BuMines OFR 7(3)-80

PB80-140221

AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF COAL MINE FIRE REPORTS

Prepared for:

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Mines

By:

ALLEN CORPORATION OF AMERICA

Bureau of Mines Open File Report 7(3)-80

Final Report, Appendix
on
Contract No. J0275008

February 15, 1979

Allen Corporation
of America

DISCLAIMER NOTICE

The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official policies or recommendations of the Interior Department's Bureau of Mines or the U.S. Government.

NOTICE

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED FROM THE BEST COPY FURNISHED US BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY. ALTHOUGH IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT CERTAIN PORTIONS ARE ILLEGIBLE, IT IS BEING RELEASED IN THE INTEREST OF MAKING AVAILABLE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE.

50272-101

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE	1. REPORT NO. BuMines OFR 7(3)-80	2.	3. Recipient's Accession No. PB 80 140221

4. Title and Subtitle

An Annotated Bibliography of Coal Mine Fire Reports. Appendix

5. Report Date Febraury 15, 1979

6.

7. Author(s) L. Bruce McDonald and Robert M. Baker

8. Performing Organization Rept. No.

9. Performing Organization Name and Address

Allen Corp. of America
517 South Washington St.
Alexandria, VA 22314

10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.

11. Contract(C) or Grant(G) No.

(C) J0275008

(G)

12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address

Office of Director--Minerals Health and Safety Technology
Bureau of Mines
U.S. Deaprtment of the Interior
Washington, DC 20241

13. Type of Report & Period Covered Contract research, 9/30/77-7/31/78

14.

15. Supplementary Notes

Approved by the Director, Bureau of Mines, for placement on open file, December 17, 1979.

16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words)

This report is the appendix of a three-volume report. The appendix is intended to be used in conjunction with the tables and indexes contained in volume II of this report, and as such should be considered an integral part of volume II. The indexes in the body of volume II provide a means of ready reference to the underground and surface mine incident report forms. For those readers with interests other than those indexed, tables II-1a and II-1b can be used to locate specific incidents of interest. Complete incident information can then be obtained from the corresponding report forms in the first two sections of this appendix.

17. Document Analysis a. Descriptors

Coal mine fires
Ignition sources
Burning substances
Mining accidents
Mining equipment

b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms

c. COSATI Field/Group 08I

18. Availability Statement	19. Security Class (This Report)	21.
Release unlimited by NTIS.	20. Security Class (This Page)	22. Price

DO NOT PRINT THESE INSTRUCTIONS AS A PAGE IN A REPORT

INSTRUCTIONS

Optional Form 272, Report Documentation Page is based on Guidelines for Format and Production of Scientific and Technical Reports, ANSI Z39.18–1974 available from American National Standards Institute, 1430 Broadway, New York, New York 10018. Each separately bound report—for example, each volume in a multivolume set—shall have its unique Report Documentation Page.

1. Report Number. Each individually bound report shall carry a unique alphanumeric designation assigned by the performing organization or provided by the sponsoring organization in accordance with American National Standard ANSI Z39.23–1974, Technical Report Number (STRN). For registration of report code, contact NTIS Report Number Clearinghouse, Springfield, VA 22161. Use uppercase letters, Arabic numerals, slashes, and hyphens only, as in the following examples: FASEB/NS–75/87 and FAA/RD–75/09.
2. Leave blank.
3. Recipient's Accession Number. Reserved for use by each report recipient.
4. Title and Subtitle. Title should indicate clearly and briefly the subject coverage of the report, subordinate subtitle to the main title. When a report is prepared in more than one volume, repeat the primary title, add volume number and include subtitle for the specific volume.
5. Report Date. Each report shall carry a date indicating at least month and year. Indicate the basis on which it was selected (e.g., date of issue, date of approval, date of preparation, date published).
6. Sponsoring Agency Code. Leave blank.
7. Author(s). Give name(s) in conventional order (e.g., John R. Doe, or J. Robert Doe). List author's affiliation if it differs from the performing organization.
8. Performing Organization Report Number. Insert if performing organization wishes to assign this number.
9. Performing Organization Name and Mailing Address. Give name, street, city, state, and ZIP code. List no more than two levels of an organizational hierarchy. Display the name of the organization exactly as it should appear in Government indexes such as Government Reports Announcements & Index (GRA & I).
10. Project/Task/Work Unit Number. Use the project, task and work unit numbers under which the report was prepared.
11. Contract/Grant Number. Insert contract or grant number under which report was prepared.
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Mailing Address. Include ZIP code. Cite main sponsors.
13. Type of Report and Period Covered. State interim, final, etc., and, if applicable, inclusive dates.
14. Performing Organization Code. Leave blank.
15. Supplementary Notes. Enter information not included elsewhere but useful, such as: Prepared in cooperation with . . . Translation of . . . Presented at conference of . . . To be published in . . . When a report is revised, include a statement whether the new report supersedes or supplements the older report.
16. Abstract. Include a brief (200 words or less) factual summary of the most significant information contained in the report. If the report contains a significant bibliography or literature survey, mention it here.
17. Document Analysis. (a). Descriptors. Select from the Thesaurus of Engineering and Scientific Terms the proper authorized terms that identify the major concept of the research and are sufficiently specific and precise to be used as index entries for cataloging.

    (b). Identifiers and Open-Ended Terms. Use identifiers for project names, code names, equipment designators, etc. Use open-ended terms written in descriptor form for those subjects for which no descriptor exists.

    (c). COSATI Field/Group. Field and Group assignments are to be taken from the 1964 COSATI Subject Category List. Since the majority of documents are multidisciplinary in nature, the primary Field/Group assignment(s) will be the specific discipline, area of human endeavor, or type of physical object. The application(s) will be cross-referenced with secondary Field/Group assignments that will follow the primary posting(s).
18. Distribution Statement. Denote public releasability, for example "Release unlimited", or limitation for reasons other than security. Cite any availability to the public, with address, order number and price, if known.
19. & 20. Security Classification. Enter U.S. Security Classification in accordance with U.S. Security Regulations (i.e., UNCLASSIFIED).
21. Number of pages. Insert the total number of pages, including introductory pages, but excluding distribution list, if any.
22. Price. Enter price in paper copy (PC) and/or microfiche (MF) if known.

☆ U.S. GPO: 1977-0-241-530 3461

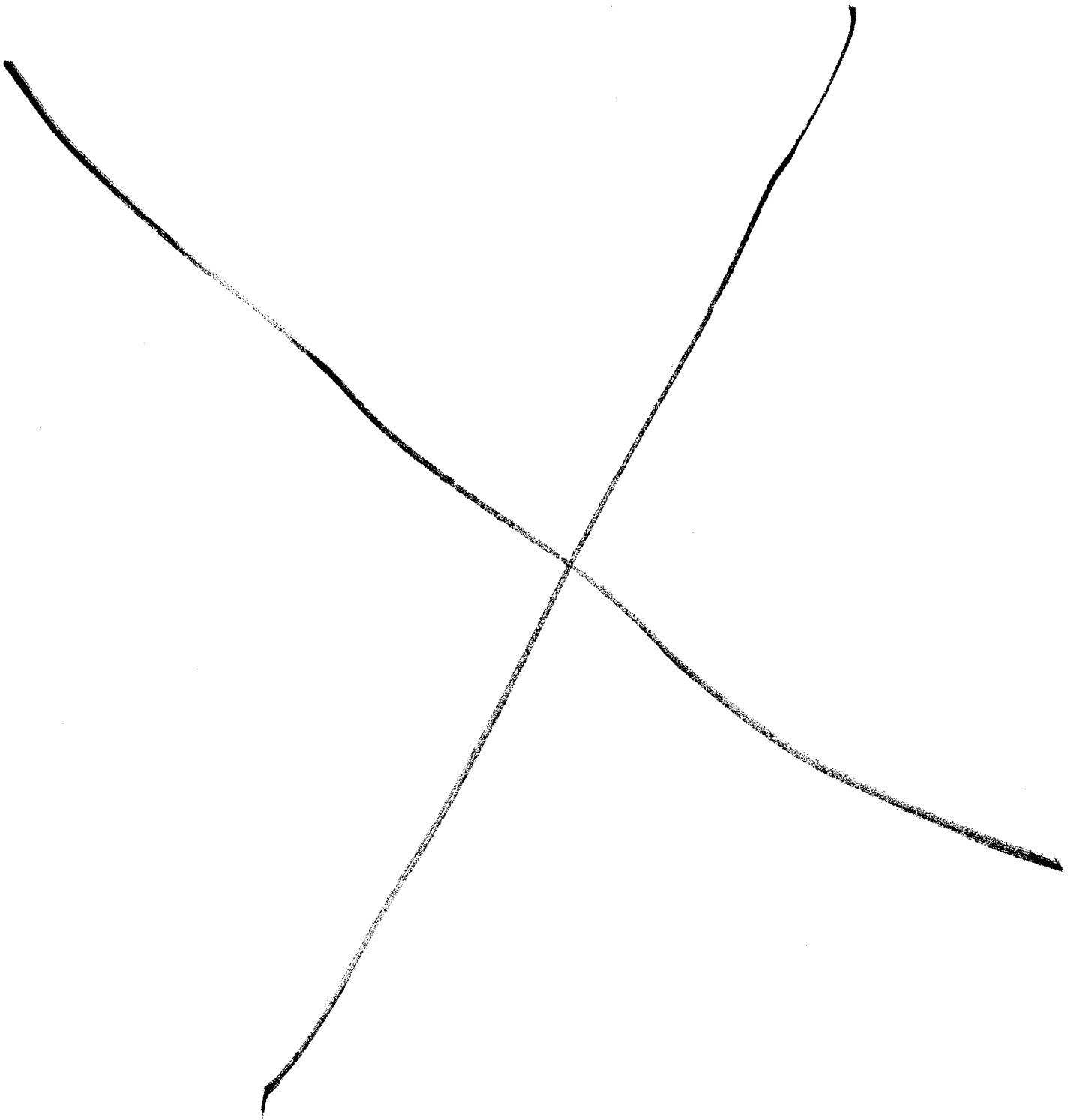
Foreword

This report was prepared by Allen Corporation of America under USBM Contract Number J0275008. The contract was administered under the technical direction of TCMRC with Mr. William Pomroy acting as the Technical Project Officer. Mr. Larry Rock was the contract administrator for the Bureau of Mines.

This report is a summary of the work recently completed as part of this contract during the period 30 September 1977 to 31 July 1978. This report was submitted by the authors on February 15, 1979.

The program was performed at Allen Corporation under the direction of Dr. Bruce McDonald, Program Manager. Mr. Robert Baker, Research Engineer played a major role in data acquisition and analysis. Special acknowledgment should be given to the efforts of Miss Susan Leigh in data analysis and preparation of this formal report.

The author would like to acknowledge the assistance of the coal mine safety directors interviewed as a part of this study. Their comments played a major role in developing the conclusions in this report.



INTRODUCTION

This appendix is composed of five sections, each of which is tabbed for ease of access. The sections are as follows:

- Fire incident report forms for underground mine fires. There is one form for each incident listed in Table II-1a. They are ordered chronologically with incident numbers corresponding to those in Table II-1a.

