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GENERAL INFORMATION

Coal Mine Fatal Accident 2006-36



Operator:	CAM Mining LLC
Mine:	Slate Branch
Accident Date:	July 20, 2006
Classification:	Machinery
Location:	Dist. 6, Pike County, Kentucky
Mine Type:	Surface Coal Mine
Employment:	52
Production:	2,500 Tons/Day

ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION



On Thursday, July 20, 2006, a 39-year old road grader operator with 20 years of mining experience was fatally injured on the haul road of a surface coal mine. While the victim was outside the cab of the parked road grader, it began to roll backwards down grade. The grader came to rest along the hillside ditch line with the victim positioned under the rear ripper-bar.

ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

Root Cause: The standards, policies and procedures used by the mine operator did not ensure that safe job procedures were followed at all times. The mine operator did not have written procedures for safely parking unattended mobile equipment.

Corrective Action: The mine operator has developed a plan to prevent a similar occurrence of this accident. The plan outlines procedures to be followed before equipment operators can leave the driver's seat of equipment. Employees were trained in the procedures to be followed.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

§104(a) Citation No. 7426851 was issued to CAM Mining, LLC for a violation of 77.1607(n).

Condition or Practice: "On July 20, 2006, a grader operator received fatal injuries as a result of a runaway of the road grader he had been operating. The road grader, Serial No. ATS500311 was left unattended without the brakes being set. The grader was parked on a grade and the wheels were not turned into a bank or berm or were not blocked."

BEST PRACTICES

- Establish and follow safety procedures for exiting mobile equipment and parking mobile equipment on grades.
- Train each mobile equipment operator in all applicable safety procedures.
- Conduct thorough pre-operational checks to identify any defects that may affect the safe operation of equipment before it is placed into service.
- Report defects to management and ensure the defects are properly corrected prior to placing the equipment in service.
- Ensure that training for mobile equipment operators includes a complete review of the Operator's Manual.