

SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MONTANA
MIKE COONEY

Business Services Bureau
Rose Ann Crawford, Deputy



Montana State Capitol
PO Box 202801
Helena, MT 59620-2801
(406)444-3665

December 18, 1996

BLAIR JONES ESQ
P O BOX 1268
COLUMBUS MT 59019

RE: MONTANA ASSOCIATION
OF HARD ROCK MINING
COUNTIES, INC.
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
Date of Filing: December 16, 1996
Filing Number: D088895-344300

Dear Mr. Jones:

Attached please find a copy of the documents you recently filed with this office. The document number and filing date have been recorded on the copy I've attached. These documents serve as your certificate of filing and should be maintained in your files for future reference.

Thank you for giving this office the opportunity to serve you. If you have any questions in this regard, or need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Business Services Bureau professionals at (406) 444-3665.

Sincerely,

Mike Cooney
Secretary of State
Enclosure

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF HARD ROCK MINING COUNTIES, INC.**

The undersigned resident of the State of Montana, claiming all benefits, rights, and privileges granted by the laws of the State of Montana, does hereby enact and adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

ARTICLE I.

NAME

The name of this corporation shall be **MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF HARD
ROCK MINING COUNTIES, INC.**

ARTICLE II.

The corporation is a mutual benefit corporation.

ARTICLE III.

PURPOSES

The specific and primary purposes for which this corporation is formed are as follows:

1. To assemble hard rock mining impacted counties and create a forum for addressing and resolving issues pertaining to hard rock mining and the effects thereof on Montana counties.
2. To assess, instigate, and monitor legislative acts pertaining to hard rock mining and county interests.
3. To present a unified voice of hard rock mining impacted counties on issues of concern related to hard rock mining.
4. To generally do all things necessary and deemed expedient by the Board

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of Directors which is calculated to promote the purposes of the corporation and the members thereof in conformity with the Non-Profit Corporation Law of the State of Montana.

ARTICLE IV.

NON-PROFIT STATUS

This corporation is organized pursuant to the General Non-Profit Corporation Law of the State of Montana.

ARTICLE V.

DURATION

The period of duration of this non-profit corporation shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE VI.

REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The address of the corporation's initial registered office is 2711 Airport Road, Helena, Montana, and the initial registered agent at said address is Gordon Morris.

ARTICLE VII.

LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS

The personal liability of a director of this corporation is eliminated or limited pursuant to § 35-2-213(2)(e), MCA.

ARTICLE VIII.

The corporation will have members. Membership is described in the by-laws of the corporation.

ARTICLE IX.

INCORPORATORS

The name and address of the incorporator of this corporation is as follows:

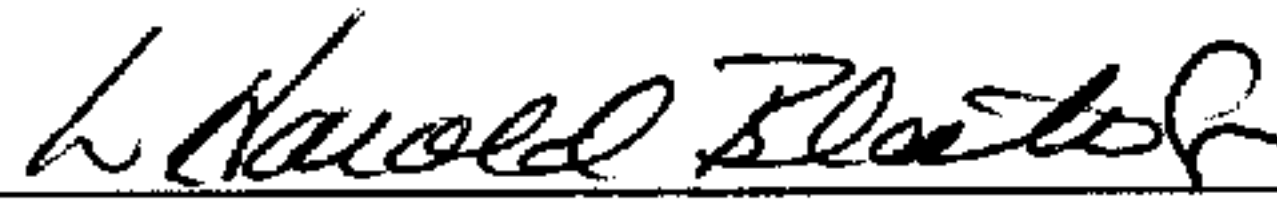
L. Harold Blattie
P.O. Box 970
Columbus, Montana 59019

ARTICLE X.

DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY

This corporation is organized as a non-profit corporation and upon the winding up or dissolution of this corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations incurred by the corporation, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Montana Association of Counties (MACO), a Montana non-profit corporation or such other non-profit corporation with similar purposes to those expressed in Article III herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being the person hereinabove named as the incorporator, has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 13th day of December, 1996.



L. Harold Blattie

STATE OF MONTANA)

: ss:

County of Stillwater)

On this 13th day of December, 1996, before me, the

undersigned Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared **L. Harold Blattie**, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within and foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal the day and year first above written.

Blain Jones

Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Park City, Montana
My Commission expires: June 10, 1999.

(NOTARIAL SEAL)