

Peabody Increases Financial Support of West Virginia Flood Relief to \$500,000

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Peabody Energy , through its Eastern Associated Coal Corp. subsidiary, today donated \$400,000 to aid flood recovery activities under way in West Virginia, increasing the company's total relief contribution to \$500,000 this year.

At a ceremony in the offices of Governor Bob Wise, Group Executive for Appalachia Operations Jiri Nemec and Vice President of Human Resources Sharon D. Fiehler presented Peabody's contribution to the American Red Cross. Ann McReynolds-Bartee, director of development, accepted the gift on behalf of the agency's Charleston office.

"It is encouraging to see people continue to give to West Virginia's flood victims," Wise said. "I think it shows the character of this company and its employees that they still want to help those affected by these floods."

"Peabody has a very personal commitment to aiding West Virginia's long- term recovery efforts," said Nemec. "Many of our operations are located in the affected areas and unfortunately some of our own families were impacted by the floods. We understand how important it is to work together as a community throughout the recovery."

In addition to providing a corporate contribution, Nemec said Peabody employees, suppliers, vendors and trucking contractors provided "volunteer equity," working with area organizations to facilitate the clean up and raise additional funds. "My hat goes off to the hundreds of local volunteers who have worked tirelessly to help rebuild neighborhoods during a time that has been especially challenging for the American people."

Peabody's Appalachian operations include five underground mines in West Virginia that sold approximately 18.5 million tons of coal last year. Peabody Energy is the world's largest coal company. Its coal fuels more than 9 percent of all U.S. electricity generation and more than 2 percent of worldwide electricity generation.

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