

Questions for Tom Light

The Secretary has assigned this group the task of evaluating MSHA's performance during the period preceding the August 6, 2007 coal bounce at the Crandall Canyon Mine and the subsequent rescue effort. We will also be evaluating issues that were raised during this time period regarding Bob Murray and his interaction with MSHA. This is not an investigation or review of any individual person. It is an administrative review of MSHA's actions as an agency. This evaluation will be presented to the Secretary in the near future, and it is intended that the results of the evaluation will be made public. This interview is being conducted to gather information for this assignment. We also intend to interview a number of other MSHA employees. So that we may obtain unbiased information from all persons to be interviewed, we ask that you not discuss this interview with anyone until all of the interviews have been completed.

[For non-management interviewees: You may have a union representative present if you wish, and may consult with him or her at any time.]

General

1. What is your full name?
2. What is your job title?
 - a. What are your responsibilities?
 - b. How long have you been in your current position?
 - c. Please give us a brief description of your mining background.

Bob Murray Interaction

3. Do you know Bob Murray?
4. Have you had any dealings with him?
 - a. What were those dealings and what were the results?
5. What was Murray's demeanor in any meetings or communications you have had with him?
 - a. Was he hostile or dominating?

Maple Creek
Maple Creek
Prep Plant
High Quality

in 2 meeting while
Ruff Creek F.O Supv.
Jerry Davis & Kevin Strubler were Adm's - may have
switched positions
very professional

6. How many mines has Bob Murray owned or operated in District 2 while you have been here?

plus mines up by Johnston
Wentzenburg, etc

7. To the best of your knowledge were or are the mines owned by Murray problem mines?
 - a. If so, explain why you considered them to be problem mines.
8. How would you describe your working relationship with Bob Murray?
9. How would you describe your working relationship with mine officials from Bob Murray's mines in D2?
10. Do or did you have any issues or problems with Bob Murray? Is so, what?
11. If any issues arose, did anyone from HQ get involved? If so, describe who and what happened?
12. Have you ever had any requests to move inspectors from any Murray mines because of enforcement activity or any other reason?
 - a. From any other mines?
13. What were the results of those requests?
 - a. Were the inspectors moved?
 - b. How about changing supervisors or work groups?
14. Are you aware of any MSHA employees, including managers or ADMs, being reassigned or having an adverse action against them as a result of any actions raised or pursued by Bob Murray or anyone from his management team?
 - a. Any operator or mine?
15. Was Kevin Stricklin moved because of an issue with any mine owner?
 - a. Have you ever been moved because of an issue with any mine owner?
 - b. Why do you think Jack Kuzar was moved from D9?
16. Did Murray have any problems with any specific individual in D2, such as an inspector, supervisor, or assistant district manager that you are aware of? If so, explain.
17. Was Kevin Stricklin ever involved in any enforcement issues or problems relating to Bob Murray, or any of his mines in district 2? If yes, what were the issues and how were they resolved?

18. Are you aware of any enforcement issues with Bob Murray at his Maple Creek mine?
 - a. At the High Quality mine?
19. Are you aware of any adverse action that was taken against an employee in D2 as a result of enforcement action taken at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray?
 - a. Any other mines?
20. Did you ever receive any request or pressure from anyone within MSHA to give preferential treatment either in enforcement, or in plan approval, at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray in D2?
21. Did you receive any guidance on how to deal with any issues that arose at Murray's mines? If so, what?
22. Were there any discussions with HQ on dealing with issues with Bob Murray or his mines?
23. Were you given any specific instructions concerning enforcement or plan approvals by anyone in MSHA concerning Bob Murray mines?
24. Is there any other information you would like to add regarding anything you are aware of that we did not address?

This is all the questions we have for you at this time. We may have more questions in the future. If so, we will contact you and set up a follow up interview. If at a later time you think of something additional you would like to tell us or think we should be aware of, please let us know.

Would you agree to not discuss this interview with anyone else in order that we may obtain unbiased information from future interviewees?

Thank you.

