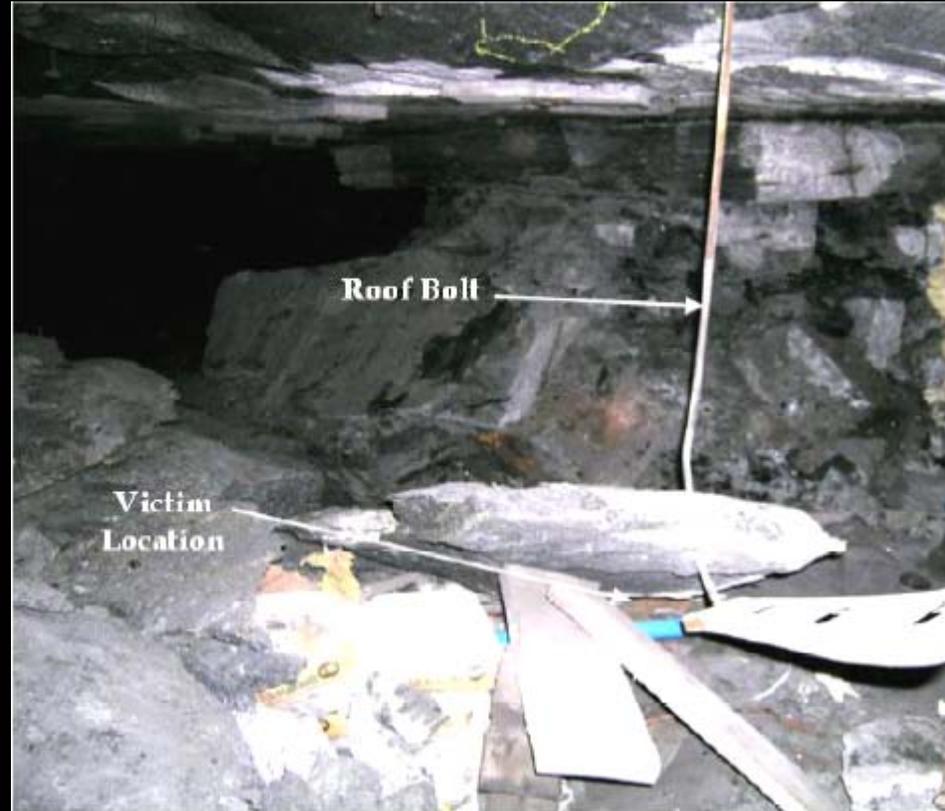


*This presentation is for illustrative and **general** educational purposes only and is not intended to substitute for the official MSHA Investigation Report analysis nor is it intended to provide the sole foundation, if any, for any related enforcement actions.*

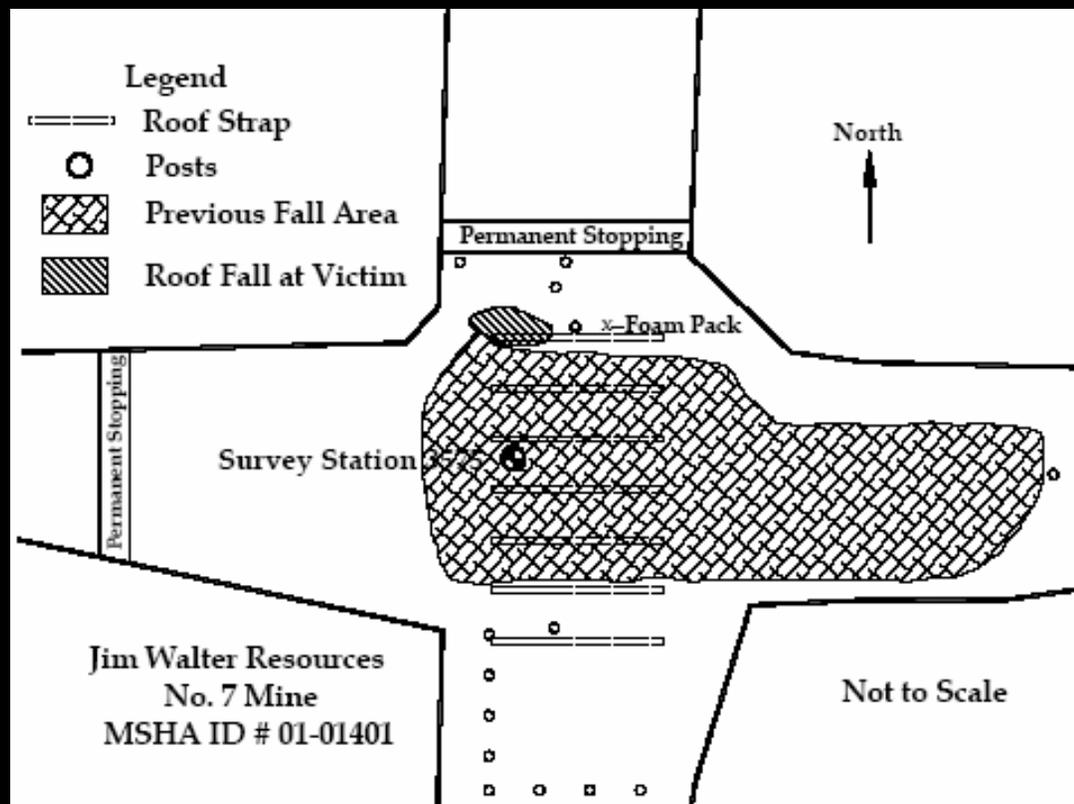
GENERAL INFORMATION

Coal Mine Fatal Accident 2006-40



Operator:	Jim Walter Resources, Inc.
Mine:	No. 7 Mine
Accident Date:	October 12, 2006
Classification:	Fall of Roof
Location:	Dist. 11, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama
Mine Type:	Underground Coal Mine
Employment:	491
Production:	10,000 Tons/Day

ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION



On October 12, 2006 a 56-year old Special Projects Manager, with 32 years total mining experience, was fatally injured in an underground roof fall. The rock that separated from the roof and struck the victim measured 83-inches long x 43-inches wide x 7-inchesthick, and had a roof bolt through one end which failed at or near the anchorage point. The victim was checking ventilation controls in anticipation of increasing fan ventilation pressure in the area, and was in an area of the mine that had prior roof falls and deteriorating roof conditions, affecting the immediate roof and installed support.

ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

Root Cause: The immediate mine roof and installed roof support had deteriorated over time, resulting in hazardous roof conditions in the area traveled by the victim. Adequate precautions to eliminate the hazard were not taken.

Corrective Action: The mine operator installed additional standing support in the area of the fall to make the immediate area safe for the investigation. All entrances to the accident site area were timbered off with danger signs posted to keep miners from entering the areas of unsafe roof.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

§104(a) Citation, No. 7689677: Issued to Jim Walter Resources, Inc., No. 7 Mine for violation of §75.202(a)

The operator failed to adequately support or otherwise control the roof to protect persons from hazards related to falls.

On October 12, 2006, while inspecting and working on ventilation controls, a miner received fatal injuries when a piece of roof rock fell from the brow of a prior roof fall, striking the victim on the head, back, and lower body. The mine roof in this area and adjacent entries had prior roof falls and deteriorating roof conditions from the time of its initial development in November of 1980. Additional measures were needed to protect persons working or traveling in the area from this hazard.

BEST PRACTICES

- Take extra precautions when traveling in older mine areas, paying particular attention to deteriorating roof conditions.
- Thoroughly examine the roof, face and ribs, immediately before starting any work, including traveling and routine observations.
- Remain alert for changing roof conditions.