

DON'T LET HISTORY REPEAT ITSELF!



The sixth anniversary of the Quecreek accidental hole-through and resulting inundation is upon us. The continuing problem of accidental hole-through of adjacent mines or communication between abandoned mine workings over or under, stresses the importance of preventing such occurrences.

- Conduct a diligent search of existing company map files
- Talk to property owners, local people, and mining companies in the area
- Walk the outcrop of the property
- Examine topographical maps and flight photos for signs of mining or old structures
- Examine mine overlay and underlay maps
- Reflect findings accurately
- Identify areas that require drilling
- If unknowns exist, state so
- Caution employees to be alert when approaching known abandoned mines
- Develop an action plan to assure safe evacuation in case of an accidental hole-through

Make use of available technology, such as long-hole drilling and seismic surveys, to locate abandoned mines. The costs of accidental hole-through in terms of potential loss of life, production, equipment down time, and compensation greatly outweigh the investment in research, accuracy and training.