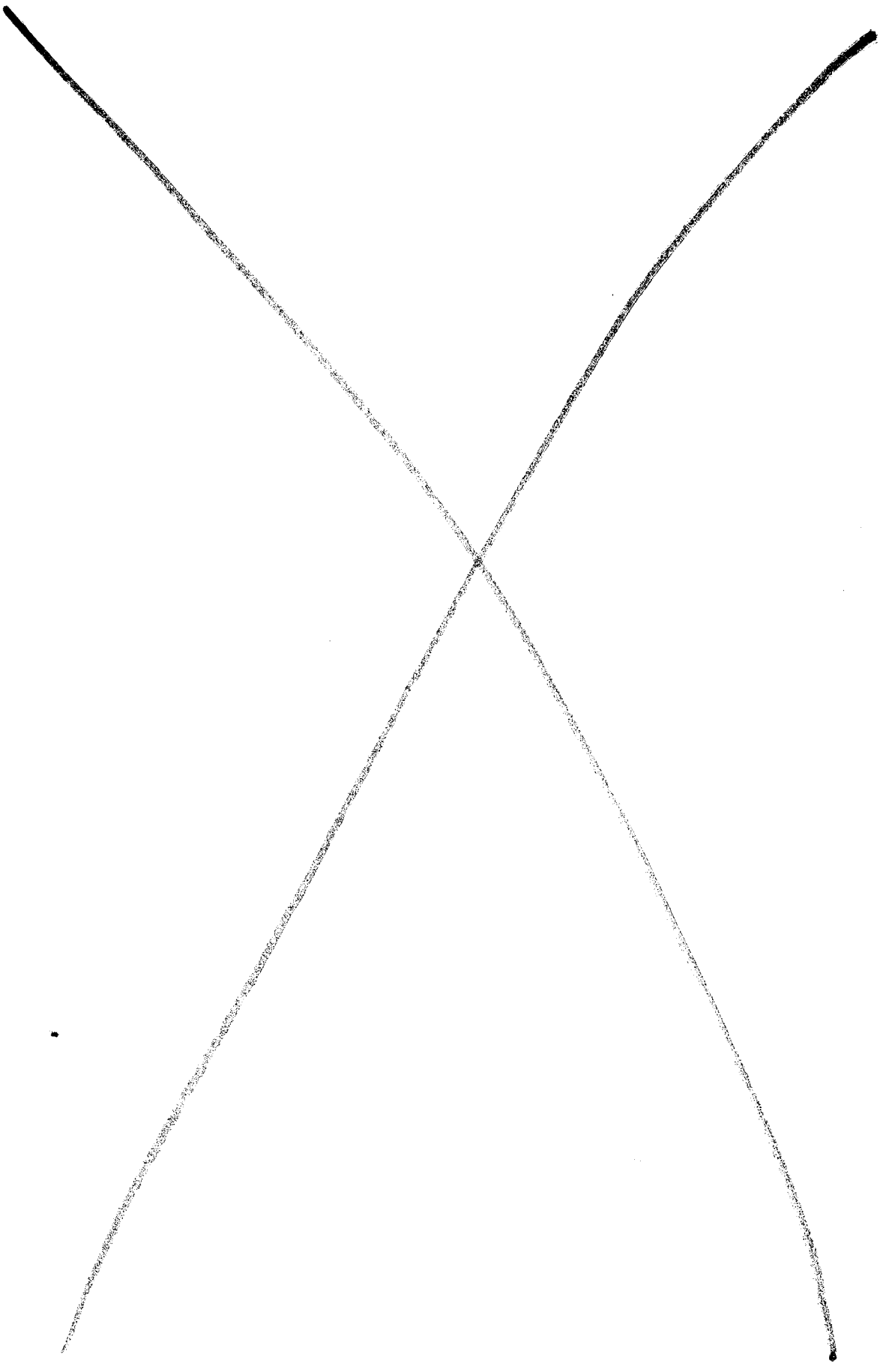
- Fire incident report forms for surface mine fires. There is one form for each incident listed in Table II-1b. They are ordered chronologically with incident numbers corresponding to those in Table II-1b.

- Journal article report forms. There is one form for each article reviewed. They provide supplemental information to that contained in the fire incident report forms for selected fires. Index II-13 keys the journal article report forms to the appropriate fire incident report forms.

- Non-reportable incident descriptions for underground mine fires. This is a listing of underground fires for which MSHA regulations do not require formal reports.

- Non-reportable incident descriptions for surface mine fires. This is a listing of surface fires for which MSHA regulations do not require formal reports.

This appendix is intended to be used in conjunction with the tables and indexes contained in Volume II of this report and as such should be considered an integral part of Volume II. The indexes in the body of Volume II provide a means of ready reference to the underground and surface mine incident report forms. For those readers with interests other than those indexed, Tables II-1a and II-1b can be used to locate specific incidents of interest. Complete incident information can then be obtained from the corresponding report forms in the first two sections of this appendix.



Page
Edge
Index
Number

100

200

300

UNDERGROUND COAL MINES

FIRE INCIDENT REPORTS

1950 - 1977

400

500

600

700

800

900

1000

No. 3

No. 1 Opening

Fire

Mine superintendent notified MESA that they felt they had a fire in gob area. Investigation supported this conclusion and that part of the mine was sealed. Belt, Loren A., MESA Vincennes, 1 pp.

DATE 4/19/50 TIME 10:00A DUR. 100 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. 62 in. SIZE 2200 TPD 200 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nortonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Norton Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous ignition in gob area DETECT UNK

EXT. EFF. sealed off old section of mine PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. Spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 4

No. 11 Mine

Mine Fire

Fire started in portal of an abandoned slope into the No. 11 mine. A wooden stopping was built 60' inby, the slope was caved (by blasting) for 50' from the portal and a rock barrier 10' inby the end of the caved area was built. This did not stop the fire so caved material was removed and coal stripped from sides for a considerable distance. Work was completed on May 27. Williams, M.L., MESA Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/19/50 TIME NS DUR. 8 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Shiprock, San Juan, New Mexico OWN. North Hogback Mines PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT by writer

EXT. EFF. stopping built inby, area caved at portal and rock barrier built, but porous, so all material removed and burning coals removed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL Coal AGENT Removal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 5

Clear Branch No. 1 Mine

Progress Report of Mine Fire

Fire discovered by fire boss. No effort was made to combat the fire due to lack of fire fighting equipment. Seals were then erected. Cromwell, James W., MESA Pikeville, 6 pp.

DATE 6/26/50 TIME 5:00A DUR. 24+ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 46 in. SIZE 1500 TPD 390/2 EMP METH. NS

LOC. Ligon, Floyd, Kentucky OWN. Clear Branch Mining Company PERS. Supt. - H. G. Maynard Foreman - Roy Collins Saf. Dir. - Harry McCarty

CAUSE UNK, possibly started by a fall of roof on an energized trolley wire DETECT dense smoke discovered by fire boss

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, powder, seals PREV. fire fighting equipment not adequate, smoking was practiced in the mine

RESC. None - mine empty

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS - 40 to 90 days estimated for resuming operations in sealed area

---

No. 6

Petros No. 3 Mine

Report on Mine Fire

Prison inmates work this mine and their activities are not always under view. Evidently, intentionally or otherwise, several inmates started a fire in an abandoned section. It took two hours after seeing smoke to find the fire, at which time rock dust and water were applied. Cook, H.O., Reese, J., MESA Birmingham, 3 pp.

DATE 6/30/50 TIME 5:30A DUR. 8 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Jellico

HT. 36 in. SIZE 350 TPD 193 EMP METH. NS

LOC. Petros, Morgan, Tennessee OWN. Tennessee Industries PERS. Supt. - W.G. Whitus Foreman - Ross Long

CAUSE suspected arson DETECT by guard seeing smoke issuing from fan orifice

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water carried to the scene, all purpose gas masks required PREV. inadequate monitoring of inmates/laborers

RESC. N/A

IG. cigarette or lighter FUEL mine refuse, coal AGENT Water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 18

Virginia-Harlan Mine

Report on Mine Fire

Fire broke out outby 9 left face where crew was cutting. Foreman investigated and got outby the fire after two attempts. Cable had already been disconnected by brakeman. Foreman extinguished fire with water. Stewart, W.R., MESA Norton, 7 pp.

DATE 11/8/51 TIME 9:00A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Harlan

HT. 48 in. SIZE 140 TPD 13/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. St. Charles, Lee, Virginia OWN. Virginia-Harlan Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - J.D. Bryson

CAUSE short circuit at splice in mining machine trailing cable caused arc DETECT smoke and fumes reached miners

EXT. EFF. application of water in lunch buckets PREV. no rock dusting, no self rescuers available

RESC. 1 man overcome by smoke was removed to the surface by small truck

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, timber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cable

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 19

Midland Mines

Report on Mine Fire

Fire occurred when a partially grounded cable ignited spilled coal on the floor near the loading point. Brattice cloth stoppings were erected to move the smoke and fumes. The fire was extinguished with rock dust. Jones, John E., MESA Barbourville, 5 pp.

DATE 11/25-26/1951 TIME 7:00A DUR. 29 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard Nos. 7 & 5A

HT. 48 & 40 in. SIZE 800 TPD 68/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Tribbey, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Old King Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - Edd Young

CAUSE partially grounded cable igniting spilled coal DETECT a pumpman starting his shift observed dense smoke

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. one man in mine only one who returned to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 20

Darb Fork No. 4 Mine

Report on Mine Fire

Fire occurred when arcs from a defective power cable contacted the frame of the belt conveyor igniting the belt and coal on the conveyor frame. The fire was extinguished by direct attack. Cromwell, James W., MESA Barbourville, 5 pp.

DATE 11/26/51 TIME 5:40A DUR. 13 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 7

HT. 48 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 74/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dwarf, Knott, Kentucky OWN. Darb Fork Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE arcs from defective power cable contacting the frame of the belt conveyor igniting the belt and coal

DETECT workmen entering the mine observed smoke

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust

PREV. sufficient rock dust and fire extinguishers not available; water and hose inadequate

RESC. All workmen returned to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL coal, belt AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS 270 ft. of belt

PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 21

Reels Cove Mine No. 2

Report of Mine Belt Fire

Two electricians rode belt to repair a duckbill at the face and left belt running idle because boomman was not at station. They found the fire an hour later. They called foreman who pulled cutout switch and stopped main fan. One electrician hurt his back trying to escape. Another belt was jammed by fallen coal so firefighters had to crawl in. Zimmermann, Dee, 5 pp.

DATE 4/8/52 TIME 5:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Sewanee

HT. 39 in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Whitwell, Marion, Tennessee OWN. Tennessee Products & Chemical Corp.

PERS. Supt. - H. A. Daffron
Foreman - Robert Reeves
Saf. Dir. - W. M. Lacey

CAUSE friction between belt and drive pulley after capboard became wedged

DETECT shortly after occurrence by repairmen

EXT. EFF. unspecified agent applied by crew of 15 having to crawl through No. 1 right (partially caved) entry

PREV. smoking permitted; switch on safety device of belt plugged; equipment was readily available

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT NS EQUIP. belt

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS 50' of 26" wide belt and wiring at drive station

PROD. LOSS NS

No. 26

Atkinson Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire due to heat created by friction in a belt drive was discovered. Fire extinguishers, rock dust and water applied to fire and extinguished it completely within 2 hours. Belt, Loren A., MESA Pikeville, 3 pp.

DATE 10/25/52 TIME 3:30P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 58 in. SIZE 2400 TPD 106 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. West Kentucky Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ed McGaw

CAUSE heat created by friction in a belt dirve DETECT rock dust crew passing by belt drive found it running and the belt on fire

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. NS

RESC. All men were sent to the surface

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. 2 hrs.

No. 27

Clearsplint No. 3 Mine

Report of Minor Mine Fire

Smoke discovered early morning at the Pidgeon Roost portal, by fire boss, only one in the mine. Foreman upon notification and employee walked around the mountain to above mentioned portal and found forest fire and portal aflame. Fan was reversed upon their return to plant. Rock dust applied during posting and check curtain erection. Material outloaded and water applied. Jordan, Fornie A., Bukovitz, S.J., MESA Birmingham, pp. 4.

DATE 10/28/52 TIME 5-6:00A DUR. 21 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sterling

HT. 38-44 in. SIZE 400 TPD 60/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Claiborne, Tennessee OWN. Clear Fork Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Elmer Bennett Foreman - Edd Brassfield

CAUSE adjacent forest fire DETECT by fire boss during pre-shift

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied by hand while postings and check curtain erection proceeded to the fire. Material was outloaded and water applied to coals. PREV. no inspection of forest fire and portal area was littered with combustibles

RESC. N/A

IG. forest fire FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minor PROD. LOSS NS

No. 28

Morgan No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A brush fire had occurred 11/14 and was thought to have been extinguished. Foreman was notified of fire in the airway by someone passing the fan. All men were removed and water bucket brigade was initiated until local fire company arrived. Rock dust and a fire extinguisher were also used. Dougherty, J.J., MESA Mt. Hope.

