

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

KAY-SMITH COAL MINE (Preliminary report) Riverton District, Coos Co. (a new development on the old "Bandon Block" property)

Owner: Wm. H. Kay Lessees: J.D. Kay and E.M. Smith, Riverton.

Area: 238 Acres in Secs. 17 and 18 as follows: $S\frac{1}{2}$ of $NW\frac{1}{4}$ and $NW\frac{1}{4}$ of $NW\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 17; the $N\frac{1}{2}$ of $NE\frac{1}{4}$ and $SE\frac{1}{4}$ of $NE\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 18.

Location: Secs. 17 and 18, T. 28 S., R. 13 W.W.M., Coos County, Ore.
The new tunnel mouth is near the center of the $S\frac{1}{2}$ of the $NW\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 17.

History: The property was owned until 1941 by the Riverton Coal & Development Company, when it was purchased by Wm. Kay. The Riverton Vein, upon which the mine is located, has been largely mined out to the north, to a depth of at least 1500 feet down the dip. According to Kay, this half-mile along the strike was mined in the following mines, from north to south; Ferrey, Gage, Alpine, Timon #2, Timon #1, McGee, and Bandon Block. The last of these operated from 1896 to about 1900, and a gangway was run clear through the hill, and mined out for about 150 feet up the dip. This gangway was about 600 feet long. Kay and Smith leased the property in the fall of 1942 and put in a road to the top of the hill and a tunnel a couple of hundred feet long only fifty feet or so from the crest, on the south side. Coal was taken only from this tunnel. The new tunnel lies 300 feet further down the dip along the outcrop to the southeast, and a road is to be built to it in the near future. Coal is now being thrown over the dump.

Topography: The new tunnel lies on the steep south slope of a spur which extends westward from the summit of the Riverton hills, about 300 feet southwest of a shallow saddle, and perhaps fifty feet below the saddle. A creek runs southward only 150 feet to the east.

Development: When visited the new tunnel had been driven N.60°W. for about 180 feet, nearly all in coal. The old Bandon Block tunnel mouth lies only 50-60 feet to the east of the tunnel mouth, between it and the creek. Work was to be stopped until the road was brought in.

Geology, etc. The tunnel exposes a section of standard Riverton Vein, with a good hard sandstone roof, only a few inches of shaly material to be removed in the roof. The coal dips 8°, but is expected to steepen as the tunnel goes in. About 3 feet total of coal, in two benches, one narrow bone parting, and the lower bench of better coal than the upper. The coal is hard, and relatively unstained in the end of the tunnel. Faulting is minor, even near the surface, although some slump displacement takes place in the outer few feet of the tunnel.

Reserves: Apparently, if little coal has been mined from the Bandon Block tunnel, as is believed, there is about 15 acres to be mined above the tunnel level; almost no coal has been mined below this level.

Report by: J.E.A. \$ May 43