

The Law and Regulation of Mining

Minerals to Energy

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SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS

Durham, North Carolina

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ISBN: 978-1-59460-670-0
LCCN: 200923708

Carolina Academic Press
700 Kent Street
Durham, North Carolina 27701
Telephone (919) 489-7486
Fax (919) 493-5668
www.cap-press.com

Printed in the United States of America

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Preface and Acknowledgments

This casebook is intended for a two or three credit hour elective law school course. It is aimed at those law students interested in (1) examining some basic property concepts in the context of the law pertaining to hard minerals, as opposed to oil and gas law and (2) placing natural resources in the context of energy, regulatory, and environmental law settings. Its substantive law thread is found in the law pertaining to coal mining, and its value for undergraduate as well as graduate courses in natural resources is that it follows the coal from the mine to the light switch.

For one of the co-authors of the book (Burke), the course is taught, chapter by chapter, in roughly equal segments, with time in the semester (his is a fourteen week semester) to pause over problems that can be worked out in class as well as speakers on topics as the students read about them in the book. For the other (Beck), the course has been taught on the basis of a 20 or so page assignment per class with occasional use of videos on, for example, safety and health issues.

Barlow Burke acknowledges the work of Erica Gaspar, Meryl Eschen, and Ami Pathak, his Research Assistants at American University who both assisted and developed his ideas for the course, as well as past students who used these materials as they were developed. Professor Burke wishes also to acknowledge the summer grant assistance program of The Washington College of Law, American University, for freeing his time to work on the project, and in particular, his Dean, Claudio Grossman. Bob Beck, being retired from the SIU Law School faculty, is grateful for continued access to and use of Law School facilities for projects such as this coursebook.

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October 2009