Characterization of Indiana's Coal Resource: Availability of the Reserves, Physical and Chemical Properties of the Coal, and the Present and Potential Uses

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OBJECTIVES

- Provide assessment how much coal is available for mining
- Characterize quality of coal for those unique properties to utilize it in an efficient and environmentally sound manner;
- Characterize current use of coal;
- Characterize production and use of Coal Combustion Products;
- Characterize limestones and dolomites for Flue Gas Desulphurization
- Provide basis for potential uses of Indiana coals (CBM, CO2 sequestration, non-traditional uses of CCP)

CONTENTS

- 74 pages of text, 102 figures and 67 tables
- Resource evaluation for all major coal beds (Danville, Springfield, Seelyville from previous availability work at IGS, Hymera, Houchin Creek, Survant and Colchester – new evaluations, Lower and Upper Blocks and Buffaloville – extents and area available for mining). More than 50 maps of depth, thickness, areas available for underground and surface mining have been generated.
- Physical and chemical properties (sulfur, ash, heating value summaries and maps for major coal beds, ash characteristics, summaries of 35 trace elements – Hg, Se, As, and Cl discussed in more detail).
- Utilization (coking properties, SR 64 by Valia and Mastalerz, CBM, CO2 sequestration DOE-sponsored projects)
- Coal Combustion Products from Indiana coals;
- Limestones and dolomites for Flue Gas Desulphurization recent IDOCfunded project to N. Shaffer; and
- Summary of the unique properties of Indiana coals.

This document uses all the information that was available to us, both old and the most recent, on Indiana coals

Coal Production in Indiana 1879-2002



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Availability of Coal Reserves in Indiana

- Indiana had approximately 59.5 billion short tons of original coal resources
- Available for mining is 17.5 billion (~30%)
- Available for surface: ~ 2 billion for underground ~ 16 billion
- Coal produced in Indiana so far: 2,124,417,385 tons (2 billion)

Rate of Recovery

- Continue to mine ~30 million tons per year, all that is available (17 billion tons) is mined in approximately 500 years.
- However, only 2.1 billion is available for surface m. – 70 year supply if surface mined only
- Not more than 20% Indiana production comes from underground mines.

COAL AVAILABILITY

Available Coal Resources =

remaining coal resources – coal restricted by land use – coal restricted by technological factors.

Technology is economically based:

e.g. stripping ratio

e.g. seam thickness underground

e.g. coal quality

Map of the Wheatland Quadrangle showing coal available for surface mining and coal restricted from mining

Explanation

coal available for surface mining
>200ft deep
coal eroded
surface mine
deep mine
200ft buffer around deep mines
coal <14 inches
stripping ratio >25:1
unconsolidated >60ft thick
towns + 2,640ft buffer
pipelines + 100ft buffer
paved roads + 100ft buffer
mine block too small





Danville coal Extent and mined out areas



Danville coal

Data points used



Danville coal

Depth to the coal



Map of the southwestern Indiana showing the thickness of the Danville coal (after Conolly, 2001).

Less than 14 inches 14 - 28 inches 28 - 42 inches 42 - 63 inches Greater than 63 inches Danville coal absent







Danville coal

Thickness





Physical and Chemical Characteristics of Indiana Coals

- Physical properties
- Coal quality
- Ash chemistry
- Trace elements



- Coal rank and petrographic composition
- Methane and Carbon Dioxide sorption

Quality of Indiana coals - Moisture and BTU



Quality of Indiana coal - Sulfur and ash





Danville coal

Heating value (Btu/Lb, dry basis)



Springfield coal Sulfur content (dry)

Danville coal

Ash content (dry)

MINERAL MATTER IN COAL

Furnace Slagging* Indices

•	Slagging Index (Base/Acid)*(% Sulfur)	•	<0.6 0.6-2 >2	low medium high
	Base Acid Ratio (Base/Acid)		<0.5 dbot	(0.3) wbot
	Silica Percentage (Si0 ₂) (100) / Si0 ₂ +Fe ₂ 0 ₃ +Ca0+Mg0		<30 30-82 >82	low medium high

*Slagging – buildup of molten ash in the lower furnace

Furnace Fouling* Indices

- Fouling Index (Base/Acid) * Na₂0
- Alkalies in Coal (% Ash)* (Na₂0 + 0.659 K₂0)
- Sodium in Ash % Na₂0
- Chlorine in Coal % Cl

*fouling – buildup on upper furnace.

low • < 0.2 medium 0.2 - 0.5 high > 0.5 • < 0.3 low 0.3 - 0.5 medium > 0.5 high • < 0.5 low 0.5 - 1 medium > 1.0 high • < 0.1 low medium 0.1 - 0.3 high > 0.3

Slagging index – low - below 0.6 medium – 0.6-2.0 high - above 2.0

Fouling index – low - below 0.2 medium – 0.2-0.5 high above 0.5

Ash fusion T – low may cause slag deposits

Slagging Index – western Kentucky

< 0.6 = Low 0.6-2.0 = Medium > 2.0 = High

Fouling Index – western Kentucky

< 0.2 = low 0.2 - 0.5 = moderate > 0.5 = high

Petrography and palynology

Maceral composition (A, in volume %) and palynology (B) of the Upper Block coal in Daviess County.

Trace elements in Indiana coals

Danville coal Mercury content (ppm)

Map of southwestern Indiana showing the mercury content of the Springfield coal.

