Either the Mine Operator
Or MSHA
Can conduct a noise exposure
survey on You.
This presentation describes
MSHA’s method.
A PERSONAL NOISE DOSIMETER IS USED TO DETERMINE YOUR FULL SHIFT NOISE EXPOSURE.
The Dosimeter and its Field Calibrator will be currently calibrated.
This Annual Calibration is documented on the back or side of the dosimeter.
The Dosimeter is field calibrated before and after the survey.
After field calibration a wind screen is attached to the microphone.
The microphone is placed midway between your neck and shoulder in an upright position.
Drawing Illustrating Proper Noise Dosimeter Microphone Placement

- Mid-distance on shoulder blade
- Grid of microphone
- Microphone
- Cord
- Noise dosimeter
The dosimeter and microphone cable should be located so as to minimize safety hazards and damage to the instrument.
The dosimeter should be placed on the shoulder that is normally between the principal noise source and your ear.
MICROPHONE ON THE SHOULDER
CLOSEST THE TO NOISE SOURCE
Throughout Your entire shift

- You must wear the dosimeter.
- You must not transfer the dosimeter when changing tasks.
- You must ensure that the microphone remains properly positioned.
- You must guard it from damage.
Additionally, collaborative Sound Level readings maybe taken and recorded for each activity you perform during the work shift in a manner that measures the different noise sources to which you are exposed.
The Sound Level Meter is likewise calibrated before and after your shift.

Measurements are taken at Arms Length within 1 to 2 feet of your Ear, with the microphone pointed upward.

A dosimeter in the SLM mode may be substituted.
At the End of Shift

- Dosimeter is removed
- The data is read-out or downloaded
  - Overall noise exposures (Dose %);
  - Time Weighted Average (Sound Level dBA);
  - Length of survey (hours, minutes, seconds); and
  - Maximum Sound Level (dBA)
This Information is Used:

- To determine if Action Level has been equaled or exceeded.
- To determine if the Permissible Exposure Level has been exceeded.
- To determine if the Dual Hearing Protection Level has been exceeded.
Your children can whisper to you now,
Don’t make them shout at you in the future