I L L I N O I S Colchester Coal Thickness Institute of Natural Resource Sustainability William W. Shilts, Executive Director ILLINOIS STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY HENRY E. Donald McKay III, Interim Director For more information contact: Institute of Natural Resource Sustainablity Illinois State Geological Survey 615 East Peabody Drive Champaign, Illinois 61820-6964 County (217) 333-4747 http://www.isgs.illinois.edu 20N 2E₂

County Coal Map Series Andrew Louchios, Scott Elrick, Chris Korose, David Morse

Map construction: October 28, 2009

This product is under review and may not meet the standards of the Illinois State Geological Survey.

County coal maps and select quadrangle maps available as downloadable PDF files at:

Contoured features less than 7 million square feet (about 1/2 mile square) in area

may not be accurately portrayed or resolved. This data set provides a large-scale

These data are not intended for use in site-specific screening or decision-making.

Disclaimer

The Illinois State Geological Survey and the University of Illinois make no guarantee, expressed or implied, regarding the correctness of the interpretations presented in this

data set and accept no liability for the consequences of decisions made by others on the

conceptual model of the geology of the area on which to base further work.

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Data included in this map are suitable for use at a scale of 1:100,000.

basis of the information presented here.

<28 inches

28 to 42 inches

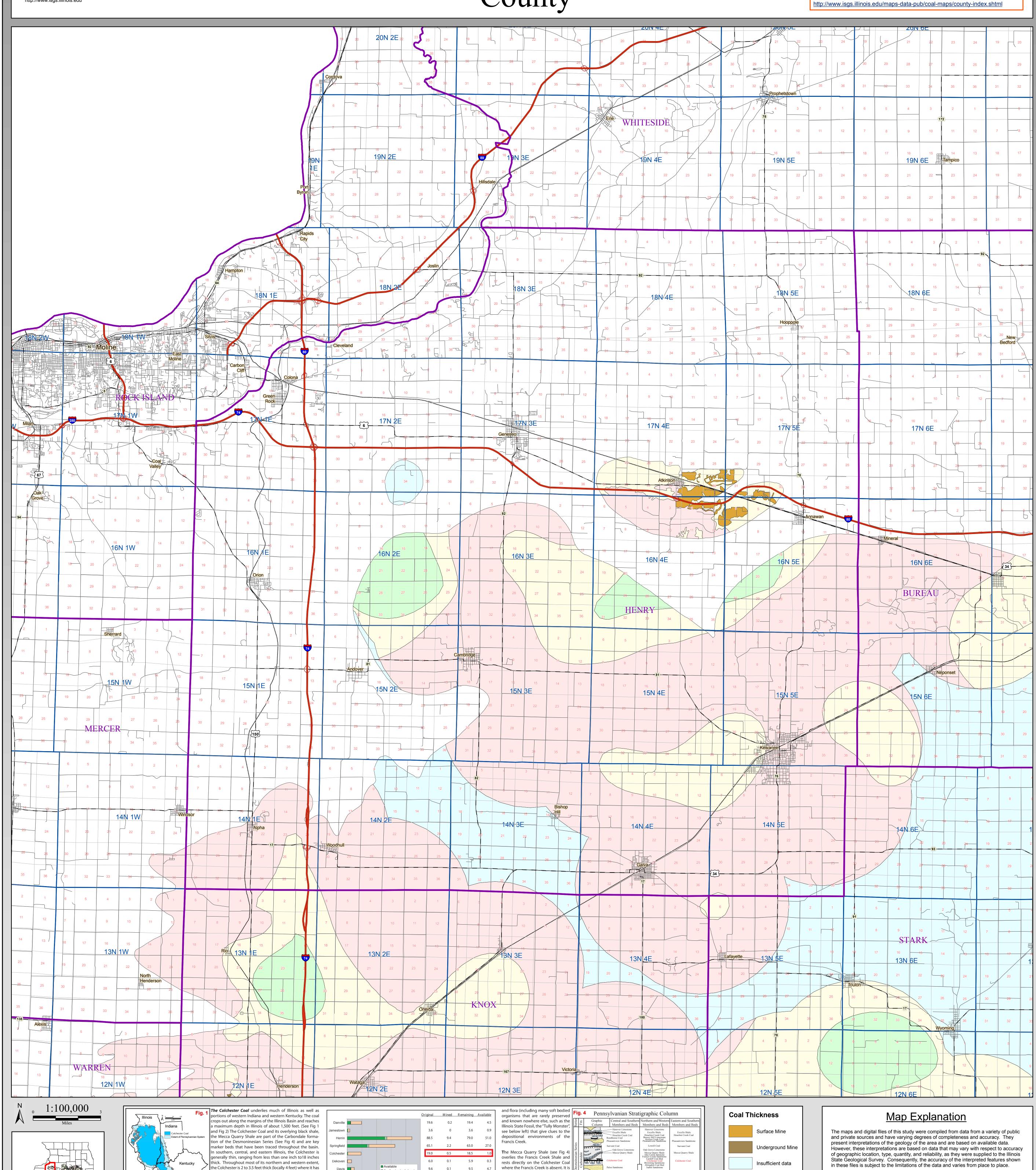
42 to 66 inches

>66 inches

Channel

Split Coal

Greenbush Coal Wiley Coal



a hard, fissile, black shale that locally

reaches 4 feet in thickness but gener-

ally ranges from 1 to 2 feet thick. The

Mecca Quarry is a transgressive marine

deposit that is even more widespread

References:

(All text modified from ISGS Pub. IM 127, Korose, et.al)

because of its distinctive low resistivity signature on electric logs and very high gamma-ray log readings.

been mined. Approximately 5% of the original resources, 0.5 billion tons, were considered available for mining

- Christopher P. Korose, Scott D. Elrick, and Russell J. Jacobson, 2003, Availability of the Colchester Coal for mining in

