



NETL Life Cycle Inventory Data

Process Documentation File

Process Name: Ventilation Energy for Underground Mine
Reference Flow: 1 kg of Coal
Brief Description: The amount of electricity required to ventilate an underground coal mine

Section I: Meta Data

Geographical Coverage: US **Region:** N/A
Year Data Best Represents: 1998-2002
Process Type: Basic Process (BP)
Process Scope: Gate-to-Gate Process (GG)
Allocation Applied: No
Completeness: Individual Relevant Flows Captured

Flows Aggregated in Data Set:

Process Energy Use Energy P&D Material P&D

Relevant Output Flows Included in Data Set:

Releases to Air: Greenhouse Gases Criteria Air Other
Releases to Water: Inorganic Organic Emissions Other
Water Usage: Water Consumption Water Demand (throughput)
Releases to Soil: Inorganic Releases Organic Releases Other

Adjustable Process Parameters:

Electricity *[kWh/kg] Ventilation electricity per kg of coal extracted*

Tracked Input Flows:

Electricity [Electric power] *[Technosphere] Amount of electricity required for the ventilation of an underground coal mine.*

Tracked Output Flows:

Coal, ventilation [Intermediate product]

Reference flow

Section II: Process Description

Associated Documentation

This unit process is composed of this document and the data sheet (DS) *DS_Stage 1_O_Ventilation_Underground.xlsx*, which provides additional details regarding relevant calculations, data quality, and references.

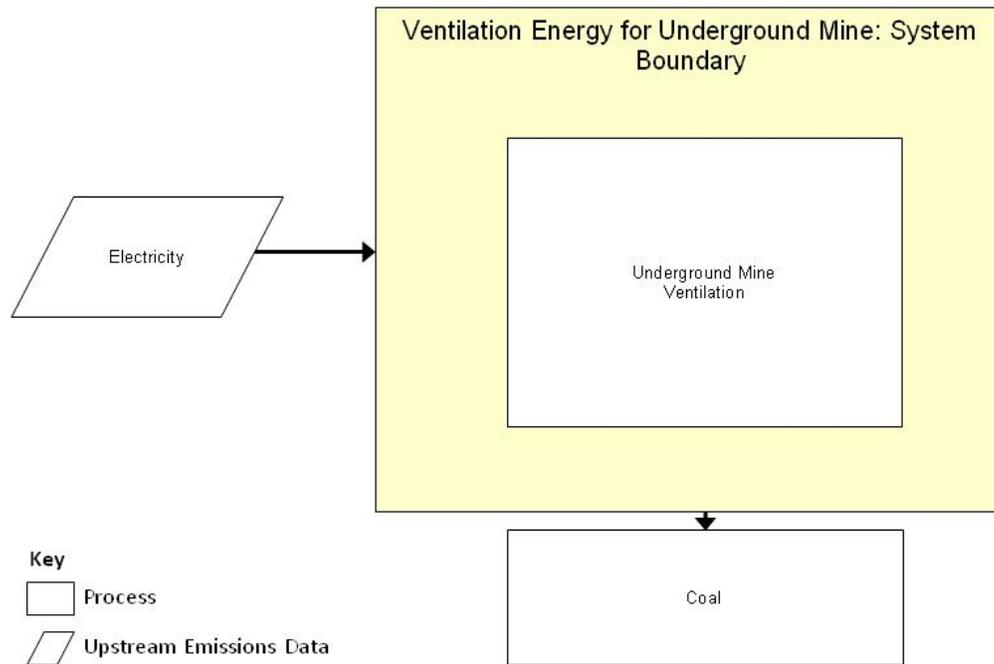
Goal and Scope

This unit process provides a summary of relevant input and output flows associated with the amount of electricity required in the ventilation of an underground coal mine using a fan. The key input is electricity, which is also an adjustable parameter to measure uncertainties. Coal is the key output. The unit process is based on the reference flow of one kg of coal. The relevant flows of this unit process are described below and shown in **Figure 1**.

Boundary and Description

Figure 1 provides an overview of the boundary of this unit process.

Figure 1: Unit Process Scope and Boundary



The electricity requirement was calculated using the Energy and Environmental Profile of the U.S. Mining Industry developed by the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy division and the National Mining Association (U.S. Department of Energy and National Mining Association, 2002). Chapter Two of the source focused on coal; description of coal types, overview of coal mining, energy requirements for underground and surface mines, and emissions from coal mining. The data source provides energy data for specific mining activities such as coal handling, extraction, and grinding. BCS, Incorporated (BCS) developed the data by integrating the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration's 1997 Coal Industry data into the Western Mining Engineering, Inc.'s SHERPA Mine Cost Software to create 2002 estimates. BCS also used Mine and Mill Equipment Cost, An Estimator's Guide to develop the data. Newer data for specific coal mining processes are not available. This unit process parameterizes key variables, which allow for evaluation of data uncertainty when used in a life cycle model.

A main fan was used to ventilate an underground mine. To calculate the electricity requirement, based on the reference flow of one kg of coal, the energy requirement for the main fan, in Btu per ton, was divided by the appropriate conversions to obtain the electricity needed in kWh per kg of coal. Electricity was placed as a parameter in the DS file, so the item could be adjusted to measure uncertainties.

Table 1 shows the input and output flows of this unit process. Additional details regarding input and output flows, including calculation methods, are contained in the associated DS sheet.

Table 1: Unit Process Input and Output Flows

Flow Name	Value	Units (Per Reference Flow)
Inputs		
Electricity [Electric power]	0.04264	kWh/kg
Outputs		
Coal, ventilation [Intermediate product]	1.00	kg

* **Bold face** clarifies that the value shown *does not* include upstream environmental flows.

Embedded Unit Processes

None.

References

U.S. Department of Energy and National Mining Association. 2002. *Energy and Environmental Profile of the U.S. Mining Industry : Chapter 2 Coal*. U.S. Department of Energy.
<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/manufacturing/resources/mining/pdfs/coal.pdf>.



Section III: Document Control Information

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Revision History:

Original/no revisions

How to Cite This Document: This document should be cited as:

NETL (2013). NETL Life Cycle Inventory Data – Unit Process: Ventilation Energy for Underground Mine. U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory. Last Updated: July 2013 (version 01). www.netl.doe.gov/LCA (<http://www.netl.doe.gov/LCA>)

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