

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Harrisburg



1985

ANNUAL REPORT ON MINING ACTIVITIES

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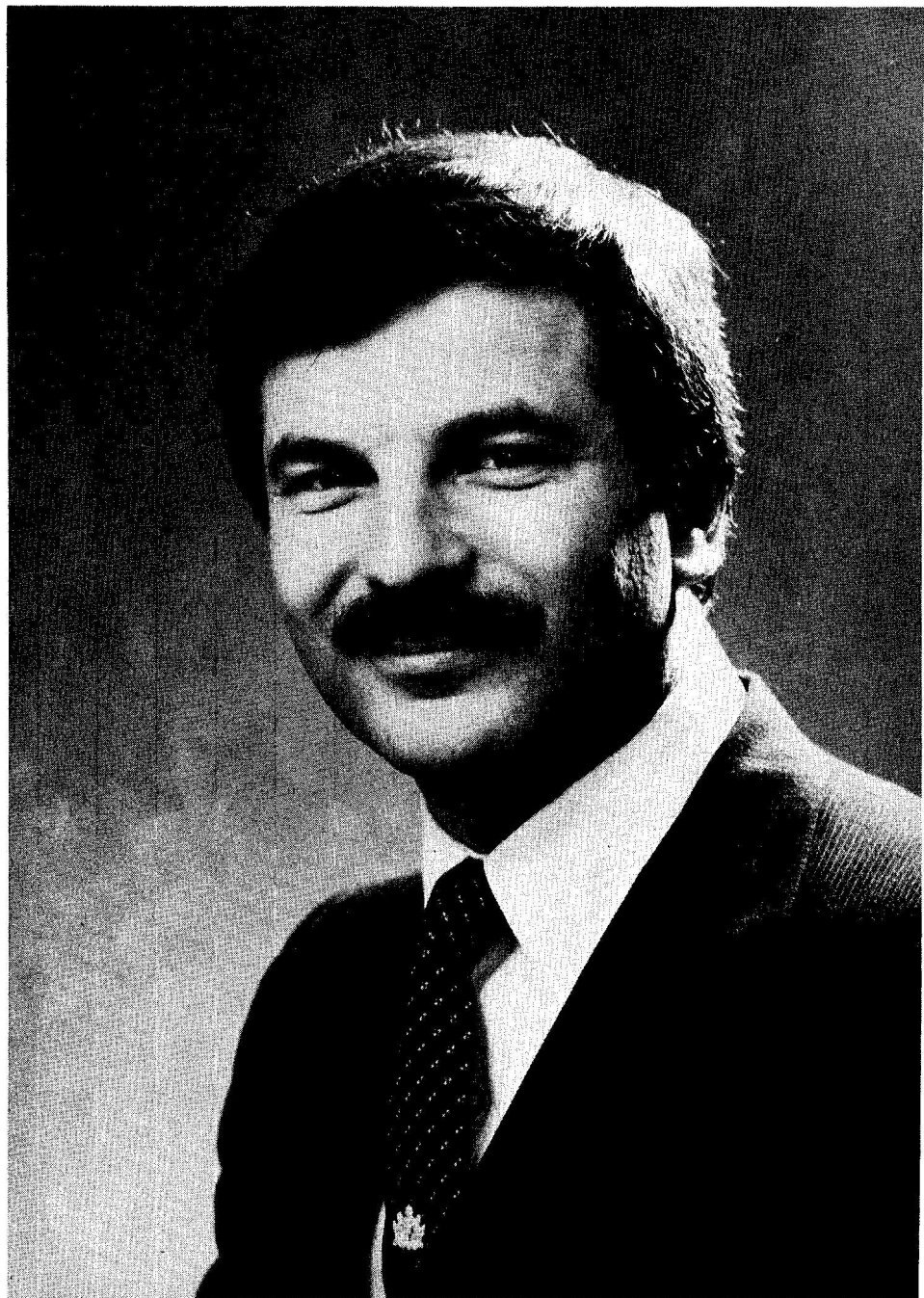
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Biography
Nicholas DeBenedictis

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
Statistical Unit
Executive House, Room 104
P. O. Box 2357
Harrisburg, PA 17120

June 13, 1986

Honorable Nicholas DeBenedictis, Secretary
Department of Environmental Resources
9th Floor, Fulton Bank 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 1985.

This edition represents the 116 consecutive annual report concerning the Anthracite and Bituminous coal mining activities within the Commonwealth.

Anthracite deep mine production increased in the year by about 112,091 tons, with a decrease in employment over the previous year of 95 jobs. The industry accounted for slightly over 750,000 tons produced, employed about 739 deep miners in 116 mines. There were six fatal accidents and 107 non-fatals.

In the Bituminous coal region, deep mine production decreased about one-and one half million tons over 1984 with approximately 1600 fewer miners employed, totalling 11,707 jobs. The number of deep mines operating was 115, six fewer than the previous year. There were three fatal accidents compared to seven in 1984. There was also a decrease of 450 in non-fatal accidents.

The Bureau continues to train approximately 15,000 miners per year in mine safety techniques and prides itself on maintaining five first-rate mine rescue stations that are strategically located throughout the coal fields.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in Deep Mine Safety.

Respectfully yours,

Walter J. Vicinelly, Director
Bureau of Deep Mine Safety