

# Respirable Dust Sampling



## Surface Coal Mines (DWP)

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### Health Hazard Information Card HH-51

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#### How often will the operator sample the DWP?

- ❖ Mine operators will:
  - ✓ sample on a Quarterly basis using a gravimetric sampling unit
  - ✓ sample for entire work shift regardless of shift length
- ❖ Sampling done by a person Certified in sampling (Certified Sampler)
- ❖ A Certified Sampler is required to:
  - ✓ make at a minimum 2 on-shift checks
  - ✓ put sampling device on the miner and take it off
  - ✓ if shift is longer than a sampling unit will operate, transfer sampling hose with sampling head and filter to a fully charged pump while pump continues to operate on the DWP
  - ✓ if the sample exceeds the standard, sample at least 5 consecutive normal work shifts
- ❖ Certified Sampler that made on-shift checks must sign dust data card

#### What happens 18 months after the rule goes into effect?

- ❖ May use a Continuous Personal Dust Monitor (CPDM) to collect samples
- ❖ Shifts longer than 12 hours, Certified Sampler will switch CPDM with a fully charged unit prior to the 13th hour
- ❖ A Certified Sampler is required to:
  - ✓ at a minimum monitor the CPDM at mid-shift

- ✓ put sampling device on the miner and take it off
- ✓ fill out and sign dust data card generated by the CPDM

### **How will I know the results of the respirable sample collected?**

- ❖ Gravimetric samples, operator must post MSHA provided report for at least 31 days
- ❖ CPDM data, Certified Sampler shall, within 12 hours after the end of each sampling shift, print, sign and post CPDM generated dust data card
- ❖ CPDM generated dust data card shall remain posted until receipt of MSHA respirable dust sampling report
- ❖ MSHA report shall be posted for at least 31 days

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](http://www.msha.gov)*

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