

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
ILLINOIS STATE MINING BOARD
BENTON, ILLINOIS
NOVEMBER 28, 2017

The following State Mining Board members were present:

John Duty
Larry Jones
Randy Lewis
Tom Smith
Jim Steiner
Tom Benner, Executive Officer

The meeting was called to order by Executive Officer Tom Benner. A roll call of board members was made with five members and the executive officer present. Having a quorum, Mr. Benner proceeded with the meeting.

The minutes from the previous meeting, October 19, 2017, were reviewed and a motion by Board member Lewis to approve the minutes with a second by Board member Steiner; motion passed.

The only agenda item was on certification and EMT requirements for the proposed Sunrise Coal Oaktown Mine. This mine will be coming underground from Indiana and would be constructing a man and material shaft near Russellville. The mine's permit application shows an 18,000 acre shadow area.

Following a discussion on the statutorily required certification the mine's management and employees must retain while the mine is in operation, the following requirements for the mine were approved.

- Mine Site Construction – Certification of mine site personnel will be required when site construction begins on man/material and air shafts; general surface supervisor, independent contractor supervisor. Depending upon the method of shaft construction shaft slope supervisor and examiner certifications may be required. These certifications are issued “as needed” and examinations are scheduled upon receipt of a request for the above referenced certification. Agency personnel will conduct a short class followed by the certification examination.

- Certification classes – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources offers certification classes for individuals seeking certificates of competency for mine examiner, mine manager and hoisting engineer. Although attendance is not mandatory, individuals seeking certification are strongly encouraged to attend in preparation for the certification examinations. Certification classes are offered at different locations throughout the state. Because of the remote location of the proposed Sunrise Coal LLC, Oaktown Mine, the Illinois State Mining Board has agreed to provide instruction at a location in Illinois more accessible to Oaktown Mine employees. However, Sunrise Coal LLC would be responsible for providing the necessary facilities for such additional certification classes.
- Certification Examinations – The locations and dates for certification examinations will not be amended. Examinations are held in Springfield and at Rend Lake College during the months of April and October.
- Temporary Certification – Individuals holding Indiana mine examiner and/or mine foreman certification may receive temporary certification as either mine examiner or mine manager. This temporary certification is valid until the next available certification examination (April or October) or six months, whichever is longer.
- Mine Foreman Certification – An individual holding mine foreman certification is eligible to take the certification examination for either mine examiner or mine manager.
- Electrical Hoisting Engineer – Illinois does not have reciprocity with Indiana regarding hoisting engineers. If the company employs hoisting engineers for operating the man/material hoist, these individuals must hold Illinois electrical hoisting engineer certification. Should these individuals currently hold Indiana hoisting engineer certification, the 30 hour log requirement will be waived but the applicants must attend the mandatory classes and take the certification examination.
- Coal Mine Electricians – Individuals who hold MSHA electrician qualification cards will be required to take the Illinois Basic Electrical Training class and pass the written and oral/practical examinations. Illinois Coal Mine Electrician certification is required to perform surface or underground electrical work. An individual may conduct electrical work without Illinois electrical certification if work is performed under the supervision of an individual holding Illinois Coal Mine Electrician certification.
- Emergency Medical Technicians – Illinois recognizes Indiana EMT certification; however, Indiana does not require EMTs at its coal mines. Sunrise Coal must comply with the Illinois Coal Mine Medical Emergency Act, 410 ILCS 15/3(a)(1), “At least one person trained and certified as an emergency medical technician shall be on duty at a mine any time 30 or more persons are working at the mine.”

- First Class Papers – Underground mine personnel must comply with Article 8 of the Coal Mining Act. The Miners Examining Board has indicated miners do not have to obtain this certification prior to beginning work. The miners have a year to receive this certification. The Board will schedule examinations as needed, but it will be the company's responsibility to find facilities for the examinations. If requested, the Board will conduct examinations prior to the mine's opening.

The company has indicated it will be several months before construction will begin on the shaft and the company begins underground mine into the state so the Board agreed the above referenced discussion items may be discussed at a future meeting.

With no further items on the agenda, Board member Steiner made a motion to adjourn with second by Board member Lewis, motion passed.