DATE 11/24/52 TIME 9:30A DUR. 20 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 85 in. SIZE 450 TPD 49/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rivesville, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Virginia & Pittsburgh Coal & Coke Co. PERS. Foreman - H. Keener

CAUSE UNK DETECT foreman notified by someone passing in the vicinity of the fan

EXT. EFF. water played on fire by local fire department and crewmen applied rock dust and extinguisher PREV. inspection of fire areas prevent re-kindling; fan inspections suggested as was cleaning up of brush around fan

RESC. all men removed from the mine

IG. electrical (?) FUEL wood, coal, leaves, brush AGENT water, rock dust, powder, EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 29

No. 3 Elkhorn Mine

Final Report of Minor Fire Disaster

Four men were sent to 3 butt entries to move equipment and set-up. The two who were to assist them followed 1 hr. later and encountered dense smoke at the No. 2 entry (main belt conveyor entry). Officials were notified and fire fighting efforts began. The men were found by morning and the area was sealed with 15 seals of wood and concrete block. It remains so. Park, W.R., Gallagher, F.J., Farris, J.D., MESA Norton, 19 pp.

DATE 12/13/52 TIME 12:30A DUR. 7 days DEATHS 4 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 34 in. SIZE 2500 TPD METH. Cont.

LOC. Evanston, Breathitt, Kentucky OWN. Pond Creek Pocahontas PERS. Supt. - M.M. McCormick
Foreman - Ken Fields
Saf. Dir. - C.E. Linkous

CAUSE most likely friction caused by belt drive pulleys continuing to turn against a stalled belt DETECT two men sent to assist 4 victims at the face encountered smoke

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water used in attempts to extinguish fire; sealing proved effective PREV. adequate

RESC. ventilation was redirected when the fire had been battled down somewhat and the four bodies were found in 2 separate pairs. All were face down towards the belt drive.

IG. electrical, friction FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, seals, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 33

No. 9 Mine

Final Report on Minor Fire Disaster

Fire started unexplicably on locomotive while fire boss was on pre-shift examination. He evacuated self and two repairmen. After 2 exploratory trips, mine area was sealed. Whalen, J.T., MESA Denver HSAC, 7 pp.

DATE 1/27/53 TIME 4:00A DUR. 72 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Eagle

HT. 46 in. SIZE 1600 TPD 170/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hutchinson, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Hutchinson Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.L. Russell Foreman - A.R. Burgess

CAUSE short caused by fallen cable DETECT fire boss discovered slate and trolley wire covering burning locomotive

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal, locomotive insulation AGENT sealing EFF. Yes EQUIP. Locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 34

Berry Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Oil house 50 ft. inby main shaft caught fire within half-hour of last viewing. Cause unknown. Once fire truck arrived and water was pumped, the fire was extinguished promptly. Holcomb, J.W., MESA Denver HSAC, 9 pp.

DATE 2/5/53 TIME 3:45A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper (Double) Freeport

HT. 74 in. SIZE 2450 TPD 381/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bairdford, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Ford Collieries Co. PERS. Supt. - Ellis Byers Foreman - M.J. Fitzmaurice

CAUSE UNK DETECT smoke observed under oil house door

EXT. EFF. rock dust and chemical failed when first attempt was made PREV. not enough training

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL cable, oil house, wire AGENT water, rock dust, soda-acid EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 35

No. 4 & No. 6

Mine Fires

Non-worked area had fire discovered 2/6/53. Temporary seals erected did not control the fire. Area separated by 300' pillar of coal from working section - no hazard. Second fire was discovered 1/11/54 and had been inundated since 2/22/54. Dewatered 10/1/54 and dam removed with work in progress to re-establish ventilation. Fire out 1/11/54. Todd, R.C., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 2/6/53 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Lansford, Carbon, Pennsylvania OWN. Panther Valley Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealed first fire, inundated second PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal, gob AGENT water, seal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. several months (in 2nd fire)

No. 36

Suntrana Mine

Final Report on Minor Mine Fire

Fire smoldered in pile of accumulated coal causing ventilation problems, finally flaming requiring that the mine area be sealed inby #13 chute. Todd, R.C., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 2/10-28/1953 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Nos. 1, 2, & 3 h.v.s - bituminous

HT. 50",24' & 24" SIZE 600 TPD 55/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Healy River Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Andrew Costa President - K. Goillanders

CAUSE spontaneous combustion or previous fire DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealed PREV. equipment not available; smoking practiced underground

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 40

Puncheon Creek No. 4

Report of Mine Fire

Foreman discovered fire on pre-shift examination. Equipment not available in mine. After delays, water line was laid but fire could not be put out effectively; mine was sealed. Duncan, Matthew, MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 4/7/53 TIME 6:10A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 68 in. SIZE 200 TPD 13/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Kite, Knott, Kentucky OWN. Utilities Elkhorn PERS. NS

CAUSE wire buried in roof fall caught coal on fire when energized by maintenance crew previous day DETECT foreman encountered smoke in main portal upon pre-shift examination

EXT. EFF. powder extinguishers obtained, little effect; water through lines brought in too late after delays; mine sealed PREV. inadequate - smoking was permitted

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, powder, sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 41

Germantown Colliery

Report of Minor Coal-Mine Fire (Electrical)

Evidently, ground wire for a compressor overheated while a locomotive was inby the station igniting accumulated oil at the base of the compressor. Ventilation changes enabled two trapped men to escape. Fire was put out with water. Fulmer, J.A., MESA Denver, HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 4/15/53 TIME 10:30A DUR. 7½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Holmes, Primrose, Mammoth, Skidmore

HT. 5-47' SIZE 1600 TPD 587/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Centralia, Columbia, Pennsylvania OWN. Raven Run Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Novatnak
Foreman - Oliver Ryan
Saf. Dir. - Andrew Scavinicky

CAUSE overheated wire ignited oil DETECT foreman discovered fire beneath the compressor

EXT. EFF. once men were safe, water lines were laid to the fire and was extinguished PREV. inadequate fire-fighting provisions; poor housekeeping; non-fire-proof enclosure

RESC. foreman and miner retreated inby and waited for conditions to permit escape

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal, oil AGENT water EQUIP. compressor

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 46

Columbia Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

O'Neal, T.M., 4 pp.

DATE 7/21/53 TIME 7:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Columbia, Carbon, Utah OWN. Columbia-Geneva Steel Div. PERS. Supt. - Melvin Sharp
Foreman - Mike Botonakis
Saf. Dir. - Emery Olsen

CAUSE splice blow-out ignited remaining cable and wooden deck of compressor truck DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 47

Sunnyside No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Mining machine was being moved when large blue flame burst from cable reel. Helper cut power and he and machine operator threw rock dust and earth on fire. Thinking it extinguished, they went to lunch. Upon returning, it had rekindled. It was then put out with water and rock dust. Conter, E.B., Reay, T.T., Dimitroff, D.Z., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 7/29/53 TIME 2:00A DUR. 3½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 5½-10' SIZE 925 TPD 87/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Sunnyside, Carbon, Utah OWN. Kaiser Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - G.A. Farnsworth
Saf. Dir. - Clair Self

CAUSE arcing between power conductors of cable on reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. first rock dust and earth put flames out, then upon rekindling, water and rock dust extinguished the fire PREV. excess cable on reel; poor overload protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust, earth EQUIP. Cont. Miner

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 44

Monarch Mine

Mine Fire

Short in gathering locomotive trailing cable reel ignited insulation. Power was disconnected and crew evacuated. Water was applied to extinguish fire. Cochran, R.L., Norton District, 7 pp.

DATE 4/27/53 TIME 1:00A DUR. 3.33 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Darby No. 5

HT. 36 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 267/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Lee County, Virginia OWN. Blue Diamond Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - Paul Akins

CAUSE short in trailing cable reel ignited cable insulation DETECT observed by locomotive operator

EXT. EFF. power disconnected and water applied PREV. trailing cable insulation not fire resistant, fuse too large to trip during short; insufficient self-rescuers

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 45

Roda No. 3 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Fire boss discovered fire at man station. He telephoned the foreman and met him and another boss back at fire, where they began ventilation changes. Other workers assisted in these changes, in laying water pipe, and in bolstering roof support. Water was available at the fire 1 hour after discovery. Cochran, R.L., MESA Norton, 4 pp.

DATE 7/15/53 TIME 5:20A DUR. 9½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Taggart

HT. 56 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 238/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Roda, Wise, Virginia OWN. Stonega Coke and Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ernest Smith
Foreman - W.M. Nidiffer
Saf. Dir. - T.J. Liddle

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by fire boss when he entered 1 butt entry and smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. once men were clear, pipe was laid for water supply, roof was retimbered where needed and fire fought PREV. adequate - mine had fire fighting plan but power left on unattended equipment

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL benches, bulletin board, supply box AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 50

Emerald Mine

Fire on Main Haulage Trolley Locomotive

Cable overheated on parked locomotive. It was extinguished quickly by available extinguisher. MESA Denver, HSAC, 1 pp.

DATE 8/27/53 TIME 12:45P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Parksville, Pennsylvania OWN. Emerald Coal and Coke PERS. Saf. Dir. - Thomas King

CAUSE power cable overheated DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT powder EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 51

No. 14 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Main-line 15 ton trolley locomotive was pulling 28 empty car trip when raised (caught) end gate door of 4th car struck some steel crossbars used for roof support dislodging them. Trolley wire fell, landed on cars and shorted igniting one of wooden cars. Power was shut off. Rock dust and extinguishers were immediately used. Simpson, O.V., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 8/31/53 TIME 7:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois

HT. 90 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 331/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. DuQuinn, Perry, Illinois OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John D. Kelly Saf. Dir. - L.H. Johnson

CAUSE open gate door of car dislodged trolley wire DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power shut off and rock dust and chemical extinguishers applied PREV. poor inspection

RESC. a roof fall prevented escape by some men but after fire, it was leveled and they were removed

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. haulage car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 52

Springfield No. 4 Mine

Report of Minor Coal Mine Fire

During cutting, since cable was short, workmen pulled on the junction box to get the slack out. Power became low and upon checking, fire was discovered at the box. Night foreman led men through smoke twice to escape. Assistant night foreman saw cable burning and pulled trolley switch and fire went out. Two men kept in hospital while others released. Kreischer, D.K., MESA Monroeville, 5 pp.

DATE 10/20/53 TIME 9:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1100 TPD 160/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Spangler, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Springfield Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Thomas L. Stafford Foreman - John MacIndoe

CAUSE loose bolt in strain clamp permitted positive conductor to contact frame-grounded terminal DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. trolley switch pulled and fire went out PREV. poor connections of cable; no suitable escapeway; fuse set too high

RESC. men had to go through smoke twice to get out

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut EQUIP. Cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to trailing cable PROD. LOSS. 3 hrs.

No. 52-b

Springfield No. 4

Investigation of Trailing Cable Fire

Clamp in junction box near face was not tight and during movement, it allowed cable to ground fault. Four hundred amp fuse did not blow for unknown reason. 7 men inby suffered smoke inhalation. Brown, C.L., Baker, W.M., MESA Monroeville, 2 pp.

DATE 10/20/53 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 7 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE ground fault in cable at junction due to loose clamp DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. better fusing required

RESC. men removed unassisted

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 53

No. 6 Mine

Two men undercutting face when machine stopped at 6:15 A.M. They found trailing cable burning inby the nip. They went to surface immediately due to dense smoke. Man trip entering mine encountered smoke and retreated, leaving section foreman and other who cut power, approached fire and put it out with an extinguisher and some rock dust. Hyde, C.E., Henson, N.M., MESA Barbourville, 4 pp.

