

Peabody Energy (NYSE: BTU) Resumes Operations of Big Mountain Mine

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Peabody Energy announced that its Pine Ridge Coal Company subsidiary has resumed operations at the Big Mountain No. 16 Mine, using a new mine plan aimed at improved costs and labor flexibility.

Big Mountain has historically produced approximately 1.5 million tons per year. The operations near Prenter, W.Va., which had been idled in November 2002, employ approximately 160.

Peabody Energy is the world's largest private-sector coal company, with 2002 sales of 198 million tons of coal and \$2.7 billion in revenues. Its coal products fuel more than 9 percent of all U.S. electricity generation and more than 2 percent of worldwide electricity generation.

SOURCE: Peabody Energy

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