

Geologic Resources

East Lynn Lake Coal Lease LUA/EIS

Wayne County, West Virginia

Geologic Resources

The lands being considered for lease are underlain by coal, a geologic resource. The coal would be mined using underground room and pillar mining methods with partial (50 percent) extraction.

Room-and-Pillar Mining Method

Room-and-pillar mining is one method of mining coal. An alternative method is longwall mining, which involves the removal of all accessible coal (total extraction) from an area. Room-and-pillar mining can involve partial or total extraction. Subsidence over total extraction room-and-pillar mined areas is less than longwall mined areas. Subsidence over partial extraction room-and-pillar mined areas is considerably reduced. Subsidence will be predictable and controlled by the mining method. Subsidence may result in surface deformation caused by tension or compression.

