

**U.S. Department of Labor**

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
201 12th Street South  
Arlington, Virginia 22202-5452



JUL 18 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR: EMILY K. HARGROVE

Acting Deputy Administrator for Metal and Nonmetal  
Mine Safety and Health

FROM:

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

SUBJECT:

Chargeability Review Decision

**Case No.:** 2018-M-11-

**Deceased:**

**Date of Incident:** June 23, 2018

**Date of Death:** June 23, 2018

**Operator:** Preferred Proppants LLC.

**Mine:** Preferred Sands of Genoa  
Mine ID 25-01243

**Contractor:** N/A

**Autopsy Conducted:** No

**Death Certificate Signed by  
Registrar:** June 25, 2018

**Decision:** Not Chargeable

**Death Certificate Received by  
MSHA:** June 26, 2018

I reviewed the investigative report in the death of [REDACTED] and determined it should not be charged to the mining industry. Mr. [REDACTED] a 62-year-old equipment and plant operator, was found collapsed on the shower house floor just prior to the start of his shift. Miners called 911 and attended to Mr. [REDACTED], who at that time was sweating heavily and complaining of difficulty breathing. Mr. [REDACTED] was transported by ambulance to the hospital, but died a short time later.

The death certificate states that the manner of death was natural, and the immediate cause of death was cardiac arrhythmia as a consequence of hypoxia. The hospital records also indicated that Mr. [REDACTED] had a history of atrial fibrillation, and was at risk for acute coronary syndrome. The MSHA investigation did not reveal any environmental or physical conditions that contributed to the death.

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

cc: Patricia W. Silvey  
David G. Zatezalo  
Wayne D. Palmer  
Lawrence Trainor