DATE 10/20/53 TIME 6:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Mason

HT. 50 in. SIZE 600 TPD 47/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Fonde, Bell, Kentucky OWN. Clear Fork Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Elmer Bennett Foreman - J.A. Alexander Saf. Dir. - Elgin Garland

CAUSE overheating of poorly made splice DETECT upon investigating power outage on cutter

EXT. EFF. foreman and helper put fire out with dry chemical extinguisher and rock dust PREV. wrong fuse

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. Cutter

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of insulation and some wood PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 54

Cranberry

Investigation of Mine Fire

Cable was repaired during night shift. On way out, electrician and pre-shift examiner for "A" shift noticed belt go off while pump continued (5:35A). At 7:35, fire was discovered on belt and put out with chemical extinguisher. Cordray, W.M., Hall, M.E., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 12/2/53 TIME 7:30A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 41 in. SIZE 1886 TPD 362/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cranberry, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. New River Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE temporary power cable from nip to pump shorted DETECT during start of day shift

EXT. EFF. power cut off PREV. poor cable hook-up

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, timber AGENT water, rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. Belt

EQUIP. LOSS 31' of belt PROD. LOSS None

No. 55

No. 32 Mine

Electrical Fire (Shuttle Car)

A fire started when a faulty cable ignited a tire on a shuttle car. Workmen tried to put up a curtain with scrap and extinguish with chemical extinguisher; unsuccessful. Superintendent ordered full curtain erected and water line brought in. Cochran, R.L., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 12/4/53 TIME 4:30A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NX

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Lynch, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE faulty insulation allowed trailing cable short DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. first extinguishers were tried unsuccessfully, then a line brattice was erected and water lines erected PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. Shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS a tire, 200' of cable, and a hydraulic hose PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 56

Eureka No. 40 (Upper)

These memo's describe argument over length of operation of shuttle car as a factor in the cable continuing to burn after nip power was removed. Andrejko, Jr., S.A., Gleim, E.J., MESA Denver HSAC.

DATE 1/21/54 TIME 6:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Scalplevel, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Berwind-White Coal Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE cable to shuttle car ignited DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 57

Nolan Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

At about 4:00 A.M., during preparations for day shift by a maintenance crew, a fire was discovered near a pump. It was extinguished by foreman and crew using fire truck and burnt coals were outloaded while quenched. New timbers were laid up as fire caused a roof fall. Eakins, John B., MESA Denver HSAC.

DATE 1/18/54 TIME 4:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 459/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohi OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - George Guillo

CAUSE UNK DETECT during pre-shift

EXT. EFF. water (fire truck brought up) PREV. inadequate circuit breaker

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. pump

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS negligible damage to pump PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 58

K&F Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by workman arriving Monday A.M. to work. Owners and several workers travelled main (return) way but were driven back. Travelled intake and saw fire 700 ft. inby main portal. Water line was laid and fire fought unsuccessfully. Roof was aflame and mine was then sealed by 1/25. Hughes, F.E., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 1/18/54 TIME 7:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. 54 in. SIZE 30 TPD 5/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. New Plymouth, Vinton, Ohio OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK, but power was on to trolley lines DETECT upon Mon. A.M. arrival

EXT. EFF. water line was lain PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 59

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire broke out in the "loop" breakthrough in the vicinity of a car-loading elevator. This and several trailing cables were moved out during fire fighting efforts which hampered determining the fire's cause. Harris, O.W., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 1/30/54 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 40 in. SIZE 750 TPD 66/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Williamson, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Burning Springs Collieries PERS. Supt. - T.L. Lambert Foreman - Garland Brewer

CAUSE UNK DETECT by foreman during inspection on idle day

EXT. EFF. twenty-two tons of rock dust applied until water hooked up PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. nipping station; cable

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS minor cable damage PROD. LOSS. 3 days

No. 60

Powhatan No. 3

Higgins, J.G., Byrons, W.J., 5 pp.

DATE 2/5/54 TIME 10:00A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 469/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dilles Bottom, Belmont, Ohio OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - H.H. Kirby

CAUSE short circuit in high-voltage power line leading from switchboard to No. 1 motor-generator set DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, timber, generator set AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. motor-generator set

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 61

Tioga No. 1 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by section foreman while riding belts to the surface. He disconnected power and applied two bags of rock dust. Fire was weakening roof so he went for help. Men inby were notified and removed through escapeway. A stopping opened and water line rigged from swag pump. Puskas, A., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 3/10/54 TIME 4:45A DUR. 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kittanning (No. 5 Block)

HT. 48 in. SIZE 2100 TPD 355/2 Emp. METH. Cont. & Conv.

LOC. Tioga, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Tioga Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - C.E. Walker, Foreman - John Lyons

CAUSE friction caused by piece of belt, torn loose by defective roller near a splice, stuck between main drive rollers DETECT during section foreman's trip to surface

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. inadequate circuit breaker and fire-fighting provisions; poor inspection

RESC. Men inby had alternate escape route

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 62

Enoco Collieries

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A lightning storm evidently caused surging in cables producing faults which then produced single-phasing resulting in multiple fires at an oil switch and along the cable. A unit foreman was inby, discovered the fire and retreated inby to a stub entry, opening 1 stopping. Crew put out fire with water and rock dust, then found unit foreman. O'Connor, J.A., Douglas, S.J., MESA Denver, HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 4/6/54 TIME 5:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Indiana No. 5

HT. NS in. SIZE 3900 TPD 266/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Knoxville, Knox, Indiana OWN. NS PERS. Saf. Dir. - Bert McCray

CAUSE sustained faults in cable due to lightning DETECT during search for unit foreman

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. unit foreman went inby to stub entry and was found semi-helpless - he had opened a stopping, which probably saved his life

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, cable AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS cable (1400'), one oil switch PROD. LOSS None

No. 63

Wolf Run

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred in abandoned fan house and spread to wood-lined return air shaft and man shaft. Metal on surface structures was being removed for scrap. Scrap company employee received permission to cut shaft out of abandoned steam-driven shaft with stipulation that hole between hole and shaft be blocked. This was not done and sparks ignited oil on floor of house. Callahan, J.T., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 4/20/54 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 48 in. SIZE -0- TPD
5 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wolf Run,
Jefferson,
Ohio OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE sparks from acetylene torch ignited oil spillage DETECT during cutting

EXT. EFF. two fire departments were called PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. torch spark FUEL timber, coal, oil AGENT water EQUIP. fan

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS old abandoned fan workings PROD. LOSS. None

No. 64

V.C. No. 8 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

A conveyor pan fouled between discharge head and frame. This raised the conveyor to touch the positive power conductor energizing the entire section. An arc burnt two negative conductors in two and started the belt on fire. Brown, D.L., McKinley, R., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 4/27/54 TIME 6:00A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 34 in. SIZE 1400 TPD
109/2 Emp. METH. Undercut
shortwall

LOC. Shrewsbury,
Kanawha,
W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE electrical short circuit DETECT workman travelling along belt

EXT. EFF. first extinguishers, then rock dust, finally water secured which put the fire out PREV. adequate

RESC. 4 trapped men attempted 4 escapes into smoke filled main return - finally rode working belt to surface portal

IG. electrical FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust powder EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS 44' of belt and 2 conveyor chains PROD. LOSS NS

No. 65

Eureka No. 37

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Overload did not operate to shut power off when a flash set shuttle car on fire. Operator ran to nip and shut it off. Men were withdrawn from the mine and fire was put out with water from a nearby hose and pump. Hydraulic line rupture contributed to fires duration. Coleman, J.D., MESA Denver HSAC, 5 pp.

DATE 5/5/54 TIME 11:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4404 TPD 637/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Scalplevel, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Berwind-White Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Edwin Eakins Foreman - S.L. Lehman Saf. Dir. - George Hobba

CAUSE short circuit between pump motor power cable and left rear wheel steering linkage at ground which had rubbed insulation off DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. poor cable hook-up; circuit breaker not maintained

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, rubber, hyd. system AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS 75' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. 4 hrs.

No. 66

Mary Gail No. 3 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by the foreman when he was attempting to locate why the belt would not tighten and discovered fire by the belt drive. Direct methods to extinguish the fire failed and seals were subsequently erected. Linville, Raymond, MESA Barbourville, 6 pp.

DATE 5/6/54 TIME 4:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1800 TPD 101/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hyden, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Mary Gail Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Clyde Franks Foreman - Rex Howard

CAUSE friction or electrical source DETECT by foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers, sealing PREV. smoking practiced

RESC. 3 men underground escaped to the surface

IG. electrical or friction FUEL belt AGENT extinguishers, rock dust, seals EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 70

Talleydale Mine

Final Report of Coal Mine Fire

A wreck of cars caused an arc to ignite dry timbers, lagging over crossbars. This spread to loose coal in cars and the rib. All underground employees were able to escape through escapeway except 5 inby who fought the fire incommunicado with water. After ventilation changes, water succeeded in extinguishing. Quenon, E.E., Smith, F.J., Perz, F., MESA Vincennes.

DATE 5/19/54 TIME 9:45P DUR. 84 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 3

HT. 72 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 193 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Terre Haute, Vigo, Indiana OWN. Snow Hill Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - E.M. Cassidy

CAUSE 26 car trip collided with empty 5 piling same into 2300 volt power cable and trolley wire DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. centered around ventilation changes and huge amounts of water - finally some burning timbers brought down into waist deep water PREV. inadequate roof support

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal insulation AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive and mine cars

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive and many cars PROD. LOSS. 7 days+

No. 71

No. 1 Mine

Report on Coal Mine Fire

At 3:30 P.M. during pre-shift examination two officials encountered smoke. Douglas, S.W., MESA Denver HSAC, 5 pp.

DATE 5/30/54 TIME 3:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 63 in. SIZE 3600 TPD 193/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Uniontown, Union, Kentucky OWN. Uniontown Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Richard Griffith Saf. Dir. - Charles Hatfield

CAUSE fall of roof rock short circuited a power line DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal, insulation AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 72

A Mine

Report of Mine Fire

At 6:00 A.M. a power failure developed in chain conveyor motor. Crew left until following A.M. Two repairmen entered the mine to fix the motor at 10:00 P.M. They discovered smoke and returned to surface. By the time anyone got to scene of fire, it was out. Cleanliness of area prevented serious fire. Pate, Clay, MESA Denver HSAC, 5 pp.

DATE 6/3/54 TIME 6-10:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 33 in. SIZE 150 TPD 30/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bear Branch, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Whitewood Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Charley Gibson

CAUSE (opinion) overheating of poorly made splice in trailing cable

DETECT upon entering mine to make repairs, two workmen encountered smoke and heard crackling

EXT. EFF. None needed

PREV. smoking was practiced; poor cable placement; power on unattended equipment; poor splicing

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT None needed EQUIP. cable

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS some trailing cable PROD. LOSS. None

No. 73

Hampton Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Two men tracing belt stoppage encountered smoke; one led workers at face out, and other got fire-fighting material. While obtaining material, roof fall shorted power wire to belt frame opening rectifier station c.b. failing mine power supply. Power restored and air shorted to return, fire was fought directly. DeWeese, R.C., MESA Denver HSAC, 6 pp.

