




SEP 08 2016

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

SUBJECT: Chargeability Review Committee Decision

Case No.: 2016-M-14-

Deceased: 

Date of Incident: February 01, 2016

Date of Death: February 01, 2016




Operator: Barrick Cortez Inc.

Mine: Barrick Cortez Inc.

Autopsy Conducted: February 03, 2016

Death Certificate Released: April 12,  
2016

Decision: Not chargeable

I have reviewed the investigative report in the death of  and determined it should not be charged to the mining industry.  a 44 year old survey supervisor, was surveying stockpiles with another employee. Due to cold weather conditions, the employees were alternating work activities to permit one surveyor to warm-up in a pickup truck while the other was surveying. When the deceased failed to return to the truck, his co-worker drove around the stockpile to look for him. He found  lying on the ground, face up with the survey pole lying across his chest. He was unresponsive. Mine employees performed CPR until EMS arrived but he was pronounced dead at the scene.

An autopsy was performed and the medical examiner's opinion was that death was due to atherosclerotic and hypertensive cardiovascular disease. The death certificate listed the cause of death as cardiac arrest due to atherosclerotic and hypertensive cardiovascular disease. MSHA's investigation did not identify any physical or environmental factors that could have contributed to the death.

Based on the medical examiner's report, the death certificate and MSHA's investigation, I have determined that the death of [REDACTED] was not due to mine related work activities and should not be charged to the mining industry.

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