

WINTER WEATHER

UNDERGROUND WALK AND TALK WINTER ALERTS/SAFETY TALK BULLETIN

Mine specific Information – Violations/Orders

- Roof Control Compliance History (45.1-161.108 – 120)
- Ventilation Compliance History (45.1-161.216 – 231)
- Permissibility Compliance History (45.1-161.193 A&B)
- Rock Dust/Cleanup Compliance History (45.1-161.234 & 235)
- Methane Liberation History (Need to check at mine)
- From October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014, all serious accidents in Virginia resulted from these five (5) accident classifications: (4 serious accidents; 2 fatalities)
 - ✓ HANDLING MATERIALS ----- 2
 - ✓ FALL OF ROOF, FACE, RIBS ----- 1
 - ✓ HAULAGE ----- 1
 - ✓ ELECTRICAL ----- 1 (Fatality)
 - ✓ RED ZONES ----- 1 (Fatality)
- Be cautious when mining near abandoned mines. Drill bore holes, research mine maps (company, DMME, other sources), train employees to identify potential hazards (water seepage through coal, softness or other abnormalities of coal seams, cracks, mud streaks or iron colored partings in coal seam), and understand emergency evacuation procedures.
- Certified persons shall make thorough examinations of all places where miners are assigned to work and travel, especially prior to entering idle and abandoned workings.
- A drop in barometric pressure can increase the release of methane in underground coal mines. Always maintain adequate mine ventilation and make frequent checks for methane and proper air flow.
- Know your mine’s ventilation plan. Properly maintain methane detection devices. Communicate changing mine conditions to one another during each shift and to the oncoming shift.
- Properly maintain and check bleeder systems to ventilate abandoned areas and remove dangerous gases.
- Control coal dust with frequent and liberal applications of rock dust. Maintain water sprays and other coal dust suppression devices in good working condition.
- Make frequent visual and sound checks of mine roof during each shift. Never travel under unsupported roof.
- Know your escapeways and mine emergency procedures, (such as donning SCSRs, emergency evacuation drills, and knowing how to use fire fighting equipment).
- Temperature and humidity changes in the winter months cause the interior of mines to become drier and create a greater potential for fires.