DATE 6/22/54 TIME 6:15P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Stockton

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1800 TPD 88/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.J. Robinson Foremen - Jerry Wolford and Charles Justice

CAUSE a piece of rock wedged in the tail piece stopping the belt while the motor continued to rotate drive pulley

DETECT section foreman and mechanic

EXT. EFF. extinguishers, rock dust, water

PREV. no slippage control; inadequate fire-fighting provisions

RESC. men at face were led out surface opening near face

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 30' of 30-inch belt PROD. LOSS little

No. 74

Ditney Hill Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Sometime after 10:00 P.M. Friday 6/18/54, a fire broke out in a gob area. Examiner was only person in mine. The panel was sealed and thus lost. Could not see fire due to falls, but some smoke and evidence of CO and methane. Sealing completed 6/22 at 9:00 P.M. Harris, E.J., Smith, F.J., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 6/21/54 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 6

HT. 90-156 in. SIZE 3660 TPD 308 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Elberfield, Warrick, Indiana OWN. Ingle Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Ralph Whitman

CAUSE spontaneous combustion in a gob area DETECT during examination

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS one panel lost PROD. LOSS. None

No. 75

Sunlight Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered at face in an active room connected with the abandoned Pocahontas mine. It was decided to seal the mine and this was completed 6/1/54 at 3:00 P.M. One proved ineffective so permission was obtained to break it, remove some equipment and make a better one inby. Operator obtained permission to break fan seal to check fire in hopes of re-mining the "D" bed, but was still active and mine resealed. Ratkovich, Dan R., MESA Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 6/30/54 TIME 11:50A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM A & D

HT. 8½' SIZE 35 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Glenwood Springs, Garfield, Colorado OWN. Sunlight Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE breakthrough of fire in adjoining bed DETECT discovered by workmen on shift

EXT. EFF. sealing and resealing PREV. adequate

RESC. seals broken twice: once for resealing ineffective seal and once in hopes of re-opening

IG. fire FUEL coal AGENT seal EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS complete in "D" bed

No. 76

No. 1 Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Fire broke out in only working section. All 5 men and section foreman escaped. Section was sealed inadequately and reopened several times in an attempt to finally extinguish fires within. By 11/6, this was done successfully and operations resumed 11/11/54. Marshalek, J., MESA Denver HSAC, 10 pp.

DATE 8/16/54 TIME 4:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Redstone

HT. 60 in. SIZE 600 TPD
32 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hodgesville,
Upshur,
W. Virginia OWN. Hacker Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A.L. Root

CAUSE short occurred at temporary splice of trailing cable spooled on reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. operator disconnected nip and attempted to put fire out with available moist rock dust, ran for extinguisher but then could not get close PREV. poor splicing; poor housekeeping; excess cable on reel; inadequate fire-fighting provisions

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, oil & grease soaked coal dust AGENT water, rock dust, sealing EQUIP. Cutter
EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine and cable PROD. LOSS. 3 months

No. 77

Charlotte Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by workmen on surface noticing smoke. Pump was dismantled and moved inby to body of water, because rock dust had little effect. The belt was cut inby the fire timbers set, roof scaled and fire fought with water starting at 6:00 A.M. Belt had been left running by previous shift. Basinger, H.E., MESA Denver HSAC, 7 pp.

DATE 8/20/54 TIME 1:00A DUR. 11 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Harlan

HT. 36 in. SIZE 1650 TPD
165/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Grays Knob,
Harlan,
Kentucky OWN. V & C Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - L.G. Coffee
Foreman - John Smith
Saf. Dir. - E.A. Starling

CAUSE friction of belt on drive, bearing failed, roller pulled under tail pulley, belt fouled and heat generated DETECT by supply crew on surface

EXT. EFF. timbers set and roof scaled as efforts advanced using a water line and pumping water out of body in 2 left entries PREV. adequate, but no training

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL insulation, coal, rubber, timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt
EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS numerous posts and 240' of belt and 40' of rib PROD. LOSS NS

No. 82

Kemp No. 2 Mine

Report of Cutting Machine Fire

Overheating cutter was shut down for 15 minutes. Upon restart, short occurred in cables. Power was removed, foreman and operator went for rock dust but they could not get close upon return. Other workmen moved a pump to the entry and flooded the cutting machine. Shay, P.M., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 11/9/54 TIME 9:45P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Bakerstown

HT. 48 in. SIZE 400 TPD 28/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Newburg, Preston, W. Virginia OWN. Kemp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Mack Moore

CAUSE short circuit in cable(s) leading from junction box to pump motor on the machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water pumped onto machine PREV. poor housekeeping; insufficient fire-fighting equipment

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil soaked coal dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. Cutter

EQUIP. LOSS slight damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. little

No. 83

Mathies Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when fall of roof dislodged trolley wire which fell on unbonded side of the haulage track rails creating arcing that ignited combustible materials in fallen roof. Power was disengaged and rock dust used to smother fire. Water also applied to water down fire area. Davis, Robert T., Krek, Ralph I., MESA Pittsburgh, 7 pp.

DATE 11/17/54 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Courtney, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Mathies Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.D. Lauder Foreman - M.F. Florjancic

CAUSE fall of roof dislodged trolley wire which fell on track rails creating arcing DETECT second shift crew walking to section heard and observed a fall ahead of them and saw arcing

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. track switches not bonded and crossbonds not installed; one bond missing from track; inadequate circuit breaker

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials in fallen roof AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS production resumed on midnight shift

No. 84

No. 1 Mine

Report of Conveyor Belt Fire

Fire discovered 190' inby the main drift opening on conveyor belt under a roof fall. Water arrived by 6:00 A.M. and Phillipi Fire Dept. water applied from inby. Shay, P.M., MESA Birmingham, 3 pp.

DATE 11/19/54 TIME 5:00A DUR. 3 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 800 TPD 24/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Phillippi, Barbour, W. Virginia OWN. Compass Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.S. Mathews

CAUSE (probably) caused by a roof fall which created a short in an energized control cable from sequence roller switch to panel DETECT by arriving belt maintenance man

EXT. EFF. water from storage tank and from fire dept. PREV. poor inspection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 160' of belt & several pans & rollers PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 85

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred within 10' of the main mine portal and was discovered by co-owner walking towards the surface. A fall of roof had crushed conductors of cable together and it burst into flame igniting crossbars as well. Co-owner returned to face and led men out escapeway. They returned to portal, obtained help (10 miles away) and put out fire. Rejones, J.A., Harrison, L.H., MESA Birmingham, 3 pp.

DATE 12/6/54 TIME 1:00P DUR. 14 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Black Creek

HT. 27 in. SIZE 30 TPD 6/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Empire, Walker, Alabama OWN. Troy L. Bowen Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fall of roof caused cable to dislodge and weight of fall crushed conductors together causing a high resistance short DETECT by co-owner checking for amount of coal in bin

EXT. EFF. help obtained from neighboring company PREV. no equipment

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, timber AGENT water, beating, outloading EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS 19 sets of crossbars, some lagging and 20' of triple-conductor cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 86

Valley Camp No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Haulage)

Fire occurred near intersection of room entry and main haulageway at shift change. A haulage accident had occurred and as derailed mine car was being rerailed, a steel crossbar became dislodged and contacted trolley wire to car igniting coal in the car. Rock dust was applied to contain the fire until the chemical truck arrived. Symons, W.J., MESA Birmingham, 5 pp.

DATE 12/9/54 TIME 3:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 54 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 283/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D.S. Cunningham Saf. Dir. - M.J. Mechling

CAUSE short occurred when steel crossbar was dislodged and contacted trolley wire and loaded mine car being rerailed DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied until chemical truck arrived PREV. adequate; power circuit not properly sectionalized

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. Utility vehicle

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 87

Suntrana Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire boss discovered fire in No. 2 section and notified superintendent who notified Federal officials and went to obtain water hose and pump. Crew applied rock dust while waiting and then realized sealing was best effort so material and equipment removed (fire in gob area behind a battery) and area sealed 12/15/54. Ellis, Ray L., MESA Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 12/10/54 TIME 10:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 1 & No. 2

HT. 50'&27' SIZE 600 TPD 30/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Suntrana Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by fire boss

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied while water being obtained PREV. not well dusted; abandoned areas not sealed

RESC. equipment and rails removed

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 87-b

Suntrana Mine

Mine Fire

At time of sealing fire of 12/15/54, plans were made to backfill one chute because of possible leaks. On 10/4/55, writer was called and alerted to possibility of one bulkhead giving way under pressure. Writer went to mine and found superintendent and assistant underground with no protection or test equipment. He made ascertation that no gases were being emitted. Ellis, Ray L., MESA Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/4/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. President - Mr. Swalling

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 88

Williams Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Fire occurred when boom of loading machine contacted energized trolley wire and sparks ignited waste materials in connecting mine car. Direct attacks used to extinguish fire unsuccessful and fire area was sealed. Explosion occurred 12/23/54 blowing out some stoppings and fire area then isolated by flooding. Fire area opened 10/28/55 and resealed; reopened 11/4/55 and the area explored and ventilated; equipment recovered. Estep, Roy C., MESA Morgantow, 8 pp.

DATE 12/21/54 TIME 11:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 6000 TPD
270/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nora,
Harrison,
W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.B. Kebblish
Foreman - O.F. Allen
Saf. Dir. - A.J. Johnson

CAUSE boom of loading machine contacted energized trolley wire and sparks ignited waste material in mine car DETECT discovered by mechanic and wireman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers, water, seals, flooding PREV. flammable waste material taken into working area in unclosed mine car; water hose not available nearby

RESC. men were evacuated to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL oily rags, paper, wooden crates AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers, EQUIP. mine car

EFF. seals, flooding
No, No,
No, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive, man trip cars, track rails and power wires PROD. LOSS operations resumed 1/19/55

No. 89

Knight Mine

Report of Conveyor Belt Fire

Belts were stopped at end of day shift. Two machinemen and helpers discovered fire with difficulty after first smelling burning rubber. They notified superintendent who arrived, started ventilating fan, erected 2 stoppings, and fire was put out with water, rock dust, and chemical extinguishers. Chemox breathing apparatus used during fire-fighting. Reay, T.T., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 12/29/54 TIME 8:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Gilson

HT. 108 in. SIZE 750 TPD 12/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Coal Creek Canyon, Carbon, Utah OWN. Knight Ideal Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Arthur Carlson

CAUSE stuck roller near the tail piece DETECT smoke smelled by work crew and traced to fire

EXT. EFF. superintendent supervised fire fighting consisting of turning ventilation on, erecting stoppings and application of water and rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 125' of belt PROD. LOSS. little

No. 90

Mine # 2

Letter to Bureau of Mines, Pitt., Pa.

A gob fire in a pair of sealed-off entries in the air course close to the bottom of the main shaft burned for 48 hrs. before it was decided to seal and abandon the mine because the fire was too difficult to fight by hand. The air shaft was filled with clay and main hoist shaft closed with reinforced concrete. Bourman, Carl, MESA Denver HSAC, 1 pp.

DATE 1/4/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. Knoxville Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire-fighting materials had to be relayed by hand; airway was covered in and hoist shaft closed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal, gob AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS Mine abandoned

No. 91

Golden Ridge No. 92

Report of Shuttle Car Fire

Operator left shuttle car energized parked and went to take locomotive and car to ingoing crew. When he returned he detected smoke. He retreated to wait, thinking the cable had blown up. Section foreman detected smoke and withdrew inby men. He and assistant foreman and operator then approached shuttle car, applied rock dust and extinguisher on car. Eiduke, W.C., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 1/5/55 TIME 9:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 30-48 in. SIZE 2330 TPD, 23 sections, 367/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Monterville, Randolph, W. Virginia OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - W.L. Shaw, Foreman - E.S. Starr, Saf. Dir. - James Cool

CAUSE short circuit in splice on trailing cable reel DETECT upon return to parked shuttle car

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied and dry chemical extinguisher mounted on shuttle car was emptied PREV. poor splicing and housekeeping

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. Shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS 100' trailing cable, 1 rubber tire PROD. LOSS. 1 hr.

No. 92

Kildee No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Manager, during pre-shift examination, detected smoke at bottom of man-shaft. He resurfaced and with 2 others, entered main air shaft 1 mile away. Fire was found just inby the fan, which was inby the shaft. They went out to shut the fan down and switch off 2300 volt power when the fire burned insulation, causing shorts and melting the fuses: power failure. Fire department brought equipment. Douglas, S.J., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 1/7/55 TIME 6:00A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 5

HT. 52 in. SIZE 250 TPD, 22/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Canton, Fulton, Illinois OWN. Pschirrer & Sons Coal Co. PERS. Manager - George Pschirrer

CAUSE fan power cables short circuited DETECT during pre-shift

EXT. EFF. by mine employees using fire department equipment PREV. very good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, combustibles AGENT water, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 93

King Mine

Report of Incipient Mine Fire

Crewman during exam at end of shift scented burning odor in right pillars where previous caves had occurred. He notified officials upon reaching surface. They went to affected area and found .02 CO being liberated, a blue haze, and burning odor. Brattice cloth stoppings, two 3/4" hose with spray nozzles directed down on cave, and rock dust applied hp continuously. Roof bolted and material loaded out (slow). Reay, T.T., MESA Denver HSAC, 5 pp.

