

News Release

NEW NORTH AMERICAN IN-MINE DRILLING RECORD



REI's Randy Sparrow and Roger Benson

October 2006; REI Drilling, Inc. ("REI") announces that a new North American in-mine directional drilling record was established by completing a horizontal borehole to a length of 5,325 ft at CONSOL Energy's (NYSE:CNX) Buchanan Mine near Mavisdale, Virginia. The methane drainage borehole was directionally drilled and maintained in the gassy Pocahontas No. 3 coal seam and was one of five (5) boreholes drilled by REI at the Buchanan Mine that exceeded 5,000 ft in length.

The record borehole was completed by REI's Drilling Supervisor and 24-year directional drilling veteran Randy Sparrow and his crew comprised of Directional Driller Roger Benson

and Driller Helper Andrew Rondinelli, with support from CONSOL Energy's degasification and drilling crew headed by Calvin Green.

REI drilled its first 5,000 foot borehole at the Buchanan Mine in 2004 and then set sites on using directional drilling to break the one mile (5,280 ft) barrier in depth. "Favorable hole conditions allowed us to hit the one-mile mark at about 6 p.m. and drill down every rod we had on site and reach 5,325 ft," recalled Roger Benson.

Degasification improves the safety and productivity of the Buchanan Mine. The gas is gathered and sold by CNX Gas Corporation (NYSE:CXG).

REI provides directional drilling services primarily to the coal industry for methane drainage, geologic and old works exploration, water transfer, and de-stressing. REI operates a fleet of 7 directional drills. Detailed examples of various applications for directional drilling can be viewed on our web site at www.reidrilling.com, or contact REI toll free at (877) 838-0534.

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