Questions for Tom Light

The Secretary has assigned this group the task of evaluating MSHA's performance during the period preceding the August 6, 2007 coal bounce at the Crandall Canyon Mine and the subsequent rescue effort. We will also be evaluating issues that were raised during this time period regarding Bob Murray and his interaction with MSHA. This is not an investigation or review of any individual person. It is an administrative review of MSHA's actions as an agency. This evaluation will be presented to the Secretary in the near future, and it is intended that the results of the evaluation will be made public. This interview is being conducted to gather information for this assignment. We also intend to interview a number of other MSHA employees. So that we may obtain unbiased information from all persons to be interviewed, we ask that you not discuss this interview with anyone until all of the interviews have been completed.

[For non-management interviewees: You may have a union representative present if you wish, and may consult with him or her at any time.]

General

1. What is your full name?
2. What is your job title? *ADM Tech Services*
 - a. What are your responsibilities?
 - b. How long have you been in your current position? *1 YR.*
 - c. Please give us a brief description of your mining background.
MSHA SINCE 75 CMI, RC, 89-Supv.

Bob Murray Interaction

ADM Inspectors

3. Do you know Bob Murray? *yes*
4. Have you had any dealings with him? *2 meetings over Maple Creek*
 - a. What were those dealings and what were the results?
Mtgs he requested to DM complain about enforcement activities
5. What was Murray's demeanor in any meetings or communications you have had with him? *Professional*
 - a. Was he hostile or dominating? *meetings re. pattern*
6. How many mines has Bob Murray owned or operated in District 2 while you have been here?

His work Group was eliminated and he had to go to District no RC Supv

*Maple Creek
High Quality*

myt at Maple Creek complained to MSHA that they weren't treated fairly. Was under Newhouse. Garcia changed workgroups

7. To the best of your knowledge were or are the mines owned by Murray 2002 problem mines?

a. If so, explain why you considered them to be problem mines.

violations everywhere - worst mine they had
8. How would you describe your working relationship with Bob Murray?

9. How would you describe your working relationship with mine officials from Bob Murray's mines in D2?

Daily dealings w/ mine mgt - no personal contact except 2 meetings
10. Do or did you have any issues or problems with Bob Murray? Is so, what?

11. If any issues arose, did anyone from HQ get involved? If so, describe who and what happened?

12. Have you ever had any requests to move inspectors from any Murray mines because of enforcement activity or any other reason?

a. From any other mines?

13. What were the results of those requests?

a. Were the inspectors moved?

b. How about changing supervisors or work groups?

14. Are you aware of any MSHA employees, including managers or ADMs, being reassigned or having an adverse action against them as a result of any actions raised or pursued by Bob Murray or anyone from his management team?

a. Any operator or mine?

15. Was Kevin Stricklin moved because of an issue with any mine owner?

a. Have you ever been moved because of an issue with any mine owner?

b. Why do you think Jack Kuzar was moved from D9?

16. Did Murray have any problems with any specific individual in D2, such as an inspector, supervisor, or assistant district manager that you are aware of? If so, explain.

17. Was Kevin Stricklin ever involved in any enforcement issues or problems relating to Bob Murray, or any of his mines in district 2? If yes, what were the issues and how were they resolved?

18. Are you aware of any enforcement issues with Bob Murray at his Maple Creek mine?
 - a. At the High Quality mine?
19. Are you aware of any adverse action that was taken against an employee in D2 as a result of enforcement action taken at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray?
 - a. Any other mines?
20. Did you ever receive any request or pressure from anyone within MSHA to give preferential treatment either in enforcement, or in plan approval, at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray in D2?
21. Did you receive any guidance on how to deal with any issues that arose at Murray's mines? If so, what?
22. Were there any discussions with HQ on dealing with issues with Bob Murray or his mines?
23. Were you given any specific instructions concerning enforcement or plan approvals by anyone in MSHA concerning Bob Murray mines?
24. Is there any other information you would like to add regarding anything you are aware of that we did not address?

This is all the questions we have for you at this time. We may have more questions in the future. If so, we will contact you and set up a follow up interview. If at a later time you think of something additional you would like to tell us or think we should be aware of, please let us know.

Would you agree to not discuss this interview with anyone else in order that we may obtain unbiased information from future interviewees?

Thank you.

