

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Lowering Miners' Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica and Improving Respiratory Protection

Comment On: MSHA-2023-0001-0002

Lowering Miners' Exposure: Respirable Crystalline Silica and Improving Respiratory Protection

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Comment from Anonymous

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General Comment

As a former MSHA Safety and Health Inspector and currently a Mine Safety Consultant I have firsthand knowledge of America's miners being exposed to silica. MSHA itself is guilty of not conducting sampling of the very miners exposed to the higher concentrations of dust. What I'm saying is nothing new, MSHA upper management for years has put pressure on the Inspectors to conduct health surveys for the numbers. Conducting dust surveys in the rain, not sampling ground workers, sampling enclosed cabs with air conditioners, sampling warehouse and scale clerks and sampling on non-production shifts. Inspectors should be allowed to use common sense when sampling, not be pressured to have high numbers and sample the miners who are exposed to the most dust.