



2017 COAL REPORT

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

Message from Commissioner Ruble



Thank you for your interest in the Indiana Department of Labor and the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety annual Coal Report. This report reflects the activities of the Indiana Bureau of Mines and our partners—Indiana’s coal mine operators and the miners themselves. The Indiana Department of Labor is proud of the hard work put forward by the Hoosier underground coal mining industry to ensure the 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 2016 was 2.4 per 100 workers. This rate reflects an 11 percent decrease in nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses from previous year (2.7).

Fostering a culture of workplace safety and health excellence requires the attention and cooperation of the coal mining industry in its entirety—mine management, labor, government, as well as other key stakeholders. The Indiana Department of Labor deeply appreciates the great working relationship of this industry.

In 2017, Hoosier coal miners were responsible for mining more than 14 million tons of clean coal. The Indiana Department of Labor is proud to feature 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 black ink that reads "Rick J. Ruble". The signature is stylized and cursive.

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 Steve Riley and Chief Mine Inspector Joby Johnson as well as the Indiana Mining Board.

Indiana law requires the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety conduct an inspection of each underground coal mine in the state at least once

per quarter. Coal mine inspections are conducted by either the Assistant Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety or the Chief Mine Inspector. Both individuals are certified mine foreman. Any safety and health violations identified during these inspections must be corrected immediately. In addition to the state’s inspections, federal MSHA inspectors also conduct frequent enforcement inspections of Indiana’s underground coal mines.

Please visit www.in.gov/dol/mines.htm to learn more about Indiana’s underground coal mines.

A Word from the Assistant Commissioner

Late in 2016, Don “Blink” McCorkle, Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety, informed me he would be retiring at the end of the year. I pleaded with him to stay. Unsurprisingly, he chose to retire. He did, however, ask if I’d be interested in taking his place in leading the mining division of the Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL).



Although I enjoyed my career within the mining division, I was not keen on the idea of taking on that responsibility (at first). Prior to Blink’s retirement, I served as Chief Mine Inspector and was very happy serving in that role.

On December 31, 2016, Blink retired and ended his 11-year run as Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety for the IDOL. The division needed a new leader. The Bureau of Mines needed an Assistant Commissioner. Months went by as I played the role of “interim” Assistant Commissioner while the state sought a replacement for Blink. About six months into the state’s search for a new leader, it was then I realized I could best serve Indiana’s miners from said position. I could take on additional responsibilities and help the Hoosier state continue forward.

Assistant Commissioner isn’t a job to be taken lightly. It involves promoting safety and health within the mining industry of Indiana, while developing good working relationships with Hoosier mine operators and miners, and the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

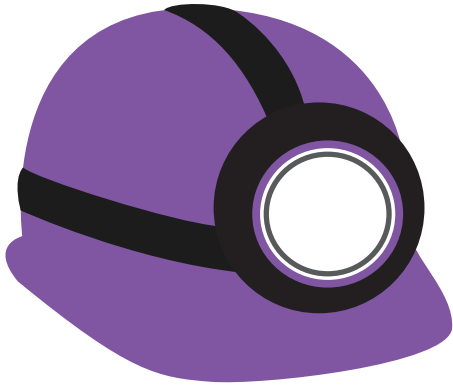
It has also been my pleasure to work with our new Chief Mine Inspector Joby Johnson, a gentleman with over 20 years of experience in the mining industry and an excellent team member in our division’s efforts to enhance the occupational safety and health for miners across the state.

As Assistant Commissioner, I aim to see Indiana’s mines back to full production with the best occupational safety and health record in all of the United States of America. Our state has mines that need to be operating and need to be productive. There are jobs available for new miners, and our goal is to fill those positions. We will reduce mine fatalities in all states with team work, communication, and perseverance. Working side-by-side with the Mine Safety and Health Administration, we can accomplish anything. It can and will be done.

We are here for the well-being of our miners, our brothers and sisters who work hard to keep Indiana lit and warm. I am proud to lead this division to accomplish that mission.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven E. Riley".

Steven E. Riley
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.

MEMBERS OF THE INDIANA MINING BOARD

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 the general manager for Basiloid Diversified Products. Chris Whitehead was appointed to the Indiana Mining Board in 2007.

MINING CERTIFICATIONS

In 2017, the Indiana Mining Board issued 53 certifications for the following mine foreman, mine examiners, hoisting engineers, shot firers, and belt examiners. A table below provides a listing of certifications issued.

