



News Release

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MSHA announces results of June impact inspections

ARLINGTON, Va. – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Mine Safety and Health Administration today announced that federal inspectors issued 157 citations, 10 orders and one safeguard during special impact inspections conducted at nine coal mines and four metal/nonmetal mines last month.

The monthly inspections, which began in April 2010 following the explosion at the Upper Big Branch Mine, involve mines that merit increased agency attention and enforcement because of their poor compliance history or particular compliance concerns. These matters include high numbers of violations or closure orders; frequent hazard complaints or hotline calls; plan compliance issues; inadequate workplace examinations; a high number of accidents, injuries or illnesses; fatalities; adverse conditions such as increased methane liberation, faulty roof conditions and inadequate ventilation, and respirable dust.

“After Upper Big Branch, we undertook an aggressive strategy to compel mine operators to take responsibility for the safety and health of their workers,” said Joseph A. Main, assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health. “The data we’ve collected from our impact inspection program, which strategically targets problem mines, shows compliance is improving and that we continue to move the mine safety needle in the right direction.”

From April 2010 through June 2013, total violations (per 100 on-site inspection hours) decreased 18 percent in coal mines and 18 percent in metal/nonmetal mines; significant and substantial violations decreased 23 percent in coal mines and 37 percent in metal/nonmetal mines; unwarrantable failure violations decreased 45 percent in coal mines and 65 percent in metal/nonmetal mines, and operator-reported lost-time injuries per 200,000 hours worked decreased 9 percent in coal mines and 26 percent in metal/nonmetal mines.

“These impact inspections are a critical part of MSHA's enforcement efforts to make sure mine operators take seriously their legal obligation to ensure that miners go home safe and healthy at the end of their shift,” added Main. “MSHA will continue this increased scrutiny at mines that warrant it, which is adding to the safety progress we are making in the mining community.”

Since April 2010, MSHA has conducted 629 impact inspections and issued 10,640 citations, 980 orders and 45 safeguards.

Editor’s note: A spreadsheet containing the results of impact inspections in June 2013 accompanies this news release.

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MSHA Monthly Impact Inspection List

(June 2013)

June 2013

Coal

Mine Information						Type of Issuance				S&S Information				Issuances - Type of Action									Justifications													
District	State	Mine ID	Controller Name	Operator Name	Mine Name	Cit	Orders	Safe guards (Coal only)	Total	S&S	Non-S&S	Total	S&S Rate	104(a)	104(b)	104(d)(1) Citation	104(d)(1) Order	104(d)(2)	104(e)(2) Order	314(b)	103(k)	104(g)(1)	103(j)	107(a)	Total	1. Operator Tactics	2. Hazard Complaints /Hotline Calls	3. Plan Compliance Issues	4. Inadequate Exams	5. Accidents, Injuries, Illnesses	6. Fatal Accidents	7. Enforcement History	8. Adverse Conditions	9. Respirable Dust Issues		
District 02	PA	3609549	Citicorp Venture Capital Ltd	RoxCoal, Inc.	Kimberly Run	6	0	0	6	2	4	6	33.33%	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6										
District 03	WV	4608864	Alliance Resource Partners LP	Tunnel Ridge, LLC	Tunnel Ridge Mine	18	1	0	19	11	8	19	57.89%	18	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	1									
District 04	WV	4609086	Patriot Coal Corporation	Brody Mining LLC	Brody Mine No 1	7	4	0	11	8	3	11	72.73%	7	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11										
District 05	VA	4407254	Metinvest B V	Surface Minerals Company	3 Pole	30	4	0	34	21	13	34	61.76%	29	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	34										
District 06	KY	1519515	Alliance Resource Partners LP	Excel Mining, LLC.	Mine #4	8	0	0	8	4	4	8	50.00%	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8										
District 07	KY	1517497	James River Coal Company	Blue Diamond Coal Company	#68	23	0	0	23	3	20	23	13.04%	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23										
District 09	UT	4801646	Pacific Minerals Inc; Idaho Energy Resources	Bridger Coal Company	Bridger Underground Coal Mine	5	0	0	5	1	4	5	20.00%	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5										
District 10	KY	1518547	Alliance Resource Partners LP	Sebree Mining LLC	Onton #9	8	1	1	10	4	4	8	50.00%	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	10										
District 12	WV	4609319	Cliffs Natural Resources Inc	Cliffs Logan County Coal, LLC	Lower War Eagle	5	0	0	5	1	4	5	20.00%	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5											
9						National Totals				110	10	1	121	55	64	119	46.22%	109	0	1	4	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	6	3	0	6	3	1	

June 2013

Metal Nonmetal

Mine Information						Type of Issuance				S&S Information				Issuances - Type of Action									Justifications													
District	State	Mine ID	Controller Name	Operator Name	Mine Name	Cit	Orders	Safe guards (Coal only)	Total	S&S	Non-S&S	Total	S&S Rate	104(a)	104(b)	104(d)(1) Citation	104(d)(1) Order	104(d)(2)	104(e)(2) Order	314(b)	103(k)	104(g)(1)	103(j)	107(a)	Total	1. Operator Tactics	2. Hazard Complaints /Hotline Calls	3. Plan Compliance Issues	4. Inadequate Exams	5. Accidents, Injuries, Illnesses	6. Fatal Accidents	7. Enforcement History	8. Adverse Conditions	9. Respirable Dust Issues		
WE	NV	2602314	Newmont Mining Corp	Newmont USA Limited	Midas Mine	4	0	0	4	1	3	4	25.00%	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4										
SC	OK	3401856	Billy D Baldwin	Rock-It Natural Stone	WISTER 1, & BIG HILL #1	15	0	0	15	4	11	15	26.67%	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15										
NC	MI	2003000	Eula M Fyke	A & E Agg Inc	Fyke Washed Sand & Gravel Inc	4	0	0	4	1	3	4	25.00%	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4										
NC	IN	1200670	John F Steele Jr	Hilltop Basic Resources, Inc.	Patriot Aggregate Plant	24	0	0	24	7	17	24	29.17%	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24										
4						National Totals				47	0	0	47	13	34	47	27.66%	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	0	0	0	1	3	1	3	0	0
Total		13		National Totals				157	10	1	168	68	98	166	40.96%	156	0	1	4	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	68	1	0	4	3	6	1	9	3	1