

ILLINOIS COAL ASSOCIATION ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

The basic benefits that ICA associate members receive are periodic updates on legislation affecting the coal industry and our services when needed. Associate members can participate in our annual golf outing which also serves as the fundraiser for our Political Action Committee. Company information on all associate members are listed on our website.

Probably due to the decline in coal production in Illinois beginning in 1990, there have been a small number of associate members during the past 20 years. However, the recent renewed interest in the Illinois Basin, with the number of new mines in operation and the recent increase in coal production, is attracting more interest in the ICA from vendors. We realize that vendors would like greater access to key personnel in the coal companies. In 2009 Associate Members were invited to the August meeting of the Board, which followed the Golf Outing. We have continued this practice since then.

The services of the ICA staff could be an important resource and should be viewed as a “retainer” for when an Associate Member needs assistance with an Illinois government issue. Most of our work is with the Governor’s office, the legislature, and the state agencies that regulate the industry. President Phil Gonet has been with the ICA since 2003. Before coming to the ICA he worked for 28 years in Illinois state and local government positions, including stints as the Director of the House Republican Appropriations Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor, Executive Director of the Illinois Commerce Commission and General Manager of City Water, Light and Power, Springfield’s municipal utility. Phil understands how state government works, and knows the key individuals in the executive and legislative branches to get problems resolved. Also, our assistance can extend to finding the right contact for you in a coal company as well. Moreover, our coal companies appreciate vendors who support our industry.