Certification	Mine Foreman	Mine Examiner	Shot Firer	Hoisting Engineer	Belt Examiner
Number Issued	35	5	1	12	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. There were a total of 186 miner’s permits and licenses issued in 2017—more than triple those issued in 2016.

Permit/License	Miner’s Permit	Miner’s License
Number Issued	92	94

2017 INDIANA COAL PRODUCTION

The table below illustrates amounts of clean coal produced by each Indiana underground coal mine in 2017.

Coal Mine	County	Employees	Tons of Clean Coal Produced	Coal Seam
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #1 Mine	Knox	286	3,684,040	Indiana 5
Peabody Coal Mine Francisco Mine	Gibson	297	2,209,147	Indiana 5
Gibson County Coal Gibson South Mine	Gibson	420	5,955,676	Springfield 5
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #2 Mine	Knox	235	2,547,256	Indiana 5
Sunrise Coal Company Carlisle Mine	Sullivan	11	0	Indiana 5
Gibson County Coal Company Gibson Mine North	Gibson	24	0	Springfield 5
ERC Mining Indiana Corporation Gold Star Mine	Green	4	0	Indiana 4
Triad Underground Mining Log Creek Mine	Pike	2	0	Indiana 5
Triad Underground Mining Freelandville West Mine	Knox	0	0	Indiana 5
TOTAL TONAGE OF CLEAN COAL PRODUCED			14,396,119	

INDIANA MINE RESCUE

The Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety, located at Vincennes University, 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 trained rescue team that exceeds federal training requirements. These dedicated individuals are volunteers from Oaktown Mine, Francisco Mine, Triad Mine Log Creek, and Gibson South Mine. To ensure adequate protection and compliance with 30 CFR 49, trained mine rescue team personnel are also available from **Peabody Coal Company's Francisco Mine, Oaktown,** and **Gibson County Coal.**



In addition, the Indiana coal mining industry has the extra protection of having three additional fully trained teams. These teams are comprised of representatives from Gibson County Coal and Sunrise Coal Company. The 2017 Indiana Mine Rescue Team is trained by Assistant Commissioner Steve Riley and Chief Mine Inspector Joby Johnson also serves as an Indiana Mine Rescue Team member. The Indiana State's Mine Rescue Teams competed in three 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.

2017 INDIANA MINE RESCUE TEAM MEMBERS

OAKTOWN MINE

Derek Smith
Chad Smith
William Hamilton

GIBSON SOUTH MINE

Carl Jentry
Nathan Stevens

FRANCISCO MINE

Trevon Burton
Terry Morson

INDIANA BUREAU OF MINES AND MINE SAFETY

Joby Johnson
Steve Riley

TRIAD MINE LOG CREEK

Mike Hersel



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: Mine rescue team members from Sunrise Coal and Oaktown Mine work a problem on the field during the 2017 Mine Rescue Team Contest in West Virginia.

OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES IN HOOSIER COAL MINING

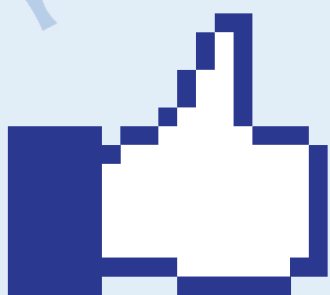
The Indiana Department of Labor and the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mine Safety, along with its MSHA partners and every Hoosier mine operator, are dedicated to reducing and eliminating workplace hazards in the underground coal mines.

Coal Mine	County	Employees	Reportable Accidents	Lost Time Accidents
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #1 Mine	Knox	286	8	5
Peabody Coal Mine Francisco Mine	Gibson	297	16	12
Gibson County Coal Gibson South Mine	Gibson	420	12	16
Sunrise Coal Company Oaktown Fuels #2 Mine	Knox	235	14	6
Sunrise Coal Company Carlisle Mine	Sullivan	11	1	1
Gibson County Coal Company Gibson Mine North	Gibson	24	3	1
ERC Mining Indiana Corporation Gold Star Mine	Green	4	0	0
Triad Underground Mining Log Creek Mine	Pike	2	0	0
Triad Underground Mining Freelandville West Mine	Knox	0	0	0
TOTAL		1,297	54	41





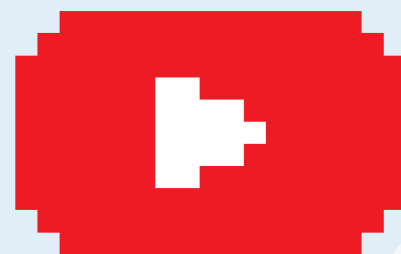
CONNECT WITH THE IDOL



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