DATE 1/13/55 TIME 1:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 6-28' SIZE 2100 TPD 133/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hiawatha, Carbon, Utah OWN. U.S. Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - T.C. Jackson Foreman - Sheffon Gordon

CAUSE spontaneous combustion caused by slip friction heat DETECT at end of day shift

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, sealing PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous heating FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. section operations disrupted

No. 94

Virginia No. 14

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Three left belt conveyor stopped unexplicably. Assistant foreman traced line to dense smoke. He went back through air lock doors. Smoke had not left fire area sufficient to affect main air current so he led men out 2 left belt entry (worked out). The men returned to fire area once outby through 4 entry. Belt on fire around drive pulleys - extinguished with CO2, chemicals, CCL4 and rock dust. Brown, W.D., MESA Denver HSAC.

DATE 1/19/55 TIME 5:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 44 in. SIZE 600 TPD 59/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Heshbon, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Crichton Coal and Coke Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof rock fell and wedged between roof and discharge pulley DETECT upon investigation of belt stopping

EXT. EFF. CCL4 extinguishers, rock dust, powder, CO2 PREV. no belt slippage protection; roof not adequately supported

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust, powder, CO2, CCL4 EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 20' belt PROD. LOSS production lost during fire and repair

No. 95

Pond Creek Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire boss started conversion equipment and began pre-shift. He detected smoke at 1st north and notified foreman, who, with 3 other men, assisted in putting out the fire. Mine had been idle all week-end. Dupree, C.H., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 2/14/55 TIME 5:30A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 85/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Drakesboro, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. Beech Creek Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - T.B. Bandy Gen. Mgr. - Raymond Kirkpatrick

CAUSE short circuit in electric light socket in wooden frame supply car - got damp over week-end DETECT during pre-shift

EXT. EFF. CO2 and rock dust PREV. inadequate circuit breaker

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. Utility vehicle

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS utility vehicle and some cable PROD. LOSS. little

---

No. 96

No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire boss and 3 man supply crew during work smelled smoke. They travelled 2700 ft. to air shaft and went to call foreman 1 mile away. He and superintendent supervised fire-fighting according to company plan and had fire out by 10:15 A.M. The burnt metal was outloaded and normal operations resumed for day shift at 7:30 A.M. the following day. Henderson, F.H., MESA Denver HSAC.

DATE 3/8/55 TIME 5:40A DUR. 4½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 44 in. SIZE 800 TPD 87/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Marybill, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Panther Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Burke Johnson Foreman - J.C. Baker

CAUSE assumed electric light bulbs touching wooden telephone pole or fine coal dust at belt tailpiece smoldering DETECT during supply shift, crew smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. rock dust, pump set up and water applied PREV. good

RESC. men escaped through airway

IG. electrical or spontaneous FUEL insulation, coal, dust, rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 400' of belt, 15 pans, tailpiece, speed reducer and a 5 horsepower motor PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 97

Caney Creek

Report of Coal Mine Fire

During normal loading operations, machine had trammed 20 ft. outby the face when cable ruptured and burst into flames. Men were withdrawn and officials supervised the putting out of the fire by 4:30 A.M. Dupree, C.H., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 3/29/55 TIME 2:30A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. 66 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 145/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Drakesboro, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. Kirkpatrick Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - O.L. Bullock Foreman - Sam Roger

CAUSE arc from ruptured splice in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and chemical extinguishers PREV. inadequate circuit breaker

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hyd. fluid, oily surface of machine AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. Loader

EQUIP. LOSS serious damage to loading machine PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 98

Kings Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Power had failed earlier in day and night foreman and faceboss travelled inby to restart pumps at 5:00 P.M. (idle). They noticed fluctuating power. Power failed. Men on surface noticed smoke and tried to call two men underground. They were on intake side of the fire and could not locate it until they arrived back at main shaft bottom landing. They put it out quickly with extinguishers. Douglas, S.J., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 4/16/55 TIME 5:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 5

HT. 72 in. SIZE 3300 TPD 245/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Princeton, Gibson, Indiana OWN. Princeton Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Placide Mayeur

CAUSE power lines shorting burned through insulation, resulting arc ignited oil vapors and insulation DETECT power failed

EXT. EFF. extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil vapors AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS transformer, lightning arrestors, neighbor's t.v., utility moved pole PROD. LOSS NS

No. 99

Wanamie Colliery No. 18 & 19 Mines

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A rock air shaft was used to fill with breaker refuse after a false bottom was built 30' down. Fire was discovered 12 noon and was fought with water from hydrant, material outloaded. Some removed, heat became intense, and water was applied again from pump in nearby stream. False bottom collapsed. Fire was reported out by 5/3/55 after continuous water application. Retsel, F., Fortney, G.W., MESA Denver HSAC, 3 pp.

DATE 5/1/55 TIME 12:00P DUR. 11 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Top Baltimore

HT. NS in. SIZE 3121 TPD 489/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wanamie, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Alden Corp. PERS. Supt. - John Zimmerman Foreman - Edward Richards

CAUSE source of ignition undetermined, maybe hot ashes dumped on combustible refuse in shaft DETECT discovered by happenstance

EXT. EFF. water applied until shaft bottom collapsed, then more water applied until fire out PREV. shaft should never been used to dump refuse

RESC. N/A

IG. hot ashes FUEL rubbish AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. mine idle until 5/12/55

No. 100

Isabelle Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

At 7:30 A.M. 7 men became ill and were removed. During inspection 8:00 P.M. section foreman overcome. Federal inspectors in process of normal inspection discovered CO in high enough quantity to issue withdrawal. 7:00 P.M. resident from 4 miles away reported smoke issuing from abandoned, connected shaft. Decision to seal underground or partially at shaft agonizing. Finally go ahead and rescue team sealed worked out section. Chastain, G.W., Lyons, W.L., MESA Denver HSAC, 8 pp.

DATE 5/9/55 TIME 7:30A DUR. 9 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 8 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3100 TPD 370/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Isabella, Fayette Pennsylvania OWN. Weirton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.N. McLellan Foreman - G.M. Raymond

CAUSE wooden lining of abandoned shaft ignited by burning debris set by local residents DETECT local resident reported smoke

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. very good but shaft should have been sealed

RESC. NS

IG. burning trash FUEL timber, coal, gob, trash AGENT sealing EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 9 days

No. 101

Bear Valley West Rock Slope Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Adjacent vein 3100 ft. east had fire burning several years. (No. 8½ Bear Valley Colliery - abandoned - Phil. & Reading Coal & Iron Co.). Workmen had been setting timber in tunnel previous day. No shots had been fired as stated. After cutting set 5/12, workmen entered mine at 9:30 and discovered fire. Attempt made to put out fire with buckets of water. Pump set up 5/15 to no avail. Area sealed after 5/19. Benson, N.M., Fortney, G.W., Retsel, F., Bowling, V.H., MESA Denver HSAC, 5 pp.

DATE 5/12/55 TIME 9:30A DUR. 7 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 8 TPD 3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Trevorton, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. D & P Coal Co. PERS. Operator - Manuel Pelayo

CAUSE UNK DETECT upon entering mine to erect timber set

EXT. EFF. first buckets of water, then a pump installed 5/15/55 to fight directly PREV. poor blasting procedure; open flame lamps used; inadequate fire-fighting provisions

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None, equipment recovered before sealing PROD. LOSS. 7 days+

No. 102

Graham Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Pumper discovered smoke and notified foreman who cut off electric power. Crew entered mine and could not approach fire because of smoke. They returned to surface, reversed ventilation, and waited for State and Federal Inspectors. They inspected area and decided to put fire out directly. Rock dust applied, material outloaded to expose fire, and water lines installed. Timbering was required. Much roof fell and a sprayer built to fight from distance. Quenon, E.E., Dupree, C.H., Douglas, S.J. MESA Denver HSAC, 7 pp.

DATE 5/23/55 TIME 6:00A DUR. 6½ days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 58 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 219/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Graham, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. W.G. Duncan Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Harold Ford Foreman - Floyd Brown

CAUSE roof fall on electrical trans. wires DETECT pumper upon arrival near fire

EXT. EFF. 600 man shifts required to rock dust, hose, build timber sets, crib the sets, build and use spraying device and outload material PREV. Good but power left on during idle periods

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 7 days or more

No. 103

Dun Glen No. 11

Report of Mine Fire (Loading Machine)

Fire was discovered on loading machine. Employees in area affected left the mine. Fire truck brought up and men with rescuers and gas masks fought the fire directly. Mine personnel well trained - prevented major fire. Buswink, W.J., MESA Denver HSAC, 5 pp.

DATE 5/24/55 TIME 3:55P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 196/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dun Glen, Jefferson, Ohio OWN. Hanna Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Joe Turkal Saf. Dir. - Ewalt Herzog

CAUSE short circuit in defective wiring, or overheating of resistor grids, which ignited accumulated coal dust, and oil in fuse compartment DETECT man trip entering section

EXT. EFF. water applied directly PREV. poor housekeeping

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust, oil AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. Loader

EQUIP. LOSS electrical controls, hydraulic hose of loading machine PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 104

No. 32 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

A belt installation was only remaining equipment in worked out section. Slippage controls had been removed, and foreman had made a splice preparatory to removing section of belt without operation. Two supply crewmen sent to remove 10 pans and leave near installation. They left at 1:30. At 2:15 P.M. a maintenance man discovered the fire on operating belt. Superintendent, foremen and 4 men extinguished. Hyde, C.E., Hager, D.R., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 5/31/55 TIME 2:15P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Darby

HT. 24-34 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 122/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Kenvir, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - George Ledford Foreman - Foister Siler

CAUSE operation of fouled belt DETECT maintenance man travelling nearby

EXT. EFF. 3 soda acid, 3½ gallon fire extinguishers, 1000 lbs. of rock dust and 50 gallons of water PREV. no slippage control

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, belt AGENT water, rock dust, soda-acid EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 6' of burned belt PROD. LOSS None

No. 105

Clyde Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Power went off at 8:15 P.M. Pumpman walked outby towards junction and found that fall had produced arcing trolley wire. He ran and discovered trolley switch - tried to extinguish unsuccessfully. He got to junction 9:15 P.M. Pumpman overcome by smoke, taken home. Assistant foreman and several men travelled through intake, reached fire at 10:05 and extinguished shortly. Kirk, R.J., MESA Denver HSAC, 4 pp.

DATE 6/1/55 TIME 8:15P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 5300 TPD 576/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - William Adamson Foreman - Harry Anderson

CAUSE fall of roof dislodged steel beam and trolley wire from several hangars DETECT by pumpman

EXT. EFF. men travelled intake carrying water and rock dust PREV. adequate - unsupported roof needs to be timbered in this section

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. little

No. 106

Osage No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Butt entry belt caught fire 1½ hours after last check. It had been tightened previous night due to slippage. Centrifugal switches not operating. Fire fought with low pressure water and rock dusting which could not reach the immediate fire because of smoke. Air changes were made to no avail except to locate the fire. Area sealed temporarily and permanently by 6/6/55. Estep, R.C., MESA Denver HSAC, 8 pp.

