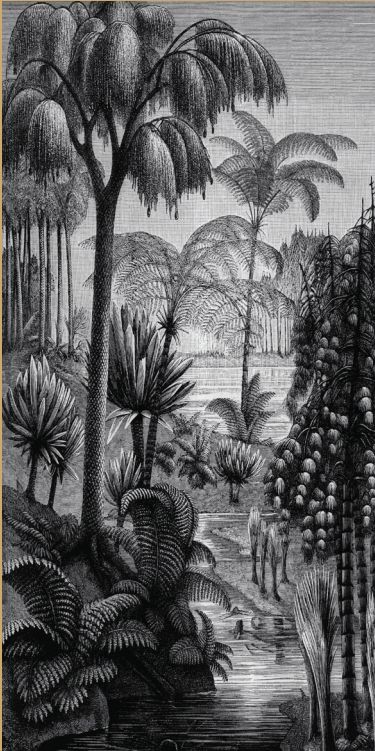


# Indiana Coal



Coal is a combustible sedimentary rock and a valuable economic resource. During the Pennsylvanian Period (318 to 299 million years ago), poorly decayed plant materials were deposited in swamps in the central to eastern regions of the United States. Over time, these deposits eventually formed peat. As the peat was buried by additional sediments, the overlying weight caused the dewatering of the peat while compressing the deposits into thinner beds. Continued increases in both heat and pressure over millions of years produced the bituminous coals currently found in southwestern Indiana. Bituminous coals in Indiana are composed of 55 to 79 percent carbon and have an average heat value of 12,000 Btus per pound.

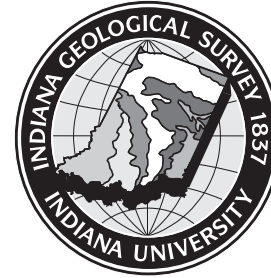


Indiana currently ranks as the seventh-largest coal-producing state in the nation and has an estimated 17.57 billion tons in reserve. These reserves could last another 585 years at the current rate of production. This valuable, nonrenewable energy resource is used to provide electricity to citizens across the state of Indiana.

After mining operations have ceased, companies are required to reclaim the mined land under provisions of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.



Analyzing the Past to Provide for the Future



## Indiana Geological Survey

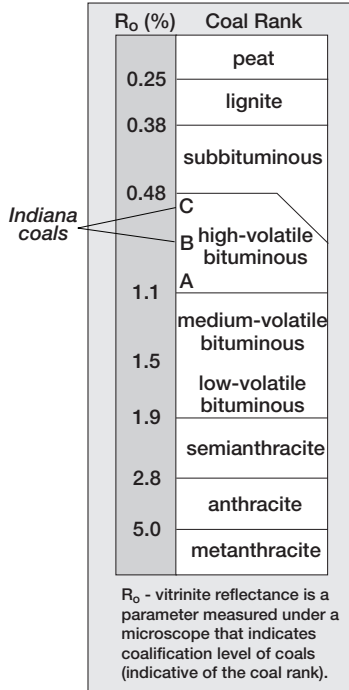
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Indiana coals