

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Harrisburg



1983

ANNUAL REPORT ON MINING ACTIVITIES

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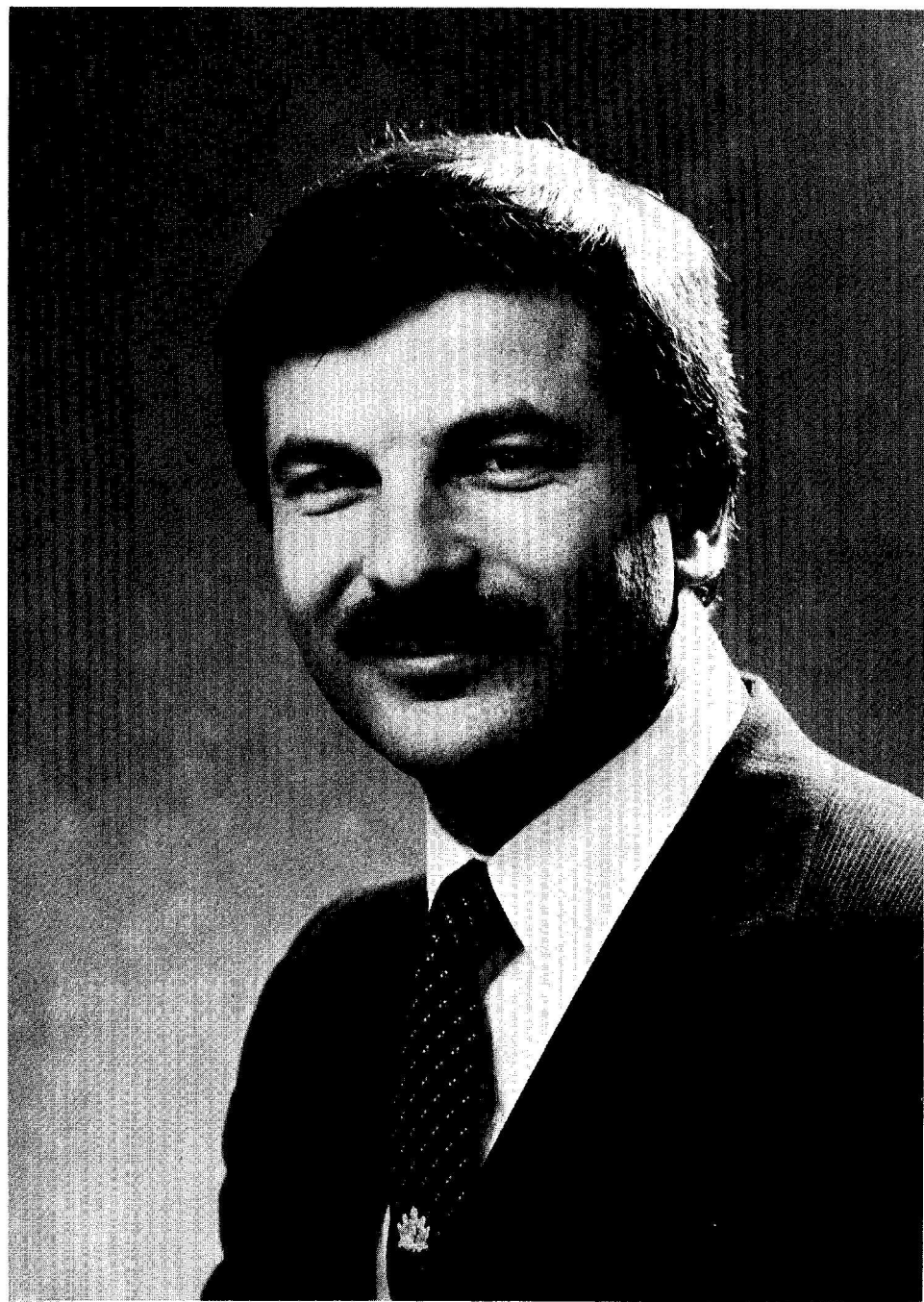
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Biography
Nicholas DeBenedictis

On December 14, 1981, Governor Dick Thornburgh appointed Nicholas DeBenedictis, of Havertown (Delaware County), to the Cabinet level post of executive director of the Economic Development Committee of the Cabinet.

The Economic Development Committee was established by the Governor in 1979 to coordinate the activities of all state departments with responsibilities for economic development. The committee concentrates on specific economic opportunities and problems to meet the needs of business and industries so that they will remain, expand or locate in Pennsylvania.

The Economic Development Committee of the Cabinet consists of the Governor, who serves as chairman, the Lieutenant Governor who serves as alternate chairman, and the secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Community Affairs, Environmental Resources, Labor and Industry, Revenue, Transportation and Legislative Affairs.

DeBenedictis, 36, served until recently as an Assistant Regional Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and formerly was press secretary for the Commonwealth's Office of Budget and Administration and a special assistant to Budget and Administration Secretary Robert C. Wilburn.

DeBenedictis has managed federal air, water and hazardous waste pollution control programs for the states of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

As an EPA congressional and intergovernmental relations officer, DeBenedictis worked with state, federal, and local elected officials from 1976 to 1979. He also served the Reagan administration in Washington as EPA Administrator Ann Gorsuch's press secretary during the transition period in 1981.

As part of a special federal executive interchange program, he served in 1980 as press secretary for the Pennsylvania Office of Budget and Administration, where he worked with the governor and cabinet officers in state budget matters.

A 1969 graduate of Drexel University, DeBenedictis holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and a masters degree in environmental engineering and science. He also served in the Army Corps of Engineers (1970-73), and is now a captain in the Army Reserves.

He has received numerous awards for public service, including the International Year of the Child Award from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (1979), the EPA Silver Medal Award for Superior Service (1979), the EPA Quality Performance Award (1976) and the EPA Bronze Medal for Commendable Service (1974).

He and his wife, Eileen, have two children.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Deep Mine Safety
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June 15, 1984

Honorable Nicholas DeBenedictis, Secretary
Department of Environmental Resources
9th Floor, Fulton Building
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary DeBenedictis:

As required by the Anthracite and Bituminous Coal Mine Acts, I herein submit a brief report on the activities of the Commonwealth's underground mining operations for 1983.

This edition represents the 114 consecutive Annual Report concerning Anthracite and Bituminous coal mining activities within the Commonwealth.

Anthracite deep mine production fell off in the year by about 40,000 tons, although there was a slight increase in employment over the previous year. Even so, the industry accounted for less than one half million tons produced, employed about 700 deep miners in fewer than 100 mines. There were no fatal accidents and 133 non-fatal, which represents an approximate 50% decrease over 1982.

In the Bituminous Coal region, deep production increased about one million tons over 1982 with some 1,500 fewer miners employed, totaling 14,458. The number of deep mines operating was 129 two over the previous year. There were nine fatal accidents compared to three in 1982. There was however, an approximate 60% decrease in non-fatal accidents.

The Bureau continues to train 10,000 miners per year in mine safety techniques and prides itself on maintaining five first-rate mine rescue stations strategically located throughout the coal fields.

Special thanks should be noted for the work accomplished by Ms. Patsie Nichols who single-handedly, compiled essentially all of the information in this report - an immense task.

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the continued cooperation and interest you have shown me and our program.

Respectfully,

Walter J. Vicinelly
Commissioner