

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Coal Mining Act is amended by changing  
5 Sections 11.08 and 11.09 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 705/11.08)

7 Sec. 11.08. Self-contained self-rescuer (SCSR) devices;  
8 caches; strobe lights; luminescent signs.

9 (a) An operator must require each person underground to  
10 carry a SCSR device on his or her person or, alternatively, a  
11 SCSR device must be kept within 25 feet of the person  
12 underground or may be kept more than 25 feet from the person  
13 underground if done according to a plan approved by the Mining  
14 Board.

15 (b) An operator must provide for each person who is  
16 underground at least one SCSR device, in addition to the device  
17 required under subsection (a), that provides protection for a  
18 period of one hour or longer, to cover all persons in the mine.  
19 This additional SCSR device must be kept within 25 feet of the  
20 person underground or may be kept more than 25 feet from the  
21 person underground if done according to a plan approved by the  
22 Mining Board.

23 (c) If a mantrip or mobile equipment is used to enter or  
24 exit the mine, additional SCSR devices, each of which must  
25 provide protection for a period of one hour or longer, must be  
26 available for all persons who use such transportation from  
27 portal to portal.

28 (c-5) Beginning July 31, 2007, in addition to the SCSR  
29 devices required under subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this  
30 Section, an operator must provide a minimum of 30 SCSR devices  
31 in each cache located within a mine. All SCSR devices required  
32 under this subsection (c-5) shall be stored in caches that are

1 conspicuous and readily accessible by each person in the mine.

2 If the average seam height of a mine is:

3 (1) less than 40 inches, caches must be located no more  
4 than 2,200 feet apart throughout a mine;

5 (2) 40 inches or more, but less than 51 inches, caches  
6 must be located no more than 3,300 feet apart throughout a  
7 mine;

8 (3) 51 inches or more, but less than 66 inches, caches  
9 must be located no more than 4,400 feet apart throughout a  
10 mine; and

11 (4) 66 inches or more, caches must be located no more  
12 than 5,700 feet apart throughout a mine.

13 An operator must submit for approval a plan addressing the  
14 requirements of this subsection (c-5) to the Mining Board on or  
15 before May 1, 2007.

16 (d) The Mining Board must require all operators to provide  
17 additional SCSR devices in the primary and alternate escapeways  
18 to ensure safe evacuation if the Mining Board determines that  
19 ~~if~~ the SCSR devices required under subsections (a), (b), and  
20 (c), and (c-5) are not adequate to provide enough oxygen for  
21 all persons to safely evacuate the mine under mine emergency  
22 conditions, ~~the mine operator must provide additional SCSR~~  
23 ~~devices in the primary and alternate escapeways to ensure safe~~  
24 ~~evacuation~~ for all persons underground through both primary and  
25 alternate escapeways. The Mining Board must determine the time  
26 needed for safe evacuation under emergency conditions from each  
27 of those locations at 1,000 foot intervals. If the Mining Board  
28 determines that additional SCSR devices are needed under this  
29 subsection (d), the ~~The~~ mine operator must submit a SCSR  
30 storage plan to the Mining Board for approval. The mine  
31 operator must include in the SCSR storage plan the location,  
32 quantity, and type of additional SCSR devices, including, but  
33 not limited to, SCSR devices required under subsections (a),  
34 (b), (c), and (c-5) of this Section, each of which must provide  
35 protection for a period of one hour or longer, that are stored  
36 in the primary and alternate escapeways. The SCSR storage plan

1 must also show how each storage location in the primary and  
2 alternate escapeways was determined. The Mining Board must  
3 require the mine operator to demonstrate that the location,  
4 quantity, and type of the additional SCSRs provide protection  
5 to all persons to safely evacuate the mine. The SCSR storage  
6 plan must be kept current by the mine operator and made  
7 available for inspection by an authorized representative of the  
8 Mining Board and by the miners' representative.

9 (e) (Blank) ~~All SCSR devices required under this Section~~  
10 ~~shall be stored in caches that are conspicuous and readily~~  
11 ~~accessible by each person in the mine.~~

12 (f) An operator must provide ~~require~~ luminescent direction  
13 signs leading to each cache and rescue chamber ~~to be posted~~ in  
14 a mine, and a luminescent sign with the word ~~words~~  
15 "~~SELF-CONTAINED~~ SELF-RESCUER" or "~~SELF-CONTAINED~~  
16 SELF-RESCUERS" must be conspicuously posted at each cache and  
17 rescue chamber.

18 (g) Intrinsically safe, battery-powered strobe lights that  
19 have been approved by the Department must be affixed to each  
20 cache and rescue chamber and must be capable of automatic  
21 activation in the event of an emergency; however, until such  
22 time as the Department approves intrinsically safe,  
23 battery-powered strobe lights, reflective tape or any other  
24 illuminated material approved by the Department must be affixed  
25 to each cache and rescue chamber in a mine.

26 (h) The Mining Board must adopt and impose a plan for the  
27 daily inspection of SCSR devices required under subsections  
28 (a), (b), and (c) of this Section in order to ensure that the  
29 devices perform their designated functions each working day.  
30 Additional SCSR devices required under subsections (c-5) and  
31 ~~subsection~~ (d) must be inspected every 90 days to ensure that  
32 the devices perform their designated functions, in addition to  
33 meeting all federal Mine Safety and Health Administration  
34 requirements.

35 (i) Any person who, without the authorization of the  
36 operator or the Mining Board, knowingly removes or attempts to

1 remove any self-contained self-rescue device, ~~or~~  
2 battery-powered strobe light, reflective tape, or any other  
3 illuminated material approved by the Department from a mine or  
4 mine site with the intent to permanently deprive the operator  
5 of the device, ~~or~~ light, reflective tape, or illuminated  
6 material or who knowingly tampers with or attempts to tamper  
7 with the device, ~~or~~ light, reflective tape, or illuminated  
8 material is guilty of a Class 4 felony.

9 (j) (Blank) ~~Beginning January 31, 2007, in addition to the~~  
10 ~~SCSR devices required under subsections (a), (b), and (c), an~~  
11 ~~operator must provide a minimum of 30 SCSR devices in each~~  
12 ~~cache located within a mine, in addition to federal Mine Safety~~  
13 ~~and Health Administration requirements. Caches must be located~~  
14 ~~no more than 4,000 feet apart throughout a mine.~~

15 (k) (Blank) ~~An operator must submit for approval a plan~~  
16 ~~addressing the requirements of subsection (j) of this Section~~  
17 ~~to the Mining Board within 3 months after the effective date of~~  
18 ~~this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly.~~

19 (Source: P.A. 94-1041, eff. 7-24-06.)

20 (225 ILCS 705/11.09)

21 Sec. 11.09. Rescue chambers.

22 (a) ~~Rescue chambers approved by the Mining Board must be~~  
23 ~~provided at suitable locations throughout a mine. (b) Beginning~~  
24 ~~January 31, 2007, rescue chambers approved by the Mining Board~~  
25 must be provided and located within 3,000 feet of each working  
26 section of a mine, in accordance with a plan submitted by an  
27 operator and approved by the Mining Board.

28 (b) ~~(c)~~ An operator must submit a plan for approval  
29 concerning the construction and maintenance of rescue chambers  
30 required under this Section to the Mining Board on or before  
31 May 1, 2007 ~~within 3 months after the effective date of this~~  
32 ~~amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly.~~

33 (Source: P.A. 94-1041, eff. 7-24-06.)

34 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.