STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

AT CHARLESTON

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1-13

By the Governor

WHEREAS, the State of West Virginia's coal mining industry can thrive only if mining operations are conducted as safely as possible and in accordance with the mandatory health and safety laws and regulations aimed at preventing accidents; and

WHEREAS, since November 2012, six fatal accidents have occurred at mining operations in this State, taking the lives of six employees of our coal industry; and

WHEREAS, four of these fatal accidents occurred within the last two weeks; and

WHEREAS, immediate safety reviews are warranted to ensure that those individuals who work in this State's coal industry are performing their tasks as safely as possible and in accordance with the mandatory health and safety laws and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EARL RAY TOMBLIN, Governor of the State of West Virginia, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of West Virginia and the laws of this State, do hereby **ORDER** the following, effective immediately:

(1) Within the next twenty-four hours, every shift in every coal mining operation in this State shall halt operations for at least one hour to honor the six employees of our coal industry who lost their lives recently. During the halt in operations, all operators, supervisors, miners, and other employees of the State's coal industry shall engage in a "safety stand-down" and thoroughly review applicable health and safety laws and regulations, communications protocols, and any particularized safety issues apparent in their operations.

(2) Beginning today, this the twentieth day of February, 2013, and continuing until completed, the Director of the Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training and his authorized representatives shall deploy to all coal mining operations in this State to advise and assist operators in conducting additional safety reviews aimed at preventing future injuries and accidents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the twentieth day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen, and in the One Hundred Fiftieth year of the State.

Earl Ray Tomblin

GOVERNOR

By the Governor Natalie E. Tennant

SECRETARY OF STATE