CHANGING VIOLATIONS

JCH
1/8/08

Questions for Tom Light

The Secretary has assigned this group the task of evaluating MSHA's performance during the period preceding the August 6, 2007 coal bounce at the Crandall Canyon Mine and the subsequent rescue effort. We will also be evaluating issues that were raised during this time period regarding Bob Murray and his interaction with MSHA. This is not an investigation or review of any individual person. It is an administrative review of MSHA's actions as an agency. This evaluation will be presented to the Secretary in the near future, and it is intended that the results of the evaluation will be made public. This interview is being conducted to gather information for this assignment. We also intend to interview a number of other MSHA employees. So that we may obtain unbiased information from all persons to be interviewed, we ask that you not discuss this interview with anyone until all of the interviews have been completed.

[For non-management interviewees: You may have a union representative present if you wish, and may consult with him or her at any time.]

General

1. What is your full name?
Thomas Eugene Light, Jr.
2. What is your job title? *Technical ADM (Technical Services) District 2*
 - a. What are your responsibilities? *plan approval process oversight*
 - b. How long have you been in your current position? *1 yr.*
 - c. Please give us a brief description of your mining background.

Bob Murray Interaction

3. Do you know Bob Murray? *Yes informally, not well.*
4. Have you had any dealings with him? *Yes. In rough creek field office*
 - a. What were those dealings and what were the results? *(overseeing maple creek operation)*
5. What was Murray's demeanor in any meetings or communications you have had with him? *He was very professional, but made his point. Felt MSHA was catering to the union. Not friendly toward MSHA. Tom had never seen him friendly toward MSHA. The injunt people were good, but they gave a lot of lip service to MSHA. They knew MSHA had a job to do*
 - a. Was he hostile or dominating?
6. How many mines has Bob Murray owned or operated in District 2 while you have been here? *maple creek, prepplant for maple creek and*

* interaction ~~was~~ was probably around 2002... Cheryl McGill was the DM

there were 2 meetings @ the mine
Murray owned maple creek @ the time Tom was there.
Jerry Davis, Kevin Stricklin were the ADMs @ the time and were Tom's managers.

7. To the best of your knowledge were or are the mines owned by Murray problem mines? *Yes. It would be a perfect place to train inspectors. Unquestionably the worst mines in D2. Problems ran the gamut. Not included to any one thing.*
 - a. If so, explain why you considered them to be problem mines. *might had no control of mine & mgmt and union didnt get along. they were on the p. sequence.*
8. How would you describe your working relationship with Bob Murray? *Didnt really have working relationship w/ him. only things. mostly dealt w/ his mgmt.*
9. How would you describe your working relationship with mine officials from Bob Murray's mines in D2?

10. Do or did you have any issues or problems with Bob Murray? Is so, what?

11. If any issues arose, did anyone from HQ get involved? If so, describe who and what happened?

12. Have you ever had any requests to move inspectors from any Murray mines because of enforcement activity or any other reason?
 - a. From any other mines? *Only what he read in the news paper re. Tim Thompson. never heard Murray threaten to get people moved, fired, etc.*

13. What were the results of those requests?
 - a. Were the inspectors moved?
 - b. How about changing supervisors or work groups?

14. Are you aware of any MSHA employees, including managers or ADMs, being reassigned or having an adverse action against them as a result of any actions raised or pursued by Bob Murray or anyone from his management team? *No*
 - a. Any operator or mine?

15. Was Kevin Stricklin moved because of an issue with any mine owner?
 - a. Have you ever been moved because of an issue with any mine owner?
 - b. Why do you think Jack Kuzar was moved from D9? *Doesnt know*

16. Did Murray have any problems with any specific individual in D2, such as an inspector, supervisor, or assistant district manager that you are aware of? If so, explain. *not aware of anything.*

17. Was Kevin Stricklin ever involved in any enforcement issues or problems relating to Bob Murray, or any of his mines in district 2? If yes, what were the issues and how were they resolved?

- doesnt think Murray's mines get preferential treatment on plans. no expedited approvals that he can remember

Doesnt know why Kevin's Jerry's positions were swapped.

Cheryl told Tom that the district no longer needed 3 workgroups, so Tom was moved to the district office. The decision was effective immediately.

Cheryl didnt have any real reactions to Tom's enforcement actions @ Neape Creek, but there was no question that he had Kevin's full support.

