

# ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET

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## **SAFETY ALERT** **(Alert – No. 1 – 2018)**

### **Kentucky DMS – Roof/Rib Safety Alert No.1**

The following information has been provided in hopes of protecting our most valuable resource, the miner.

This alert is a result of a fatal rib roll accident that occurred in West Virginia and several injuries that have occurred within the Commonwealth.

- **West Virginia Fatal** - On February 6, 2018, a 52-year-old electrician with 13 years of mining experience was fatally injured while working alone performing routine maintenance on a continuous mining machine. A portion of rib, measuring 42 inches long, 28 inches high, and 14 inches thick, fell and struck the victim. He was found between a coal rib and the continuous mining machine.
- **Kentucky reportable injuries** – Three injuries related to roof/rib were reported in January. These incidents involved amputation of part of a finger and surgery of the cervical spine. Each injury involved rock that had fallen from between the installed roof supports.

### **ROOF/RIB SAFETY – WEST VIRGINIA ACCIDENT SCENE**



### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Position machinery in a safe location such as a four way intersection when possible while performing routine maintenance and needed repairs.
2. Be aware of potential hazards when working or traveling near mine ribs, especially when geologic conditions, or an increase in mining height, could cause roof or rib hazards.
3. Adequately support or scale any loose roof or rib material from a safe location.