DATE 6/3/55 TIME 6:30A DUR. 3½ days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 86 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 270/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cassville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Harold Suter Saf. Dir. - Robert Longridge

CAUSE slippage, electrical-ground or short circuit DETECT day shift man trip arrived

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, sealing PREV. inadequate fire-fighting provisions

RESC. Foreman took locomotive on through smoke to retrieve 2 mechanics at face; equipment recovered from face area inby seals after seals opened 9/17/55

IG. electrical - friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, No, seals Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 600' of belt and assembly, belthead (pulley, motor, reduction gear and tail pulley) PROD. LOSS mine shut down until 9/20/55

No. 106-b

Osage No. 3

Letter to Bureau of Mines From Personnel Manager

Fire occurred on belt conveyor (of undetermined origin). The mine was sealed. HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 6/3/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - Harold C. Suter
Pers. Mgr. - John Carder

CAUSE UNK DETECT unamed party

EXT. EFF. mine sealed PREV. NS

RESC. all men called out

IG. electrical (?) FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT sealing EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 107

Maude No. 6

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Carbon monoxide from abandoned workings on right side of mine made an unspecified number of men ill, alerting mine officials to fire. Carbon monoxide finally detected and decision made to seal the area. Turner, Everett, HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 6/6/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 66 in. SIZE 400 TPD
36/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Treveskyn,
Allegheny,
Pennsylvania OWN. Charles E. Cambell PERS. Foreman - Joseph Patnesky

CAUSE probably a gob pile fire heated coal 30 to 40 ft. below through surface cracks causing fire in abandoned mine adjacent DETECT men became ill

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. poor ventilation

RESC. N/A

IG. direct heating or combustion FUEL coal, gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 7 days

No. 108

Royal No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Mine being inspected preparatory to reopening (idle since 3/23). Two mechanics working moving cable shuttle car to shop out of section being abandoned. Fire broke out in oil slick from cable. Men tried rock dust then went for help. Officials and crew fought fire until 5:00 A.M. then sealing was only recourse (had already begun). Reay, T.T., Denver HSAC, 6 pp.

DATE 6/20/55 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Castlegate "D"

HT. 11' SIZE 1050 TPD 98/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Royal, Carbon, Utah OWN. Royal Coal Co. PERS. President - Paul Shields

CAUSE arc from blown out trailing cable on shuttle car ignited film of oil over pool of water DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire brought under control at certain places with rock dust, water and dry chemicals, but rib of 4 & 5 entries continued to burn PREV. inadequate in general

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL oil slick AGENT rock dust, powder, seals EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. locomotive, shuttle car, mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS As of 7/1, 2 locomotives, shuttle car, mining machine & transformers within sealed area PROD. LOSS. Until 7/1/55

No. 109

No. 2 Mine

Final Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire broke out during idle period. Cable left energized during holiday and fall of coal caused overheating. Foreman discovered and returned to surface for help. Fan operated blowing and exhausting at various phases of extinguishing. Steam and heat caused constant caving and much timbering required. Water applied throughout from adjacent mine, through 1-5 adaptor and sisk device for internal flooding of rib. Hyde, C.E., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 7/4/55 TIME 10:00P DUR. 7 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 60 in. SIZE 215 TPD 25/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hyden, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Morgan Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Cecil Runyon President - G.C. Morgan

CAUSE fall of roof or rib roll on machine cable that was spliced into A.C. transmission wires DETECT foreman entered to check water and start pump

EXT. EFF. fire isolated by making open space between it and ribs adjacent. Sisk device drove water deep into ribs. Material not outloaded PREV. adequate, but smoking was practiced

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 3 weeks

No. 110

Williams River No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire occurred at a belthead installation 1200 ft. outby the faces. Belt stoppage alerted foreman and electrician and they found the fire themselves after failing to reach anyone by phone. Power to the belthead was removed and some rock dust was applied. Ventilation changes effected and after smoke cleared, rock dust and extinguishers were used. Marshalek, J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/5/55 TIME 7:00P DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1300 TPD 136/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cowen, Webster, W. Virginia OWN. Gauley Mountain Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - S.S. Clarke Foreman - Randall Bragg

CAUSE piece of belting torn loose near a splice caught by leg of belt stand stopping belt against drive pulley DETECT foreman and electrician discovered smoke in belt entry

EXT. EFF. power pulled upon discovering fire and 3 bags of rock dust applied, 1 extinguisher inoperative PREV. adequate, but 2 out of 6 chemical extinguishers inoperative

RESC. Men withdrawn through No. 9 intake

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 180' of 30" belt and portion of belthead PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 111

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by two partners in the company that operated the mine. The area was isolated by sealing, however, mining operations continued throughout the process. Smith, F.J., 4 pp.

DATE 7/9/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Mammoth

HT. 72 in. SIZE 225 TPD 14 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Knoxville, Marion, Iowa OWN. Lovilia Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT smoke detected by 2 partners of the company

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. rock dusting inadequate; smoking was permitted; barrels of oil stored in open; trailing cables not properly protected

RESC. None - mining operations continued throughout the sealing period

IG. spontaneous FUEL NS AGENT sealing EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 112

No. 34 Mine

Mine Fire

Shuttle car parked near nip for lunch break. Section foreman inby heard "pop" and started for shuttle car, but was driven back by smoke. He retreated to fresh, directed employee to get extinguisher and approached fire from intake. He removed power and put fire out with water. Vickers, W.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 7/11/55 TIME 7:45P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Bishop, Tazewell, Virginia OWN. Pocahontas Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE faulty splice DETECT immediately after hearing "pop"

EXT. EFF. power removed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, power removed, EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes Yes

EQUIP. LOSS entire cable reel PROD. LOSS. None

No. 113

No. 8 Mine

Report of Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Crew finished place, moved machine to crosscut and went for lunch, leaving fuse nip on power wire. At their return, they encountered dense smoke and fire from the machine. They erected a line curtain, got help and put the fire out with water. DeWeese, R.C., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/19/55 TIME 8:30 P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 82/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Burnwell, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Imperial Colliery Co. PERS. Supt. - A.L. Clark Foreman - Lyle Willis

CAUSE arc from blown out trailing cable ignited grease and coal dust (short in energized cable containing several poor splices) DETECT upon returning from lunch break

EXT. EFF. line curtain erected, help obtained, fire fought with (portable pump and line) water PREV. loose coal and dust accumulations; inadequate rock dusting

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, dust, hyd. fluid, grease AGENT water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 114

Huenue No. 2

Fire was discovered in the entrance of 2nd hill, lightning had struck the wire and entered lightning arrestor blowing it up. This ignited the timbers, arrestor was mounted on. Fire was immediately put out and area cleaned and rock dusted. HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 7/25/55 TIME NS DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Leechburg, Pennsylvania OWN. Leechburg Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE lightning DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. lightning FUEL timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 115

No. 10 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

This mine plagued by spontaneous gob fires. During third shift, repairman smelled smoke, discovered fall of roof and rock in a room. In this case, it was decided to seal the area. Five seals required as 1 room turned from another. Temporary seals up by 9:00 A.M. Belt removed from panel as had all equipment been trammed out. Permanent seals up 8/16. O'Connor, J.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/3/55 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 90 in. SIZE 17,000 TPD 570/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pawnee, Sangamon, Illinois OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.M. Carney Saf. Dir. - L.H. Johnson

CAUSE incipient gob fire of spontaneous origin DETECT during shift, smoke smelled

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal, gob AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 2 shifts

No. 128

No. 1 Mine

Report of Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Shuttle car travelling from dump to face ran over its trailing cable. Arc ignited fires and grease and oil-soaked coal dust and remaining cable on reel. Operator checked c.b. and found it tripped. Foreman instructed operator to get extinguisher from dump. He notified others who vacated the mine. Fire fought with extinguishers until smoke too dense. Line curtain helped extinguish and rock dust extinguished. Bosley, J.G., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/27/55 TIME 6:00P DUR. 4½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Cedar Grove

HT. 50 in. SIZE 800 TPD 46/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Glenalum, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Ames Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.V. Poore Foreman - D. Perry

CAUSE shuttle car ran over trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. first 1 extinguisher applied, then line curtain erected and rock dust and more extinguishers applied PREV. poor cable protection; poor housekeeping

RESC. men travelled return to outside

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil & grease soaked dust AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car damaged PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 129

Isabella Mine

Report of Fire in Repair Shop

Fire broke out in repair pit after cutter bar had been welded up at saddle post. Crew broke for lunch and a few minutes later heard a strange noise and found pit aflame. Smoke prevented enactment of fire plan involving opening and closing of trap doors. Some men at face exposed to smoke, but removed. Crew leader removed cutter. Fire put out with rock dust. Lyons, W.L., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/31/55 TIME 4:20A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 369/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Isabella, Fayette, Pennsylvania OWN. Weirton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.N. McLellan Foreman - Glen Raymond

CAUSE spark from welding ignited oil and grease DETECT men on lunch break heard noise

EXT. EFF. extinguishers did not operate; rock dust put flame out and water doused coals PREV. adequate; oil and grease built up too much

RESC. men removed only by voluntary action of (affected section) foreman

IG. spark FUEL timber, oil, grease AGENT water, rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 130

Shannopin Mine

Report of Electrical Feeder Cable Fire

Shuttle car pinched sagging feeder cable to rib, tearing insulation and igniting cable and hydraulic hose. Smoke carried to face where 5 men were working. They escaped through return; 1 hospitalized 10 days. Power removed, mechanic crawled under smoke and extinguished fire with water. Yuhase, M.A., Krek, R.I., Hilderbrand, F.R., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/1/55 TIME 1:45A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 90 in. SIZE 2700 TPD 255/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Bobtown, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE shuttle car pinched feeder cable of cont. miner against rib DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. mechanic crawled to fire and put it out by uncoupling hose of sprinkler system PREV. no circuit breaker

RESC. men inby escaped through return

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS 30' of feeder cable, some power cable and hydraulic hose PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 131

Sandmann Mine

Mine Fire

Microfilm not readable

HSAC Denver

DATE NS TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS NS INJ. NS SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. William Sandmann - Operator PERS. Foreman - Roy Wheeler

CAUSE NS DETECT during fire boss inspection

EXT. EFF. Sealing PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. explosives FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 132

Warren-McClain Mine

Letter Report: Mine Fire in Warren-McClain Mine

Two shots fired with black powder 11/5. No check for fire and fire was discovered 11/6. Materials obtained 11/7 and slope sealed. Bradford, R.D., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 11/5/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS NS INJ. NS SEAM Lower Hartshore

HT. 48 in. SIZE 1 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Chilli, Oklahoma OWN. Warren & McClain Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - John Warren

CAUSE poor blasting safety DETECT following day

EXT. EFF. sealing of slope PREV. black powder used

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL timber, coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. chute

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS wooden chute PROD. LOSS. 36 days

No. 133

Misco No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Smoke detected by 5 men repairing cont. miner. Mine was idle. Section foreman went to de-energize power for suspected area. He returned for men through dense smoke and met them on outby side of intake after they had travelled 1500' through smoke. Section foreman found fire of cable and sawed posts and loaded it onto conveyor to water line where he put the fire out. Area rock dusted after detection. Callahan, J.T., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 11/12/55 TIME 6:50A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Middle Kittanning

HT. 44 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 270/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Misco, Perry, Ohio OWN. Jones Motor Sales, Inc. PERS. Foreman - John Rosser

CAUSE breakdown of insulation - power left "on" on idle day DETECT smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. section foreman loaded burning material onto belt to water line PREV. insufficient self-rescuers; poor splicing; inadequate circuit breaker

RESC. 4 men travelled 1500' through intake filled with smoke. Observed at hospital (1 for 7 days)

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 134

Buck Lick Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Fire was discovered day after firing 4 shots using coal dust as stemming. Poor communications, poor equipment contributed to difficulty in putting fire out. Mine had been abandoned in 1936 and brothers were extracting pillars, never inspected previously. Stiles, Wilbur, Neal, Jr., J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 11/16/55 TIME 8:00A DUR. 9 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Glen Mary

HT. 34 in. SIZE 12 TPD
1 shift METH. Conv.

LOC. Robbins,
Scott,
Tennessee OWN. Young Bros. Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - evidence covered by fall of roof DETECT following day after firing 4 shots

EXT. EFF. first water by hand, then air cleared with great difficulty, then area flooded using dams of wood and clay PREV. poor; smoking permitted; dry mine; open flame lights, coal dust for stemming blast holes

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 135

McCurtain Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Dense smoke and roof falls hampered fire-fighting (water from hose and rock dust by hand) until mine was sealed at portals 11/18 at 5:20 A.M. Explosion rocked main shaft 2/3/56 and seals rebuilt. Bradford, R.D., Deak, M., HSAC Denver, 11 pp.

