Record Nr. UNINA9910460414903321 Autore Kroll-Smith J. Stephen <1947-> **Titolo** The real disaster is above ground: a mine fire & social conflict / / J. Stephen Kroll-Smith & Stephen Robert Couch Lexington, Kentucky: ,: The University Press of Kentucky, , 1990 Pubbl/distr/stampa ©1990 0-8131-8473-8 **ISBN** 0-8131-5056-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (211 p.) Disciplina 363.3/497 Soggetti Mine fires - Social aspects - Pennsylvania - Centralia Mine fires - Social aspects Social conflict Electronic books. Centralia (Pa.) Social conditions Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia "Paperback edition 2009"--T. p. verso. Note generali Includes index. Includes bibliographical references (p. [178]-197) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Preface; Introduction: A Dying Coal Town: 1 King Coal Built a Town but Not a Community: 2 The Engineering Puzzle, 1962-1981; 3 Ambiguous Evidence and Contradictory Signals; 4 A Group Emerges and the Town Divides; 5 Confrontation and Conflict; 6 A Thwarted Struggle for Unity; 7 One Town, Many Groups; 8 ""This Town Is Dead""; 9 Making Sociological Sense of the Story; Appendix: Participatory Research in Centralia; Notes; Index; Sommario/riassunto In the 1950's Centralia was a small town, like many others in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania. But since the 1960's, it has been consumed, outwardly and inwardly by a fire that has inexorably spread in the abandoned mines beneath it. The earth smokes, subsides, and breathes poisonous gases. No less destructive has been the spread of dissension and enmity among the townspeople. The Real Disaster

Above Ground tells the story of the fire and the tragic failure of all efforts to counter it. This study of the Centralia fire represents the most

thorough canvass of the documentary materials and