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Preface

This volume is the fifth in a series of reports by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) on the assessment of the quantity and quality of the nation’s coal deposits that potentially could be mined during the next few decades. For eight years (1995-2003), geologic, geochemical, and resource information was collected and compiled for the five major coal-producing regions of the United States: the Appalachian Basin, Illinois Basin, Northern Rocky Mountains and Great Plains, Colorado Plateau, and the western part of the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Plain (Gulf Coast) region. The results of these other USGS coal assessments may be found at: http://energy.cr.usgs.gov/coal/coal_assessments/index.html and a summary of the results from all assessment areas can be found in Ruppert et al. (2002) and Dennen (2009). This volume contains the assessment results for the Gulf Coast region. The contents of this volume were compiled mainly during the eight-year period mentioned above. However, every effort has been made to update the references and text to incorporate new work that has been completed since the original compilation period.

Unfortunately, two members of the USGS Gulf Coast assessment team passed away since the project began in 1995. The editors would like to dedicate this volume to the memory of Roger E. Thomas and Douglas J. Nichols.

References Cited
