

SMALL MINES AND FUTURE TECHNIQUES¹

by

Mark Yingling

Abstract. Many of the remaining surface mineable coal reserves in the Midwest are located in small noncontinuous areas ("pods"). It will take innovative approaches that incorporate many factors in order to economically recover these resources, while still providing for proper reclamation. Some of these factors include planning for:

- (1) property control;
- (2) the permitting process with regards to soil handling, land uses, drainage control, and blending with undisturbed areas; and
- (3) development of engineering plans that incorporate the overall reclamation requirements and flexibility/understanding of the regulatory agencies.

¹Abstract presented at the 1998 National Meeting of the American Society for Surface Mining and Reclamation, St. Louis, Missouri, May 17-21, 1998.

²Mark Yingling, Black Beauty Coal Co., Evansville, Indiana.