

August 17, 2007

Executive Summary

- The Indiana Department of Labor has improved Indiana Miner safety
 - Equipment upgrade
 - Education & training
 - Experienced personnel
- The rate of injuries and illnesses in Indiana Mines is lower than neighboring states and the national average.
- Since 1993 less than 2% of coal mine fatalities occurred in Indiana mines.



2005-2007 Department of Labor Bureau of Mines Accomplishments

- Hired new Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau of Mines, Don 'Blink' McCorkle, an experienced miner (35 years) and mine rescue team member (15 years).
- \$30,000 spent to upgrade mine rescue equipment.
- Spearheaded the overhaul of Indiana's outdated mining regulatory scheme, to become consistent with federal laws, including the MINER Act and generally improve the safety of miners.

Accomplishments continued

- Developed Cooperative partnerships with
 - Mining industry
 - Indiana Coal Council
 - Aggregate Mining Association
- Obtained almost \$900,000 grant from Department of Labor for a 6-year miner safety program at Vincennes University
- Secured appropriation for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 for new position of Chief Mine Inspector
- Conducted mock disaster drill in June 2006 at the Black Beauty Coal Mine in Vincennes, which included command center, underground rescue, and family and media contact practice.

Mine Rescue Team

Coal Mine Rescue Team Details		
Team Name: INDIANA STATE RESCUE TEAMS (RED & BLACK)		
Company Name: INDIANA BUREAU OF MINES & MINE SAFETY		
Address: VINCENNES UNIV. TECH. CNTR. 1002 N. 1st. STREET VINCENNES IN 47591		
Contact: DON McCORKLE	Work Phone: (812) 888-4514	Home Phone: (812) 890-2304 24 Hour Number: (812) 890-6689
Competition: YES	Number of Teams: 2	Number of Team Members: 14
Number of Apparatus: 16	Name of Apparatus: BIOMARINE 240	
Team Type: COMPOSITE TEAM	Number of Mines Covered: 2	Team Training: 8 HRS/MONTH
Activities During Training: SIMULATE MINE DISASTERS, FIRE FIGHTING, IN-MINE SMOKE, COMPETITION		
Team Funded: MINING COMPANIES RECEIVING COV		

- Indiana mine rescue teams participate in several state and regional mine rescue competitions.
- Mine rescue contests are designed to sharpen skills and test the knowledge of team members who would be called on to respond to a mine emergency. The contest requires team members to solve a hypothetical problem while being timed and observed by judges according to complex rules.
- Contests hosted in Indiana in 2007:
 - June 6-7 Vincennes
 - March 29 Vincennes

