



MAY 11 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: TIMOTHY WATKINS
Deputy Administrator for
Coal Mine Safety and Health

FROM: JEFFREY A. DUNCAN 
Committee Chair
Director for Educational Policy and Development

SUBJECT: Chargeability Review Decision

Case No.: 2017-C-09- Deceased: 


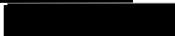




Date of Incident: March 25, 2017 Date of Death: March 27, 2017

Operator: Buckskin Mining Company Mine: Buckskin Mine
MSHA ID 48-01200

Contractor: N/A

Autopsy Conducted: No Death Certificate Issued: April 11, 2017

Decision: Not Chargeable

I reviewed the investigative report in the death of  and determined it should not be charged to the mining industry.  a 61-year-old drill operator was performing his normal job duties when at the end of his shift he called for assistance complaining he was dizzy and having problems seeing. When Buckskin mine rescue arrived at the scene  was incoherent and not responding to the rescue members. Mine rescue team members loaded  on to a cot, provided oxygen, and treated him using automated external defibrillator and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. County paramedics assumed custody of , continued treatment, and transported him by ambulance to the hospital. Surgery was performed at the hospital, and  was transported by air to a clinic in Billings Montana. He passed away on March 27, 2017 at the Billings clinic.

The death certificate states that the manner of death was natural, and that the immediate cause of death was anoxic encephalopathy and cardiac arrest.

The MSHA investigation did not reveal any environmental or physical conditions that contributed to the death.

Based on the death certificate and MSHA's investigation, I determined that the death of [REDACTED] was not due to mine related work activities and should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Patricia W. Silvey
Kevin G. Stricklin
Shelia A. McConnell
Marcus A. Smith