Bruce Rauner, Governor

Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271 www.dnr.illinois.gov

Land Reclamation Division Operator Memorandum No. 2017-05

To: All Coal Mine Operators

Consultants

Date: May 8, 2017

From: Scott K. Fowler, Supervisor

Land Reclamation Division

Re: Office of Mines and Minerals, Director

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Tom Benner, as Director of the Office of Mines and Minerals.

Mr. Benner has accepted the appointment of Director, effective May 1, 2017. Tom is replacing former Director, Jim Hafliger, as Jim transitions into other responsibilities. Tom graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Science and earned a Master's in Business Administration from Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

Tom brings with him years of experience in the mining industry, overseeing and managing many various mining operations functions. Tom's experience in mining include, most recently, Vice President of Peabody Midwest, as well as Operations Manager, Underground Superintendent and Project Coordinator.

The Office of Mines and Minerals, Land Reclamation Division is pleased to announce and welcome Tom Benner to our operations. Please join me in welcoming Tom in his new position.