1:1,000,000

Springfield coal Mercury content (ppm)

Regulatory approaches

- Bituminous 2/TBtu
- Subbituminous 5.8/TBtu
- Lignite 9.2/TBtu
- MACT Compliance data 08

The concentrations of numerous trace elements decrease significantly as a result of washing. In this report we have comparison between raw and washed coal for trace elements as well as sulfur and ash.

Coalbed Methane

B. Seelyville

Seelyville coal may contain 1.5 to 3.0 Tcf of gas (Drobniak et al., 2002)

CO₂ sequestration

At pressure of 400 psi, Indiana coal beds can accommodate 560-790 Scf/ton CO₂

Our coal can accommodate ~4.8 times more CO_2 than CH_4

Utilization

- Electricity generation
- Steel industry
 - Coke blends
 - Pulverized coal injection
 - CBM
 - $-CO_2$ sequestration
- Unconventional uses (gasification, liquefaction)

Indiana coal and steel industry

- Coking blends fluidity, plasticity, reactive/inert ratio, etc. – Brazil Formation coals have superior coking properties
- Pulverized coal injection (PCI) good coals are those that have high combustibility and replace more coke – high replacement ratio (RR).
- Significant proportion of Indiana coals have high RR

Valia and Mastalerz, 2004. IGS Special Report 64.

240 micrometers

Non-coking, but some good for PCI e.g. Danville coal

Superior coking properties Lower Block coal

Indiana Limestones and Dolomites for FGD

- Specific gravity, grindability, acid solid residue
- Mineralogy
- Chemical composition
- Reactivity

Excellent sources of limestone for FGD applications exist in Indiana

Sample	SO ₂ Removal (percent)	Reagent Rate (pounds/min x104)	Utilization (S:Ca Ratio)	
Bainbridge Unit 1-3	88.9	1.199	93.1	
Bainbridge Unit 1-4	89.4	1.123	93.0	
Bainbridge Unit 4	89.7	1.094	92.9	
Bloomington Bench II	89.1	1.105	93.0	
Bloomington Bench I	88.1	1.081	93.5	
Campbellsburg	93.2	1.186	92.3	
Cloverdale (III) Triplicate	91.3	1.128	92.6	
Cloverdale Bench II	89.7	1.106	92.9	
Cloverdale Bench (II) Duplicate	89.2	1.124	93.0	
Cloverdale Unit Bench I	88.9	1.109	93.1	
Columbus	no data			
Gosport	90.0	1.084	92.8	an
Mill Town Bench IV	93.7	1.132	92.3	
Mill Town Bench II	89.4	1.077	93.0	
Mill Town Bench I	91.1	1.109	92.6	
Mill Town Unit 2ABCD	93.1	1.124	92.3	
Orleans (A)	89.8	1.070	92.9	
Orleans Unit X	89.8	1.075	92.9	
Orleans Unit Y	89.9	1.106	92.8	
Paoli Cave Stone	98.3	1.365	91.2	
Pipe Creek Jr.	89.9	1.099	92.8	
Putnamville Unit 1	89.7	1.096	92.9	
Temple Unit Bench III	98.3	1.206	91.3	

from Shaffer and Sadowski, 2000

Coal Combustion Products

Indiana Coal Combustion Products Totals in 1999

Product	Tons Produced	Tons Reused	Percent Reused
Fly ash	3,287,072	1,130,152	34%
FGD Materials	3,779,295	1,839,141	49%
Bottom Ash	1,162,642	497,420	43%
Total	8,229,009	3,466,713	42%

Source: Indiana Legislative Services Agency Office of Fiscal and Management Analysis -- Fiscal Impact Statement for SB 417.

Disposal in coal mines – currently ~ 1 million tons a year (Division of Reclamation)

Unconventional applications

-Low-grade ore-Carbon whiskers-Composites-Fullerenes

SUMMARY: Availability

Coal availability studies shows:

- 17-18 billion short tons of coal are available for mining (surface and underground) in Indiana.
- At current production rate, this reserve would last for more than 500 years.
 - **But this can only be accomplished by a significant increase in the percentage produced by underground mining.**
 - Production using current practices (80% surface -20% underground) will last only 100 years.

SUMMARY: Basinwide Characteristics

- Indiana coals, being part of the Illinois Basin, have many common characteristics with the coals of Illinois and western Kentucky.
 - Similar coalification level; high volatile bituminous rank dictates such properties as calorific value, moisture, carbon content, etc.
 - High volatile bituminous rank: very suitable for combustion, but also useful for gasification or liquefaction because of their reactivity.

SUMMARY: Heating Value

Indiana coals (and those of the entire Illinois Basin) have good heating value
Better than most Western coals but lower than Appalachian coals.
Compared to western coals, we need to burn less Indiana coal to get the same amount of energy.

SUMMARY: Sulfur Content

Most of Indiana coal is high in sulfur
 Significant portions of the Danville and the

- Brazil Fm. coals are low-sulfur compliance coals.
- Illinois and western Kentucky do not have this low sulfur resource.

Availability of good quality limestones (for FGD) close to our power plants helps utilize high sulfur coals.

SUMMARY: Trace Elements

Trace elements in Indiana coals are usually on the low side for Illinois Basin coals and low in other elements in comparison with Western coals.

Mercury is generally low. Washing results in significant reduction not only sulfur but numerous trace elements as well.

SUMMARY: Alternative Uses

There is an increasing interest in CBM and CO₂ sequestration potential of Indiana coals
 Previous and current projects provide more data and indicate some potential areas
 More research needed

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