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## Editor's Page

JDL

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## EDITORS PAGE

As the National Coal Issue of the West Virginia Law Review went through the many phases of production, our nation's energy and economic crises grew increasingly acute. Against this backdrop, the members of the Review felt the immediacy of the many issues which surround the enactment and implementation of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. They are certainly contentious issues which have an impact upon the life of every citizen regardless of one's geographic proximity to surface and underground coal mining operations. As the basis for a developing body of regulatory law, the Surface Mining Act must be viewed as one of the most important pieces of environmental and energy legislation of the 1970's. And it was with this realization in mind, that the Review adopted the objective of publishing a comprehensive and authoritative discussion of the Surface Mining Act.

The publication of this issue of the National Coal Issue also represents a revitalization of sorts for the West Virginia Law Review. The Review has enjoyed a successful subscription drive in recent months and can now boast a truly national audience for the National Coal Issue. Moreover, the Review is now back on its regular quarterly publication schedule after several years of delay.

The Editorial Board would like to extend a special word of thanks to Professor Charles P. McGinley. It has been through his continued advice, insight and compassion that the National Coal Issue has become a reality.

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