Murray's "Bitch house" talks Tom heard him badmouthing MSHA to the miners.

Doesnt know if HQ was involved in ADMs award.

18. Are you aware of any enforcement issues with Bob Murray at his Maple Creek mine?
 - a. At the High Quality mine?

19. Are you aware of any adverse action that was taken against an employee in D2 as a result of enforcement action taken at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray?
 - a. Any other mines?

20. Did you ever receive any request or pressure from anyone within MSHA to give preferential treatment either in enforcement, or in plan approval, at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray in D2? *No.*

21. Did you receive any guidance on how to deal with any issues that arose at Murray's mines? If so, what? *Just to do the right thing - from Kevin*

22. Were there any discussions with HQ on dealing with issues with Bob Murray or his mines?

23. Were you given any specific instructions concerning enforcement or plan approvals by anyone in MSHA concerning Bob Murray mines?

24. Is there any other information you would like to add regarding anything you are aware of that we did not address?

This is all the questions we have for you at this time. We may have more questions in the future. If so, we will contact you and set up a follow up interview. If at a later time you think of something additional you would like to tell us or think we should be aware of, please let us know.

Would you agree to not discuss this interview with anyone else in order that we may obtain unbiased information from future interviewees?

Thank you.

RWR
1-8-08

Questions for Tom Light

The Secretary has assigned this group the task of evaluating MSHA's performance during the period preceding the August 6, 2007 coal bounce at the Crandall Canyon Mine and the subsequent rescue effort. We will also be evaluating issues that were raised during this time period regarding Bob Murray and his interaction with MSHA. This is not an investigation or review of any individual person. It is an administrative review of MSHA's actions as an agency. This evaluation will be presented to the Secretary in the near future, and it is intended that the results of the evaluation will be made public. This interview is being conducted to gather information for this assignment. We also intend to interview a number of other MSHA employees. So that we may obtain unbiased information from all persons to be interviewed, we ask that you not discuss this interview with anyone until all of the interviews have been completed.

[For non-management interviewees: You may have a union representative present if you wish, and may consult with him or her at any time.]

General

1. What is your full name? *Thomas Eugene Light, Jr.*
2. What is your job title? *ADM, Technical Services D 2*
 - a. What are your responsibilities? *run staff of plan approval process*
 - b. How long have you been in your current position? *1 year*
 - c. Please give us a brief description of your mining background.

*Moss Coal Co, in WV 1975 - to MSHA as CMI
Island Creek in Johnston the coal central projects*

Bob Murray Interaction

1989 - supervisor

3. Do you know Bob Murray? *yes informally*
4. Have you had any dealings with him? *in 2 meetings while @ Rough Creek as supervisor*
 - a. What were those dealings and what were the results?

Murray owned Maple Creek

5. What was Murray's demeanor in any meetings or communications you have had with him? *very professional during these meetings*
 - a. Was he hostile or dominating?

he made his point that MSHA was catering to union, did not seem friendly

6. How many mines has Bob Murray owned or operated in District 2 while you have been here? *Maple Creek, prep plant, ?*

Management people were ok to work with) they would give lip service that this is what we will do, but they were nice to deal with

7. To the best of your knowledge were or are the mines owned by Murray problem mines? *Maple Creek was*
 - a. If so, explain why you considered them to be problem mines. *everything*
8. How would you describe your working relationship with Bob Murray? *doesn't really have one, only participated in couple meetings*
9. How would you describe your working relationship with mine officials from Bob Murray's mines in D2? *oh, nice to deal with*
10. Do or did you have any issues or problems with Bob Murray? Is so, what?
11. If any issues arose, did anyone from HQ get involved? If so, describe who and what happened?
12. Have you ever had any requests to move inspectors from any Murray mines because of enforcement activity or any other reason?
 - a. From any other mines?
13. What were the results of those requests?
 - a. Were the inspectors moved?
 - b. How about changing supervisors or work groups?
14. Are you aware of any MSHA employees, including managers or ADMs, being reassigned or having an adverse action against them as a result of any actions raised or pursued by Bob Murray or anyone from his management team? *knows from papers - just he bragged about*
 - a. Any operator or mine? *moving "people" move & around (Tim Thompson)*
15. Was Kevin Stricklin moved because of an issue with any mine owner?
 - a. Have you ever been moved because of an issue with any mine owner? *Has not heard why - people get switched around all the time*
 - b. Why do you think Jack Kuzar was moved from D9? *Doesn't know why Kevin was moved*
16. Did Murray have any problems with any specific individual in D2, such as an inspector, supervisor, or assistant district manager that you are aware of? If so, explain. *Doesn't have any feel for why he was moved*
17. Was Kevin Stricklin ever involved in any enforcement issues or problems relating to Bob Murray, or any of his mines in district 2? If yes, what were the issues and how were they resolved? *Wt anybody that wrote citation, but doesn't know of anything personal*

