

Just the Job

Information Sheet

Job title:

Underground Mineworker

Job description:

The purpose of a Trainee Mineworker/Mineworker is to mine coal in a safe and efficient manner, to meet the daily production and quality requirements of the mine.

All coal in an underground mine situation is extracted using modern methods of mining including electrically powered, remote-controlled continuous miners or monitors. The coal is washed out of the mine or loaded onto shuttle cars, which carry the coal to conveyor belts, transporting it to the surface. On the surface the coal is screened, cleaned of stone and other contamination, sized and loaded into bins ready for distribution from the rail and road loadout.

Physical qualities:

On a daily basis this job holder will be exposed to:

- Roof bolting (operating a gopher drill – weight bearing above shoulder height)
- Operating continuous miner (includes hauling cables and carrying remote controller)
- Driving shuttle cars (vibration through seat and driving on uneven surface)
- Manual handling in confined areas, lifting props and sets, erecting overhead ducting
- Coal shovelling

Qualifications required/age restrictions:

Anyone of working age, with Secondary School Education – NCEA Level 1 & 2, can work at Solid Energy as a mineworker but must show certain attributes and qualities such as:

- able to take responsibility
- show initiative
- good communication
- high level of fitness
- positive attitude
- good team member
- awareness of health and safety

Training costs:

On the job, classroom and self learning can take anywhere from 18 to 36 months. As an employee of Solid Energy all training costs, during this time, are covered by the company.

Location of job:

Solid Energy operates a number of mines around New Zealand in the Waikato, Southland and the West Coast of the South Island. For specific information about job opportunities at each mine site please contact Solid Energy's Human Resources Department on 03 345 6000.

Career path:

Underground miner career progression:
Production Supervisor, Under Manager, Mine Manager

Salary range:

The salary range differs at each site but as a general guide the starting rate is \$17.00 per hour through to \$21.00 per hour. This can increase, as you learn, up to \$30 + per hour. All rates are plus benefits.

Other careers this profession could lead to:

There is opportunity for further study towards a Coal Mine Deputy Certificate of Competence, Under Manager Certificate of Competence and Mine Manager Certificate of Competence. There are also many other career opportunities within the mining industry including Surface Controller, Production Manager and Contracts Manager. As well as this Solid Energy offers trade apprenticeships with a strong career path.

Tips on how to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry:

Previous experience operating machinery, driving heavy vehicles or working in the construction, forestry and other allied industries is preferable but not necessary.

Places/websites to source information about this job:

www.coalnz.com

www.solidenergyjobs.co.nz

http://www.careers.govt.nz/default.aspx?id0=10003&id1=i1g_min