

HEARTLAND COALFIELD ALLIANCE

Central Illinois Mining Delegation

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2011

Coal Mine



Coal Ash Site



Coal Power Plant



Longwall Shadow Area



Virden

Mine Type: Underground, room and pillar

Owner: Chicago Virden Coal Company

Location: Virden, Illinois

Production: 348,000 tons/yr in 1898, largest mine in the state at the time

Of note: UMWA won a major victory with its Strike of 1897, largely with the help of unionized miners from Macoupin County. Led by Alexander Bradley, they marched across central Illinois, shutting down non-union mines as they went. In the fall of 1898 when the coal companies gave in to union demands, the Chicago Virden Coal Company refused to abide. Their attempt to break the union's continued strike at Virden led to one of the deadliest union battles in US history, the 1898 Virden Massacre.

Crown III Mine

Mine Type: Underground, room and pillar

Owner: Springfield Coal Company, LLC

Location: Macoupin & Montgomery Counties, Illinois

Production: 1.3-1.4M tons/yr, peaked 2001 at 2.4M tons/yr

Coal preparation: Onsite washing

Waste disposal: Coal waste, coal slurry, coal ash disposed of onsite in aboveground impoundments. Underground injection option

Of note: Only remaining union-labor mine in Illinois. Wastewater drains to streams designated by state as "biologically significant". Resident health issues from fugitive coal ash dust.

Shay I Mine

Mine Type: Underground, longwall

Owner: Macoupin Energy, LLC (subsidiary of Cline Coal), operated by MaRyan Mining, LLC

Location: Macoupin County, Illinois

Production: Designed to produce 3+ M tons/yr. Mine shipped 2.7M tons in 2007.

Coal preparation: Onsite washing

Waste disposal: Coal waste, coal slurry, coal ash disposed of onsite in aboveground impoundments. Underground injection option.

Of note: Slurry ponds were built in floodplain. Documented groundwater and surface water contamination from onsite slurry disposal. Under ExxonMobil, mine was called Montgomery 1 and was a union mine employing over 300 miners. Cline only operates non-union mines.

Deer Run Mine

Mine Type: Underground, longwall

Owner: Hillsboro Energy, LLC (subsidiary of Cline Coal)

Location: Montgomery County, Illinois

Production: new mine projected to extract 8-10M tons/yr. for over 20 years

Coal preparation: Onsite washing

Waste disposal: Coal waste and coal slurry disposed of onsite in aboveground impoundments.

Of note: Nearly 5,000 acres of farmland, streams, roads and homesteads will be subsided by 4-6 feet. Wastewater drains to streams designated by state as "biologically significant".

Coffeen Power Plant/ Adjacent coal ash sites

Input/Output: 2M tons of coal burned/yr to produce 950 MW

Owner: Ameren Energy Resources

Location: Montgomery County, Illinois

Waste disposal: Scrubber sludge stored in lined cells onsite. Capped and closed ash pond leaking onsite to tributary stream of Coffeen Lake. New lined landfill for current coal ash disposal. MSHA fines and resident concerns for current US Minerals bottom ash reuse site.

Of note: Documented 1) groundwater contamination, 2) leaking ash pond, 3) health concerns with fugitive coal ash dust, 4) private wells in use in area, 5) Coffeen Lake has heavy fishing pressure despite fish consumption advisory due to mercury pollution

