



QUARTERLY BULLETIN

KY Division of Mine Safety

Second Quarter 2017

Jeff Reed, Editor

Effective July 1st 2017, a legislative change has allowed the Division of Mine Safety (DMS), to become more proactive in its continuing mission of keeping miners safe. A change in statute has allowed DMS to replace three of the six required safety inspections with Analyst visits.

This is great news, because while the primary responsibility of DMS has always been to prevent mine injuries and fatalities through education, enforcement and training most mine injuries and fatalities occur when miners feel that they are not at risk. Learning to recognize risk is paramount to keeping miners safe. The Analyst visits, by trained specialists, will allow DMS to work more closely with miners in their environment to identify, reduce or eliminate at-risk behaviors.

Prior to this legislative change, analysts would watch how the miner performed his/her work and would provide feedback (either satisfactory or unsatisfactory) using job safety analysis forms (JSAs). Effective July 1, all 57 of the DMS Specialists have been performing Analyst observations in a way that provides direct feedback to miners.

Going forward, the miner's name will not be on the observation form nor will there be any disciplinary actions taken toward the miner during the observation process. We will still continue to note on the form whether the behaviors exhibited are either safe or at risk. If safe behaviors are seen – and we believe that most behaviors exhibited on a daily basis are safe - the analyst will reinforce the miner with positive feedback. If a risky behavior is observed either by a miner's action, mine condition or equipment deficiency, then the analyst will give feedback to reduce or eliminate the risk. We also intend to ask miners to share with us any near misses they may have experienced so that others can learn from them and hopefully prevent injuries. All observation results and near miss information will be used to provide feedback both to miners and to the mining companies so that we may prevent injuries and fatalities.

One of the reasons that this change was made, was that while we have made tremendous progress since the early 1900s reducing mine injuries and fatalities, we are still not where we want to be. In 2015 and 2016 we experienced two fatal accidents each and we already have two in 2017. That is clearly six too many.

In addition to the Analyst visits, we intend to ask each miner to observe his/her fellow miner for risk and to speak out if they see a dangerous behavior. A word or two at the right moment could make the difference as to whether someone goes home to their loved ones or not. There are risks and hazards inherent in mining, but if we deal with them to make the workplace safe, mining can be a safe and great way to make a living.

Through this legislation, mine safety specialists will be in the mine more than ever to assist the miner and the company in removing risk from the workplace. We also intend to make a special effort to observe new miners and miners new to a mine (regardless of years of experience) since statistics show that they are more likely to be injured. It is the operator's responsibility to provide a safe workplace and the miner's responsibility to follow safe work procedures, so let's all work together to make safety paramount.

MINE SAFETY REVIEW COMMISSION (MSRC)

Year-To-Date Cases / Actions Taken

January 2017 to June 2017 the Mine Safety Review Commission has heard 83 cases and carried out the sanction of:

Eleven (11) three (3) year ineligibilities

Eight (8) three (3) year revocations

One (1) five (5) year revocation

One (1) permanent revocation

Eleven (11) reinstatements

Seventeen (17) reciprocity reinstatements

Eleven (11) placed on probation

Two (2) traditional Red Zone Violation cases, mine foreman certifications placed on probation

One (1) traditional Notification case, fine and closure order placed on the mine site.

ANNOUNCING THE RETIREMENT OF DAVE MULLINS

It is with mixed feelings that the Division of Mine Safety (DMS) announces the retirement of Dave Mullins, Branch Manager for the Hazard Office. He has been an outstanding asset to DMS during his 26 1/2 years of service, all of which were spent in the Hazard district.

DMS would like to congratulate Dave on his much deserved retirement and wish him nothing but the best in his "new found freedom."



Roof Bolter Data

Through analysis of the statewide reportable injuries data (EB-83's), it was discovered that of the leading four (4) reportable injuries by occupation, **37.5 percent** of these injuries were to **Roof Bolter Operators**. The most common cause of these injuries were **body ergonomics (33 percent)**, **hazards in the work area (20 percent)**, and **line of fire (20 percent)**.

The Division of Mine Safety believes through a heightened awareness of these hazards, along with focused training and a shared commitment with the industry, the occurrence of these injuries can be reduced.

2017 KY Mine Licenses Issued

District	Mine Type	April	May	June	Issued Qtr.	Issued YTD
	Surface	1	1	1	3	23
Barbourville	Underground	0	0	0	0	8
	TOTAL	1	1	1	3	31
	Surface	0	0	1	1	9
Harlan	Underground	0	0	0	0	15
	TOTAL	0	0	1	1	24
	Surface	1	0	0	1	14
Hazard	Underground	0	0	0	0	10
	TOTAL	1	0	0	1	24
	Surface	1	0	0	1	8
Madisonville	Underground	0	0	0	0	7
	TOTAL	1	0	0	1	15
	Surface	2	0	1	3	14
Martin	Underground	0	0	0	0	6
	TOTAL	2	0	1	3	20
	Surface	1	2	1	4	33
Pikeville	Underground	0	2	1	3	24
	TOTAL	1	4	2	7	57
MONTHLY	Surface (S)	6	3	4	13	101
	Underground (UG)	0	2	1	3	70
COMBINED	S/UG	6	5	5	16	171*

*122 of the 171 licensed mines were actively producing coal as of 6-30-17

In July 2016 the Division of Mine Safety moved to its new location at:

SOWER BUILDING
300 Sower Boulevard
Division of Mine Safety
2 North Central
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Training and Testing Year-To-Date

January 2017 to June 2017: The Division of Mine Safety has tested 1,131 miners as well as trained an additional 4,961.