Tom's W&A was eliminated, & MJS's split up w/ other 2 groups, Tom was sent to District for RC supervisor job since he had done that before; Tom didn't like it because he was close to home at Rough Creek

Enforcement issues, because they do sit like citation leaders - never last one in court

18. Are you aware of any enforcement issues with Bob Murray at his Maple Creek mine? *ventilator problem*

a. At the High Quality mine?

19. Are you aware of any adverse action that was taken against an employee in D2 as a result of enforcement action taken at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray?

a. Any other mines?

20. Did you ever receive any request or pressure from anyone within MSHA to give preferential treatment either in enforcement, or in plan approval, at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray in D2?

21. Did you receive any guidance on how to deal with any issues that arose at Murray's mines? If so, what? *do the right thing*

22. Were there any discussions with HQ on dealing with issues with Bob Murray or his mines? *Doesn't recall any HQ people getting involved in meetings*

23. Were you given any specific instructions concerning enforcement or plan approvals by anyone in MSHA concerning Bob Murray mines? *Maybe ^{Lawless} had meeting at Maple Creek, but Tom didn't attend it, didn't hear anything with that meeting*

24. Is there any other information you would like to add regarding anything you are aware of that we did not address? *Thinks they went to this meeting, never was not invited to go*

Tom believes it was because POV that was prepared for Maple Creek?

This is all the questions we have for you at this time. We may have more questions in the future. If so, we will contact you and set up a follow up interview. If at a later time you think of something additional you would like to tell us or think we should be aware of, please let us know.

Would you agree to not discuss this interview with anyone else in order that we may obtain unbiased information from future interviewees?

Thank you.

Tom Light

RWB
①
1-8-08

4) meetings w/ DM & Supervisor
Murray complained about enforcement

Kevin Stricklin & Jerry Davis were his supervisors ~~at~~ ^{during} this time

Kevin switched to Technical

Jerry " " to Enforcement

Who are you ✓
guidance to do
the right thing?

Kevin

Tom later charged with groups (Bob Bowhouse) -
no enforcement charge when Tom's group took over

17. Bleeder system issue - MSHA forced them to put
shut it in - Tom doesn't recall Bob Murray in those
meetings.

1 quarter later, Tom was sent to Pittsburgh

Tom felt he had support of heavier enforcement,
Tom never dealt much w/ Cheryl so he doesn't have
any feel if she supported him

about J. J. Murray
saying Jerry that ✓
both house
meeting
discussing

Bath house talks w/ minor - 1 occasion Tom heard

MSHA is not your friend, they are writing citations

1/8/2008

Tom Light

ADM for Technical Services

(in 2002)

- at the same time Tom Light was moved to RC Supr position, ADM's were also switched
- ~~John~~ Bandish rec'd Maple Creek mine.
- Mike Lawless had a meeting with Maple Creek (Tom met with Lawless before, but was not invited to meeting)

matter of a few months between
Lawless meeting and Lawless leaving
MSHA

1/8/2008
NB

Questions for Tom Light

The Secretary has assigned this group the task of evaluating MSHA's performance during the period preceding the August 6, 2007 coal bounce at the Crandall Canyon Mine and the subsequent rescue effort. We will also be evaluating issues that were raised during this time period regarding Bob Murray and his interaction with MSHA. This is not an investigation or review of any individual person. It is an administrative review of MSHA's actions as an agency. This evaluation will be presented to the Secretary in the near future, and it is intended that the results of the evaluation will be made public. This interview is being conducted to gather information for this assignment. We also intend to interview a number of other MSHA employees. So that we may obtain unbiased information from all persons to be interviewed, we ask that you not discuss this interview with anyone until all of the interviews have been completed.

