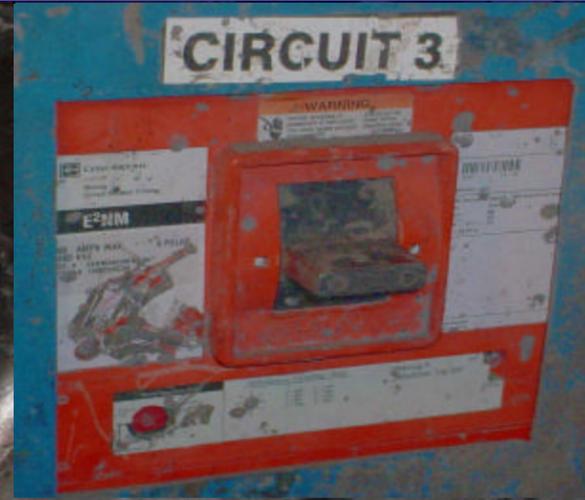


An electrician was electrocuted while repairing a damaged continuous mining machine trailing cable when the electrical circuit breaker for the cable was activated after a mine-wide power outage. The electrician did not deenergize, disconnect, lock and tag the trailing cable. **Since 2000, six electricians were electrocuted performing work on electrical circuits that had not been deenergized, locked and tagged.**

**Preventive Practices:**

- ✓ Before repairing a trailing cable, the electrical circuit to the trailing cable shall be disconnected, locked and suitably tagged.
- ✓ Never assume that a circuit breaker will not be reset. Take necessary precaution to prevent the circuit from being inadvertently energized.
- ✓ Never disturb or ignore an electrical lock or tag.
- ✓ Before resetting an electrical circuit breaker, the person who installed the lock and tag shall be communicated with sufficiently to determine that it is safe to reenergize the circuit.



# Southern WV Accident Alert

A recent fatal accident occurred at an underground coal mine when a continuous miner operator was crushed between the machine cutting head and the coal rib. The victim was beside the machine using a remote control unit to reposition the machine when the accident occurred. **Since 2000, nine miners (eight continuous miner operators and one helper) were fatally crushed by a remotely controlled continuous mining machine. These miners were working in an area commonly referred to as the "Red Zone" or "Danger Zone".**

**Preventive Practices:**

- ✓ All persons including the continuous miner operator shall be in a safe location away from a remotely controlled continuous mining machine while it is being trammed and/or operated. The machine shall never be trammed or operated while persons are in the "Red or Danger Zone".
- ✓ The continuous mining machine shall not be in motion during loading and unloading of the machine's electrical trailing cable.
- ✓ Continuous mining machine remote control transmitters and receivers shall be properly maintained, including the power connections.
- ✓ The machine shall be deenergized at the onboard electrical breaker during repairing, servicing, cleaning, or changing cutter bits.

