

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Harrisburg



1980

ANNUAL REPORT ON MINING ACTIVITIES

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

October 5, 1981



The Secretary

The Honorable Richard Thornburgh
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Thornburgh:


It is with extreme pleasure that the Department of Environmental Resources herewith submits the 1980 Annual Report on Mining Activities.

The information on anthracite and bituminous coal is in compliance with the Pennsylvania Anthracite Coal Mining Act (November 10, 1965, P.L. 346) as amended and the Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal Mine Act (July 17, 1961, P.L. 659) as amended.

The record of accomplishments in mineral production reflect that our organizational approach and program structure is providing the Commonwealth with efficient and effective management.

This edition represents the 11th Consecutive Annual Report Concerning Anthracite and Bituminous Coal Mining Activities, and includes as well, data on pits and quarries within the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,


CLIFFORD L. JONES



CLIFFORD L. JONES
BIOGRAPHY

Clifford L. "Cliff" Jones was sworn in as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources on February 23, 1979.

He was named to the post by Gov. Dick Thornburgh, who said he chose Jones because of his record as a problem-solving administrator.

The Department, with 4,600 employees and an annual budget of nearly \$120 million, is responsible for protecting Pennsylvania's air, water and land and for making sure the state's natural resources are used wisely.

DER is the third cabinet-level post Jones has held in a 26-year career of public service.

He was Secretary of the Department of Labor and Industry from March 1969 to June 1970, and Secretary of the Commerce Department from January 1967 to April 1968. At one point, he briefly held both jobs at the same time.

As Secretary of Commerce, Jones was a member of the Sanitary Water Board and the Air Pollution Commission, which were responsible for pollution control before DER was created.

Much of Jones' career in public service has been devoted to providing jobs for people and new industries to help local and state economies.

He was Deputy Secretary of Commerce from April 1963 to January 1967, where his duties included serving as Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority.

From October 1957 to April 1963, Jones was Executive Director of the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce and Can-Do, Inc., a non-profit industrial development corporation.

For his success in bringing jobs to Hazleton, Jones was named the Hazleton Jaycees' Outstanding Young Man of the Year in 1962 and the Pennsylvania Jaycees' Outstanding Young Man of the Year in 1963.

Jones was a Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association.

He also was Executive Director of the Lawrence County Council of Boy Scouts of America, Executive Manager for the Dover, Ohio Chamber of Commerce and the Dover Industrial Development Corp., Chairman of the Luzerne County Tourist Promotion Council, Secretary of the Anthracite Expressway Association and Secretary-Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce Executives.

As State Republican Chairman from 1970-73, Jones helped the party eliminate a \$600,000 debt. His political experience also includes managing a statewide campaign and serving as a delegate to the Republican National Convention.

And from January 1975 until he resigned to join DER, Jones was President of Pennsylvanians for Effective Government, a nonpartisan political and educational committee. PEG's membership consists mostly of persons from the farm and business communities who are concerned about good government.

A native of Sharpsville, PA., Jones received his B.A. degree from Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army.

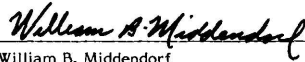
Married to the former Jean Quivey of Canonsburg, they have three children: Nancy, Martin and Bradley. They live in Camp Hill, PA.

Office of Environmental Protection
Highlights of Accomplishments - 1980

FOREWORD

Since the enactment of amendments to existing Pennsylvania statutes to enable the Commonwealth to proceed towards primacy under the Federal Surface Mining Control Act of 1977, P.L. 95-87, the Department has been prohibited by court order in applying for primacy and enacting new regulations under the new Pennsylvania laws. Therefore, the Department has been conducting the Surface Mine Reclamation Program utilizing the new Pennsylvania statutes but old regulations and a series of policy statements as the program base. Major inspection emphasis continues on the hydrological consequences of mining, erosion and sedimentation control, concurrent backfilling, blasting practices and detailed review of mining applications.

During 1981 there were 1,325 licensed surface mine operators operating 1,685 bituminous mines and 88 anthracite mines and 647 non-coal mines. The combined bituminous and anthracite strip mine production reflects a decrease of 1,147,857 tons for 1980.



William B. Middendorf
Deputy Secretary for Environmental Protection



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Office of Deep Mine Safety
Room 103, Executive House
P. O. Box 2357
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120



Area Code 717
787-1376

August 28, 1981

Honorable Clifford L. Jones, Secretary
Department of Environmental Resources
Ninth Floor, Fulton Building
P. O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Secretary Jones:

The Office of Deep Mine Safety submits herein a report on the activities of the Commonwealth's underground coal mining operations as required by the Anthracite and Bituminous Coal Mine Acts.

Anthracite deep mine production increased slightly more than 63,000 tons to a total of 583,450 over 1979. There were approximately 559 employes this year working in the industry, essentially the same number as last year. The number of fatal accidents increased from one to three, but we experienced a 39% decrease in nonfatal accidents, down from 264 to 162. The frequency rate of all accidents also declined 44%.

In the bituminous coal region, deep mined coal increased 1.3% to an annual yield of 44,041,669 tons. By year's end, there were 21,103 miners working in 130 deep mines wherein they were experiencing an accident frequency rate almost static to 1979 although over one half million more tons of coal were produced. Number of fatal accidents were 13, the same as in the previous year while nonfatal accidents dropped approximately 7%.

Our Office continues to emphasize coal miner training in our federally funded grant programs. Additionally, we are expanding our mine rescue response capability through the establishment of three new rescue stations with others planned for in the near future.

Please accept my thanks for your interest and cooperation extended to our program throughout the year.

Respectfully,

Walter J. Vicinelly
Commissioner

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BUREAU OF MINING AND RECLAMATION

The Bureau administers State and Federal laws and regulations to minimize the environmental impact of surface mining coal refuse disposal and the surface effects of underground mining related to mine subsidence. Regulatory and enforcement activities assure proper land reclamation, the prevention of water pollution and protection of miners' and public health and safety.

Program activities for obtaining primacy under the provisions of P.L. 95-87, and the Surface Mining Control Act of 1977, are progressing with anticipated program approval by early 1982.

Mine Subsidence Division

The Mine Subsidence Regulation Section issued eight new surface support permits during 1980, and approved 288 map amendments to existing permits. There are now approximately 135 active deep bituminous coal mines under permit. In addition, the Section conducted 233 deep mine inspections, 507 appraisals of protected structures and provided 1,025 subsurface engineering reports to the general public. The Mine Subsidence Insurance Section sold 2,930 new policies during 1980 bringing total policyholders to 14,428, providing coverage of \$467 million. Fifty-six (56) claims totaling \$272,565 were paid during the period.