Northern and Western Illinois: Illinois State Geological Survey Illinois Minerals 127, 21 p.

Avail. w/ potential restr.

patterns of the Colchester show a peat formation and that the deeper, wetter synclinal troughs accumulated more peat than the states and is a stratigraphic marker

221.1 12.5

evations that resulted from structural uplift and its effect on the paleoenvironment of the local than the Colchester, present through-

In much of northern Illinois, thickness Colchester swamp. This finding implies that these geologic structures were developing during out most of the basin and adjacent Colchester shows a contract of the Colchester shows a contract of the colchester shows a contract of the basin and adjacent Colchester shows a contrac

LaSalle Anticlinorium crests and thick- Directly overlying the Colchester Coal in many parts of western and northern Illinois is the The original resource of the Colchester coal in the State of Illinois totals 19 billion tons, 0.5 billion of which has

■ Restricted or mined

ening to as much as 3 or 4 feet in basinal Francis Creek Shale, a medium gray, silty shale that locally exceeds 80 feet thick. The Francis

troughs. There is significant variation Creek forms a large clastic wedge that extends across the northern part of the coalfield in the flora of the Colchester Coal on and thins out to the west and south in the western part of Illinois State Fossil - "Tully Monster"

een mined. The Colchester Coal is perhaps the most wide-

pread minable seam in North America and is correlated with

tures thinning to 1 to 2 feet along the

strong relationship to geologic struc- higher, dryer anticlinal crests.

top of the anticlinal crests versus that the basin. It is best known for the famous Mazon Creek

found in the troughs. The flora varia- sideritic concretions found in the northeastern part

tion is interpreted as drier conditions of the basin and in Fulton County. These concretions

stemming from higher topographic el- have yielded a remarkably well preserved fossil fauna

the Croweburg Coal of Missouri and Kansas, the Schultztown

of western Kentucky, the Broken Arrow (or Croweburg) of Oklahoma, the Whitebreast of Iowa, the Colchester

Coal Member (Illa) of Indiana, the Lower Kittanning Coal of Ohio, the Princess No. 6 of eastern Kentucky, and

North-south cross section of the Pennsylvanian System in Illinois