

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 10, 2007

CONTACT: Laura Capps/ Melissa Wagoner
(202) 224-2633

KENNEDY ON MINE TRAGEDIES

WASHINGTON, DC— Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, released the following statement on the mine collapses in Utah and Indiana.

“The thoughts and prayers of all Americans are with our country’s mining communities today. These are terrible tragedies, not only for the workers and their families, but for all of the brave men and women who go to work each day in America’s mines. Our focus at this difficult time is on the continuing rescue effort in Utah, and on supporting the families that are facing devastating loss in Indiana. As we move forward, we will be conducting a thorough investigation into the causes of both of these accidents, and the adequacy of our accident prevention and response efforts for all of our mines. Year after year, there have been too many lives lost and too many unanswered questions - we owe it to these workers and their families to find out exactly what happened, and how future disasters like these can be prevented.”

###