Major Changes to Respirable Dust Sampling Program

Immediate Changes

- Sample portal to portal for full shift regardless of shift length
- Control filter required for CMDPSU samples
- Establish Excessive Concentration Values (ECV)
- Certified sampler that made on-shift checks must sign dust data card
- Part 90 includes surface miners
- Medical monitoring applies to surface and underground miners
- Noncompliance on MSHA samples will be based on a single full shift measurement
- Shifts longer than 12 hours, certified sampler will switch CMDPSU with a fully charged pump prior to the 13th hour
- Mine ventilation plan content:
  - minimum quantity of air for each MMU
  - specific details of dust controls for each MMU
  - specific type, size and maintenance of scrubber screen
  - maintenance of dust collectors
- 75.362(a)(2) exams are recorded in a secure book or electronically, verified by certified person, and countersigned by Mine Foreman
- Operators required to record shift length for each production shift on each MMU
- Noncompliance based on 2 of 5 required samples meeting or exceeding the ECV
Operators required to record production for each shift on each MMU

Required air measurements at the end of the line curtain with the scrubber turned off

Begin sampling DWPs and Part 90 miners on a quarterly basis

Production on shift sampled is 80% of last 30 production shifts

Establish 0.1mg/m³ (100µg/m³) quartz standard

DWPs include highwall drill and bulldozer operators

**After 18 months**

- CPDM sampling for DOs and Part 90
- Establish ODOs on MMUs
- Sample at least 15 consecutive normal production shifts for DOs and ODOs
- Noncompliance on operator collected samples will be based on 3 of 15 required samples meeting or exceeding the ECV
- The District Manager may require additional sets of 15 samples on DOs if he believes the ventilation plan is not being followed
- Shifts longer than 12 hours, certified sampler will switch CPDM with a fully charged unit prior to the 13th hour

**After 24 months**

- The dust standard is reduced to 1.5mg/m³ (0.5mg/m³ on intake air and Part 90 miners)

If you have questions about any occupational health matter, please contact your local MSHA office or MSHA’s national office at (202) 693-9500.

**Our job is to protect your health**

_U.S. Department of Labor_
_Mine Safety and Health Administration_
_Visit our Web site at www.msha.gov_

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