

U.S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
201 12th Street South  
Arlington, Virginia 22202-5452



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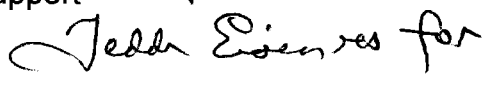
MEMORANDUM FOR NEAL H. MERRIFIELD  
Administrator for Metal and  
Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health

FROM:

JEFFREY A. DUNCAN   
Committee Chair  
Director for Educational Policy and Development


HEIDI W. STRASSLER   
Associate Solicitor for Mine Safety and Health

REGINALD J. RICHARDS   
Acting Director of Technical Support

NANCY M. SAHAKIAN, M.D.   
Senior Program Management Consultant, Clinical Operations,  
Federal Occupational Health Service, United States Public  
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SYED HAFEEZ   
Director, Program Evaluation and Information

SUBJECT: Chargeability Review Committee Decision

Case No.: 2015-M-05-

Deceased: 

Date of Incident: April 16, 2015

Date of Death: April 16, 2015

Operator: Dakota Granite Company

Mine: Dakota Mahogany Quarry

Decision: Not chargeable

In a unanimous decision, the Chargeability Review Committee has determined that the death of [REDACTED] should not be charged to the mining industry. Mr. [REDACTED], a 59-year-old drill operator, was operating a quarry drill when he shut down the equipment to perform routine maintenance. He was found several minutes later unresponsive on the ground. Co-workers initiated CPR and he was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead shortly after.

The death certificate indicated that the manner of death was natural and was due to myocardial infarction/cardiac arrest. An autopsy was not performed. MSHA's investigation did not find any physical or environmental factors that could have contributed to the death.

Based on the death certificate and the MSHA investigation, the committee members concluded that Mr. [REDACTED] died due to natural causes and that his death should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Joseph A. Main  
Patricia W. Silvey  
Laura V. McClintock