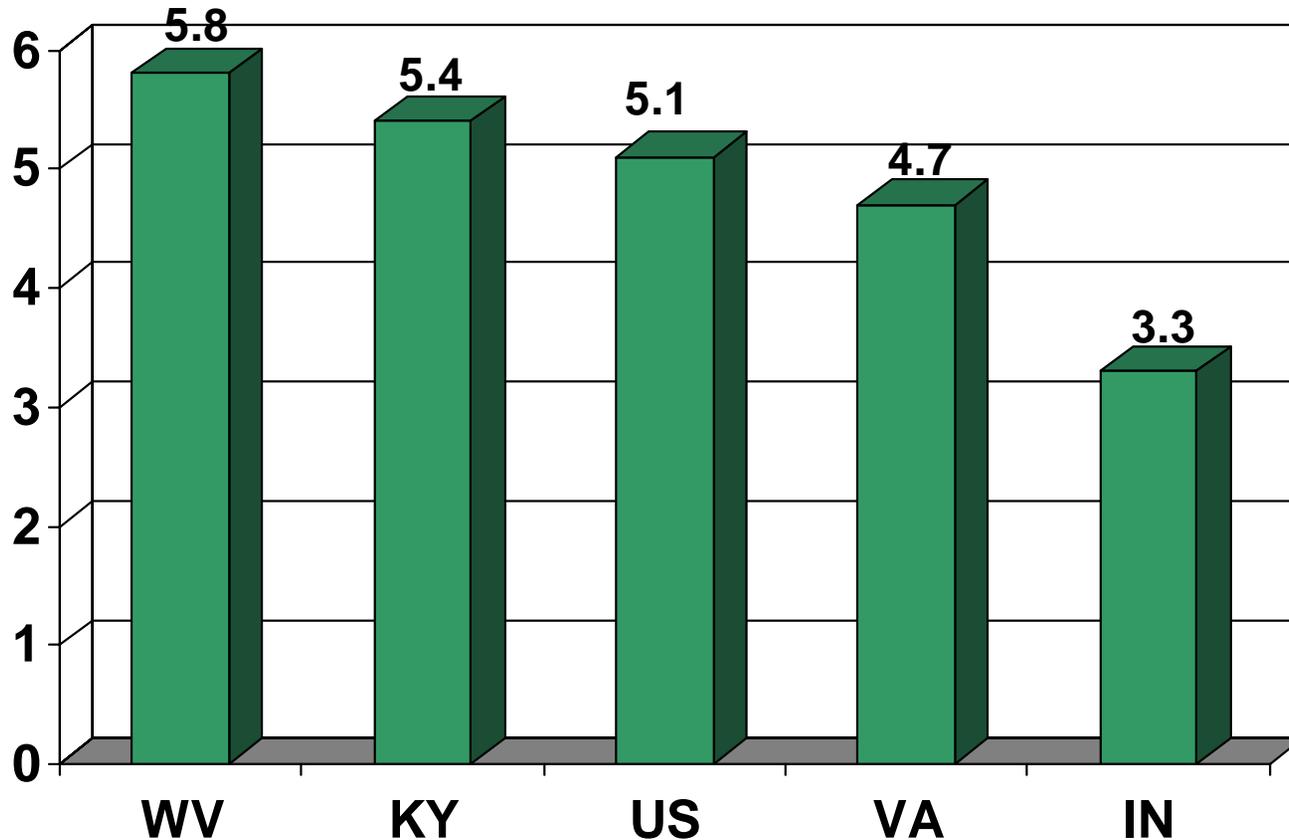
Statistics summary

- From 2003 to 2005 the Indiana injury and illness rate for mining* decreased 24%
 - 2003 5.9
 - 2004 5.3
 - 2005 4.5
 - 2006 Available in October 2007
- Since 1993 less than 2% of coal mine fatalities occurred in Indiana mines (11 out of 565)
- Since 1993 there have been 11 occupational fatalities in Indiana Mines - only 5 occurred underground.
- The most recent mine fatality in Indiana prior to the August 10th, 2007, mine construction shaft event was in 2004.

