



Section I--Violation Data

1. Date Mo Da Yr 12/06/2011	2. Time (24 Hr. Clock) 0800	3. Citation/ Order Number 8227549
4. Served To Berman Cornett, Safety Director	5. Operator PERFORMANCE COAL COMPANY, et al	
6. Mine UPPER BIG BRANCH MINE-SOUTH	7. Mine ID 46-08436	(Contractor)
8. Condition or Practice		8a. Written Notice (103g) <input type="checkbox"/>

The operator has failed to maintain the JOY 7LS Longwall Shearer in safe operating condition.

At least two worn bits were found on the outby bit ring on the drum. Both bits were clearly missing the carbide tip. These bits had noticeably large wear flats on them.

An explosion occurred at this mine on 4/5/2010 that resulted in 29 fatalities.

The most likely ignition source was the longwall shearer bits striking rock. Studies have shown that worn bits pose a significant ignition

See Continuation Form (MSHA Form 7000-3a)

9. Violation	A. Health <input type="checkbox"/> Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	B. Section of Act	C. Part/Section of Title 30 CFR 75.1725(a)
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Section II--Inspector's Evaluation

10. Gravity:			
A. Injury or Illness (has) (is): No Likelihood <input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely <input type="checkbox"/> Reasonably Likely <input type="checkbox"/> Highly Likely <input type="checkbox"/> Occurred <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
B. Injury or illness could reasonably be expected to be: No Lost Workdays <input type="checkbox"/> Lost Workdays Or Restricted Duty <input type="checkbox"/> Permanently Disabling <input type="checkbox"/> Fatal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
C. Significant and Substantial: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			D. Number of Persons Affected: 029
11. Negligence (check one) A. None <input type="checkbox"/> B. Low <input type="checkbox"/> C. Moderate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. High <input type="checkbox"/> E. Reckless Disregard <input type="checkbox"/>			
12. Type of Action 104(a)		13. Type of Issuance (check one) Citation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguard <input type="checkbox"/> Written Notice <input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Initial Action A. Citation <input type="checkbox"/> B. Order <input type="checkbox"/> C. Safeguard <input type="checkbox"/> D. Written Notice <input type="checkbox"/>			E. Citation/ Order Number
15. Area or Equipment			

16. Termination Due	A. Date Mo Da Yr 01/05/2012	B. Time (24 Hr. Clock) 0800
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Section III--Termination Action

17. Action to Terminate		
18. Terminated	A. Date Mo Da Yr	B. Time (24 Hr. Clock)

Section IV--Automated System Data

19. Type of Inspection (activity code) E06	20. Event Number 4440347	21. Primary or Mill
22. Signature James McElroy 24153 David A Steffey		23. AR Number 24209

MSHA Form 7000-3, Apr 08 (revised) In accordance with the provisions of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, the Small Business Administration has established a National Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. The Ombudsman annually evaluates enforcement activities and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on the enforcement actions of MSHA, you may call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247), or write the Ombudsman at Small Business Administration, Office of the National Ombudsman, 409 3rd Street, SW MC 2120, Washington, DC 20416. Please note, however, that your right to file a comment with the Ombudsman is in addition to any other rights you may have, including the right to contest citations and proposed penalties and obtain a hearing before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission.

Mine Citation/Order  
Continuation

U.S. Department of Labor  
Mine Safety and Health Administration



Section I--Subsequent Action/Continuation Data

1. Subsequent Action 1a. Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Dated (Original Issue) Mo Da Yr 12/06/2011	3. Citation/ Order Number 8227549
4. Served To Berman Cornett, Safety Director	5. Operator PERFORMANCE COAL COMPANY, et al	
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Section II--Justification for Action

Continuation of 8. Condition or Practice

potential. This can occur when the steel shank of the bit strikes sandstone with a high quartz content and produces a hot molten streak. Studies have also shown that a well maintained tungsten carbide tip, when used with the proper attack and tip angles to prevent the steel shank from coming into contact with the sandstone, will greatly reduce the odds of a frictional ignition. Frictional heat from the worn bits striking rock is the most likely source of the ignition for the April 5, 2010 explosion. The failure to maintain the shearer in safe operating condition contributed to the deaths of 29 miners.

This citation is being issued to the following entities as a unitary operator: Performance Coal Company, Massey Coal Services, Inc., A.T. Massey Coal Company, Inc., and Massey Energy Company.

See Continuation Form

Section III--Subsequent Action Taken

8. Extended To	A. Date Mo Da Yr	B. Time (24 Hr. Clock)	<input type="checkbox"/> C. Vacated	<input type="checkbox"/> D. Terminated	<input type="checkbox"/> E. Modified
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Section IV--Inspection Data

9. Type of Inspection E06	10. Event Number 4440347		
11. Signature James McElroy 24153 David A Steffey	AR Number 24209	12. Date Mo Da Yr 12/06/2011	13. Time (24 Hr. Clock) 0800