[For non-management interviewees: You may have a union representative present if you wish, and may consult with him or her at any time.]

General

1. What is your full name?
2. What is your job title? *ADM TECH SERVICES D-2*
 - a. What are your responsibilities?
 - b. How long have you been in your current position? *1 year*
 - c. Please give us a brief description of your mining background.

*Moss Coal Co. - Island Creek - MSHA WAYNESBURG - C.M.I
1989 - MSHA SUPV. -*

Bob Murray Interaction

3. Do you know Bob Murray? *YES*
4. Have you had any dealings with him? *2 meetings (Maple Creek)*
 - a. What were those dealings and what were the results?
5. What was Murray's demeanor in any meetings or communications you have had with him? *Professional - accused MSHA of catering to the UMWIA*
 - a. Was he hostile or dominating? *Pattern of Violations notice*
6. How many mines has Bob Murray owned or operated in District 2 while you have been here? *just had Maple Creek*
HIGH QUALITY also in district

7. To the best of your knowledge were or are the mines owned by Murray problem mines?
 - a. If so, explain why you considered them to be problem mines.
8. How would you describe your working relationship with Bob Murray?
9. How would you describe your working relationship with mine officials from Bob Murray's mines in D2? **OK**
10. Do or did you have any issues or problems with Bob Murray? Is so, what?
11. If any issues arose, did anyone from HQ get involved? If so, describe who and what happened?
12. Have you ever had any requests to move inspectors from any Murray mines because of enforcement activity or any other reason?
 - a. From any other mines?
13. What were the results of those requests?
 - a. Were the inspectors moved?
 - b. How about changing supervisors or work groups?
14. Are you aware of any MSHA employees, including managers or ADMs, being reassigned or having an adverse action against them as a result of any actions raised or pursued by Bob Murray or anyone from his management team?
 - a. Any operator or mine?
15. Was Kevin Stricklin moved because of an issue with any mine owner?
 - a. Have you ever been moved because of an issue with any mine owner?
 - b. Why do you think Jack Kuzar was moved from D9?
16. Did Murray have any problems with any specific individual in D2, such as an inspector, supervisor, or assistant district manager that you are aware of? If so, explain.
17. Was Kevin Stricklin ever involved in any enforcement issues or problems relating to Bob Murray, or any of his mines in district 2? If yes, what were the issues and how were they resolved?

18. Are you aware of any enforcement issues with Bob Murray at his Maple Creek mine?
 - a. At the High Quality mine?
19. Are you aware of any adverse action that was taken against an employee in D2 as a result of enforcement action taken at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray?
 - a. Any other mines?
20. Did you ever receive any request or pressure from anyone within MSHA to give preferential treatment either in enforcement, or in plan approval, at any of the mines owned by Bob Murray in D2?
21. Did you receive any guidance on how to deal with any issues that arose at Murray's mines? If so, what?
22. Were there any discussions with HQ on dealing with issues with Bob Murray or his mines?
23. Were you given any specific instructions concerning enforcement or plan approvals by anyone in MSHA concerning Bob Murray mines?
24. Is there any other information you would like to add regarding anything you are aware of that we did not address?

This is all the questions we have for you at this time. We may have more questions in the future. If so, we will contact you and set up a follow up interview. If at a later time you think of something additional you would like to tell us or think we should be aware of, please let us know.

Would you agree to not discuss this interview with anyone else in order that we may obtain unbiased information from future interviewees?

Thank you.

Tom Light

1/8/08

- Maple Creek was the worse mine in field office
D. M. switched mine assignments to
work groups - same number of violations
issued by other work group
- Read article in paper, where Murray had
stated that he had people moved
- 3 work groups at Ruff Creek - phone call
that one work group had been
eliminated - divided men among 2 groups
and moved Tom Light to district
office as non critical supervisor
- Bath house talk - Murray would down MSHA

Maple Creek Mine went from work groups
Newhouse - Light - Bandish

Lawless, Deputy Adm'n. met w/ Light and
C.M.Z. → then met w/ Maple Creek