Top Coal Mine Citations – All US

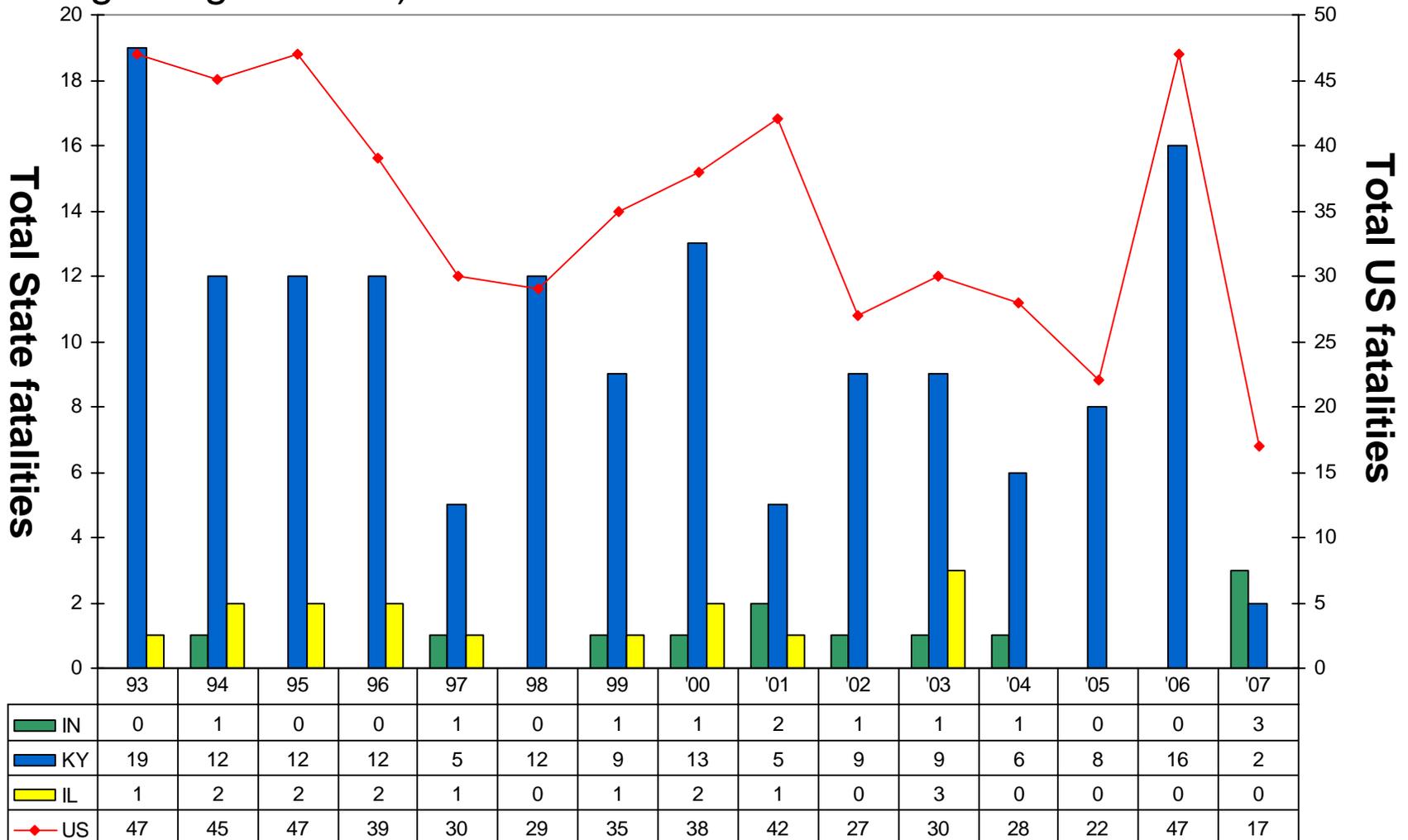
- 75.400 Accumulation of Combustible Material
 - Coal dust, including float coal dust deposited on rock-dusted surfaces, loose coal, and other combustible materials, shall be cleaned up and not be permitted to accumulate in active workings, or on diesel-powered and electric equipment therein.
- 75.503 Permissible Electric Face Equipment Maintenance
 - The operator of each coal mine shall maintain in permissible condition all electric face equipment required by [§§75.500](#), [75.501](#), [75.504](#) to be permissible which is taken into or used in by the last open crosscut of any such mine.
- 75.370(a)(1) Mine Ventilation Plan, Submittal & Application
 - The operator shall develop and follow a ventilation plan approved by the district manager. The plan shall be designed to control methane and respirable dust and shall be suitable to the conditions and mining system at the mine. The ventilation plan shall consist of two parts, the plan content as prescribed in [§75.371](#) and the ventilation map with information as prescribed in [§75.372](#). Only that portion of the map which contains information required under [§75.371](#) will be subject to approval by the district manager.

Coal Mining* Injury & Illness Incidence Rate 2005



Coal Mine Fatalities

(through August 2007)



Recent Coal Mine Fatalities

- August 16, Utah, Crandall Canyon Mine. 3 Mine rescue workers killed in cave-in attempting to reach 6 trapped miners from August 6 incident.
- August 10, Gibson County Coal. 3 persons killed in fall from elevator bucket while descending in a construction shaft.
- August 6, Utah, Crandall Canyon Mine. 6 miners trapped in cave-in. Report not available.
- August 4th , West Virginia, Rockhouse Creek Development LLC. Report not available.
- July 30th, Alabama, Jim Walter Resources. A 27-year old roofing contractor was fatally injured when he fell approximately 28 feet through the roof of a maintenance shop. The victim apparently either stepped on a fiberglass skylight, causing it to break, or fell through an opening adjacent to the skylight while removing old roof material.
- July 16th, Kentucky, CAM Mining LLC. A mechanic with 20 years of mining experience was fatally injured at a surface mine when he was struck by fly rock from blasting operations. The victim and another mechanic had just completed their shift in an equipment parking/service area approximately 1,500 feet from the area being blasted.
- July 2, Alabama, Twin Pines Coal Co. A 59 year old bulldozer operator with over 35 years experience was fatally injured when he was struck by a pickup truck. The victim and two other operators were near their equipment when a foreman instructed them to move in preparation for a blast. The victim was apparently walking back to his bulldozer when the foreman, who was using the truck's side mirrors to drive, backed over him.