Specific training breakdown counts:

Electrical Retraining 8

Excavator Safety Training 48

Gas Detection 226

MET Initial & Retraining 382

Mine Rescue Retraining 567

Surface Initial 362

Surface Retraining 788

Surface Foreman Initial & Retraining 593

Underground Initial 230

Underground Retraining 809

Underground Foreman Initial & Retraining 948

DMS Frankfort Office

Jim Vicini, Division Director

(502) 782-6650

Branch Office Phone Numbers

Barbourville Office (606) 573-1260

Ricky Johnson, Branch Manager

Harlan Office (606) 573-1260

Jim Owens, Branch Manager

Hazard Office (606) 435-6079

Bob Banks, Acting Branch Manager

Madisonville Office (270) 824-7523

Kenny Mitchell, Branch Manager

Pikeville Office (606) 433-7742

Randy Smith, Branch Manager

24 Hour Hotline

1-877-646-3911

MINE RESCUE CONTEST RESULTS

SECOND QUARTER

SME-ECMRO COLLEGIATE MINE RESCUE CONTEST

April 1, 2017

Mine Rescue Competition

1st-University of KY-Team One **2nd**-University of WV-Team One **3rd**-University of KY-Team Two

KENTUCKY DIVISION OF MINE SAFETY COMPLIANCE MINE RESCUE CONTEST

April 19-20, 2017

Day 1 Mine Rescue Competition

1st-Madisonville Gray Team **2nd**-Hazard Yellow Team **3rd**-Harlan Green Team

Day 2 Mine Rescue Competition

1st-Harlan Green Team **2nd**-Hazard Yellow Team **3rd**-Barbourville Orange Team

Overall Mine Rescue Competition Winners

1st-Harlan Green Team **2nd**-Hazard Yellow Team **3rd**-Madisonville Gray Team

POST 11 MINE RESCUE, FIRST AID, AND BENCH CONTEST

May 4, 2017

BioPak 240R Bench Competition

1st-Corey Bingemer-River View Coal **2nd**-Rob Boucher-KY Coal Academy **3rd**-Todd Watson-Warrior Coal

First Aid Competition

1st-Webster County Coal **2nd**-Warrior Coal **3rd**-River View Coal

Mine Rescue Competition

1st-River View Coal **2nd**-Warrior Coal **3rd**-Webster County Coal

NMRA POST 2 SMOKE EATERS BENCH CONTEST

May 12, 2017

Drager BG4 Bench Competition (Coal)

1st-Tim Turner-Revelation Energy, LLC **2nd**-Michael Stone-Arch Coal **3rd**-Tim Smith-Black Hawk Mining

Drager BG4 Bench Competition (Metal/Non-Metal)

1st-Josh Walker-Carmeuse Lime and Stone **2nd**-Central KY Mine Rescue **3rd**-Eastwood Fire Department

BioPak 240R Bench Competition

1st-Steve Earle-Sunrise Coal Company **2nd**-Craig Hawkins-Peabody Energy **3rd**-Josh White-Sunrise Coal, LLC

2017 WKMI MINE RESCUE, BENCH, FIRST AID, AND PRESHIFT CONTEST

May 24-25, 2017

BioPak 240R Bench Competition

1st-Steve Earle-Sunrise Coal Company **2nd**-Craig Hawkins-Peabody Energy **3rd**-Josh White-Sunrise Coal, LLC

Preshift Contest (Federal Rules)

1st-David Mackey-KY Coal Academy **2nd**-Chris Williams-River View Coal **3rd**-Jeff Clark-Warrior Coal

Preshift Competition (State Rules)

1st-David Mackey-KY Coal Academy **2nd**-Chris Williams-River View Coal **3rd**-Jeff Clark-Warrior Coal

First Aid Competition

1st-Warrior Coal **2nd**-River View Coal **3rd**-Gibson County Coal

Mine Rescue Competition

1st-Arch Coal-Viper Red Team **2nd**-River View Coal-River View Team **3rd**-Gibson Coal Company-Rescue Rhinos

Combination Team Winners

1st-Warrior Coal **2nd**-River View Coal **3rd**-Gibson County Coal

contest results continued on next page

"Mine Rescue Contest" continued from page 4

KENTUCKY RIVER MINE RESCUE, BENCH, FIRST AID, AND PRESHIFT CONTEST

June 13-15, 2017

BG 4 Bench Competition

1st-Tim Turner-Revelation Energy, LLC **2nd**-Travis Truett-Alden Resources **3rd**-Tim Smith-Black Hawk Mining, LLC

BioPak 240R Competition

1st-Josh Hoffert-Arch Coal

Preshift Competition

1st-Mike Moore-Excel Mining, LLC **2nd**-John Rutherford-Arch Coal **3rd**-Kevin Yeary-Contura Energy

First Aid Competition

1st-Alden Resources, LLC-Alden Resources Team

Day 1 Mine Rescue Competition

1st-Arch Coal-Viper Blue Team **2nd**-Alden Resources, LLC-Alden Resources Team **3rd**-Arch Coal-Lone Mt. Processing

Day 2 Mine Rescue Competition

1st-Arch Coal-Lone Mt. Processing **2nd**-Revelation Energy, LLC-Revelation Energy Team **3rd**-Contura Energy-Paramount Team

Combination Competition

1st-Alden Resources, LLC-Alden Resources Team

Overall Mine Rescue Competition Winner

1st-Arch Coal-Viper Blue Team

