FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 22, 2006 CONTACT: Laura Capps/Melissa Wagoner (202) 224-2633

STATEMENT OF SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON INDICTMENT OF FORMER FOREMAN AT SAGO MINE

Washington, DC — Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy released the following statement on the indictment of a former foreman at Sago Mine:

"The indictment raises more questions about the safety record at Sago Mine. Mine inspectors must be qualified, and mining companies must be diligent in their oversight and follow-up of inspections. Mining tragedies are preventable if miners have strong safety protections."

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