DATE 11/17/55 TIME 9:40P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 900 TPD
190/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. McCurtain,
Haskell,
Oklahoma OWN. Lone Star Steel Co. PERS. Supt. - Cambell Cameron
Foreman - Leo Robertson
Saf. Dir. - B.L. Curry

CAUSE either slippage of belt or short circuit at transfer point DETECT belt stopped

EXT. EFF. 2 inch water line used and rock dust applied but heat and smoke and bad roof forced sealing PREV. good; no slippage controls on belt conveyors

RESC. all men inby escaped through return

IG. electrical or friction FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, rock dust, sealing EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS complete

No. 144

Gorgas No. 4 Opening

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Discharge end of shuttle car raised into contact with d.c. power cable causing arc which ignited tire, cable and greasy dust on car. Power deenergized in 10 minutes and fire put out directly. Ten men in immediate area not affected. Guthrie, Arthur, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/10/56 TIME 10:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM America

HT. 54-60 in. SIZE 7200 TPD 410/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Gorgas, Walker, Alabama OWN. Alabama Power Co. PERS. Supt. - J.A. Hagey

CAUSE shuttle car contacted 250-v. d.c. power cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. took 10 minutes to get to nip and deenergize, then fire put out quickly PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT NS EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable, 2 rubber tire, slight damage to shuttle car PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 145

No. 72 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Mine idle during week-end. Previous two shifts had inspection of area. During 2nd shift examination, foreman and mechanic riding 5 left belt heard fall and told waiting mechanic to investigate. He found fire immediately inby air lock door and went for assistance. Fire put out by 6:00 P.M. Null, V.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/11/56 TIME 5:00P DUR. 1 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 40 in. SIZE 3389 TPD 581/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Johnstown, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Foreman - James Kelly

CAUSE probably rock fall on belt caused frictional ignition of same, all evidence removed before investigation DETECT mechanic discovered fire

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt and some rollers PROD. LOSS NS

No. 146

No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Short occurred and operator notified foreman. State officials in mine investigating 2/9/56 fire assisted in erecting line brattice and applying rock dust and chemical extinguishers. Kopp, A.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/13/56 TIME 10:30A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 5

HT. 54 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 96/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Marion, Williamson, Illinois OWN. Blue Bird Coal Co. PERS. Mgr. - Emil Choissier

CAUSE short in power wires to cutting motor - no short protection at nip DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical and rock dust applied PREV. adequate

RESC. All men removed except fire-fighters

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil, insulation, rubber, dust, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electrical wiring, hydraulic system, left rear tire of machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 147

Alexander No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Carbide Gas) Ignition

Mining machine operator and helper were burned on the face when operator opened metal container containing black pellet explosives (with carbide for moisture absorption) and carbide gas ignited. Flames burned out and 2 men went to surface unassisted. Reardon, J.C., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/14/56 TIME 2:30P DUR. 1/10 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM No. 6

HT. 50 in. SIZE 15 TPD 4/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Moore's Junction, Perry, Ohio OWN. Wilson Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Andrew Wilson

CAUSE use of open-flame lamps and practice of placing carbide with pellet explosives (carbide gas ignited) DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. flame burnt out PREV. open-flame lamps and smoking permitted, no self-rescuers

RESC. N/A

IG. explosion FUEL gas, explosives AGENT burnt out EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 3 shifts

No. 148

Pike View

Fire boss discovered fire. Mine sealed (3 openings). Hardesty, M.

DATE 2/20/56 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Colorado OWN. Pikes Peak Fuel Co. PERS. Fire boss - Tony Guadagnoli

CAUSE NS DETECT discovered by fire boss

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT seals EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 149

Maryland No. 1 Shaft

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Wire down and broken during 2nd shift. Note left for day shift motor boss that power had been cut off and to repair wire, and 3rd shift told not to place any more loaded cars in this entry. At 2:15 haulage crew entered section with load and encountered smoke. Cars pulled out and fire fought by foreman and crew. Moore, James A., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 2/22/56 TIME 2:15A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 2400 TPD 362/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. St. Michael, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Berwind-White Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - W.R. Woodall Foreman - John Ocilka Saf. Dir. - George Hobba

CAUSE trolley wire lying on, near or swinging against old pipeline lying along the entry caused arcs igniting wooden door DETECT upon entering section during 3rd shift

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguisher used once ventilation changes cleared air sufficiently. Water car could not be brought up close PREV. poor trolley wire hanging, adequate fighting measures

RESC. all men except fire-fighters removed

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber (door) AGENT powder EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 150

No. 72 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Cutting motor overspeeding, was repaired and used on 3rd shift when flash occurred. Operator went to disconnect and helper used extinguisher but retreated due to dense smoke. Crew assembled, line brattice erected, fire hose connected and fire put out. Coleman, J.D., Null, V.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/28/56 TIME 5:00A DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 40 in. SIZE 3389 TPD 581/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Johnstown, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Face foreman - David R. Lewis

CAUSE repeated flexing of cable broke conductors causing short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. helper attempted to extinguish with 1 extinguisher but required help. Water line connected. PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine heavily damaged PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 151

Viking Mine

Buggy ran over loader cable, it shorted and caught buggy tire on fire. Several men overcome by smoke. The fire was put out with rock dust, extinguishers, and water. HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 3/15/56 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Terre Haute, Vigo, Indiana OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE short in run-over cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, extinguishers, and water PREV. NS

RESC. several men overcome by smoke

IG. electrical FUEL rubber AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. loader, utility vehicle

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes.

EQUIP. LOSS tire of buggy PROD. LOSS NS

No. 152

Concord No. 1

Report of Fatal Coal Mine Accident (Trailing Cable Fire)

One roof bolter killed and one injured working in return airway just outby the face when trailing cable fire exposed them to smoke and fumes for 3-5 minutes. Fire extinguished with small amount of rock dust. Rejonis, Joe A., HSAC Denver, 11 pp.

DATE 4/5/56 TIME 3:05P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 1 INJ. 1 SEAM America

HT. 80 in. SIZE 13,694 TPD 627/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Concord, Jefferson, Alabama OWN. Tennessee Coal and Iron Division, USS Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.G. Creveling Foreman - E.J. Files Saf. Dir. - D.A. Cantley

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable on mining machine reel. DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. small amount of rock dust PREV. safe mine; letter of the law application

RESC. roof bolters headed for fresh air just as workman went to look for them; fatally injured bolter collapsed soon after entering fresh air

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 1' of trailing cable in 2 places; 200' replaced PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 153

Allen Mine

Trailing Cable Fire at Allen Mine

Shuttle car trailing cable shorted out. Inspection on 4/25 revealed little as cable had been repaired 4/5 and replaced 4/9/56. Inspector discussed occurrence with operator. Dimitroff, A.Z., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/5/56 TIME 2:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Stonewall, Las Animas, Colorado OWN. Colorado Fuel and Iron Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE defective splice shorted - breaker out of order DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. circuit breakers known inoperative

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS 3-4' of cable PROD. LOSS little

No. 154

Valley Camp No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Mining Machine)

During night shift face cutting, cutter chain lodged in kerf. Machine men were trying to withdraw it when a fire started. CO2 in section tried unsuccessfully. Water from hose used to allay dust during cutting put fire out in 30 minutes. Callahan, J.T., Symons, W.J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/10/56 TIME 3:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2450 TPD 175/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D.S. Cunningham Foreman - Harold Littlehales Saf. Dir. - M.J. Mechling

CAUSE resistance became overheated as a result of repeated effort, to free cutter chain lodged in kerf - circuit breaker too high DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 tried, then water succeeded PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT CO2, water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 155

Virginia-Lee Mine

Mining Machine Fire

Short ignited hand cable and motor casing of shortwall machine. Prompt action prevented spread to coal rib. Betchey, G.M., HSAC Denver.

DATE 5/1/56 TIME 10:30A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Taggart No. 5

HT. 39 in. SIZE 250 TPD 50/1 Emp. METH. Shortwall

LOC. St. Charles, Lee, Virginia OWN. Virginia-Lee Co., Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit ignited cable and combustibles in motor casing, fuse did not blow DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. carbon tetrachloride extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, grease and oil AGENT CCL4 EQUIP. shortwall machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to mining machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 168

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

One man at face, one on surface. Man on surface went to enter mine and encountered smoke. He pulled power which extinguished fire and man inby came out unassisted. Henderson, F.H., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/12/56 TIME 1:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Big Eagle

HT. 36 in. SIZE 25 TPD 2/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Zela, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Ramsey Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - W.R. Ramsey

CAUSE temporary splice lying in water, no short circuit protection provided DETECT helper went to enter mine

EXT. EFF. self-extinguishing PREV. no fire-fighting equipment available; smoking practiced; carbide lamps used

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT cut power EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. little

No. 169

Misco No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Belt Conveyor Fire

Assistant foreman noticed belt stoppage and discovered fire at belthead. He cut power and extinguished the fire with rock dust. Callahan, J.T., Hilderbrand, F.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/15/56 TIME 5:20A DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 (Middle Kittanning)

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1500 TPD 95/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Misco, Perry, Ohio OWN. Simpson Coal and Chemical Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.J. Garges Foreman - Pearson Gibbs

CAUSE large piece of rock wedged between roof and belt DETECT during patrol stoppage of belt noticed

EXT. EFF. foreman applied rock dust after cutting power PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 170

Osage No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Fire

During transfer of face quipment, crewmen on way to deenergize all trailing cables, encountered smoke. They crossed into a parallel entry and went outby the fire where they met rest of crew. Section foreman instructed men to apply rock dust and obtained fire truck which with 80# pressure water, quickly extinguished the fire. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/20/56 TIME 7:45P DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 86 in. SIZE 7600 TPD 350/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Cassville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Warren Sharpenberg Saf. Dir. - James Magro

CAUSE roof fall caused energized trolley wire to contact rail - short not strong enough to trip breaker DETECT during transfer of face equipment men happened on the fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied until fire truck brought up PREV. very good - men well trained

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some trailing cable PROD. LOSS. None

No. 171

Arthurmine

Flash fire occurred out of auger hole. Davis, Roy H., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 10/22/56 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Lost Creek, W. Virginia OWN. Petitto Brothers PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. auger FUEL gas, coal AGENT NS EQUIP. auger

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 184

Rex. No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Accident occurred 1/11/57 at 11:15 A.M. No indication of fire at 4:30 P.M. by operator. Power not disconnected. All men had been withdrawn. Smoke observed at 2:00 P.M. Monday, found small fire and notified local fire department. Water pumped on fire, out by 3:00 P.M. Stiles, Wilbur, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/14/57 TIME 2:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Rex

HT. 34 in. SIZE 300 TPD 43/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. LaFollette, Campbell, Tennessee OWN. McPherson Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Eugene C. McPherson Foreman - James Troy Bruce

CAUSE runaway trip dislodged beams and 440 v power cable igniting coal and wooden lagging DETECT 3 days later

EXT. EFF. water pumped by fire department PREV. poor inspection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. hoist and utility vehicle

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. complete, mine will not be reopened

---

No. 185

Poplar Ridge Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Power wires on 11 RU blew up igniting hose and oil. Crew reported fire to section foreman and machine soon engulfed, smoke preventing fire-fighting. All men withdrawn except fire-fighters. Roof fall covered machine. Crosscut completed and air course opened enabling applications of water and rock dust. Henson, Newton M., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 1/17/57 TIME 8:00P DUR. 22 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 56 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 186/2 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Sturgis, Union, Kentucky OWN. Poplar Ridge Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit of power wires in distribution box DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. hampered until crosscut completed, then water and rock dust applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, hyd. fluid, timber AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cont. miner

EQUIP. LOSS cont. mining machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 186

Ditney Hill Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire started by a short circuit in an isolator type switch. The fire was extinguished with extinguishers, rock dust and water. McCune, James A., Douglas, Sanford J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/27/58 TIME 7:30P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 6

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 162/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elberfeld, Warrick, Indiana OWN. Ingle Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Ralph E. Whitman

CAUSE short circuit in the isolator type switch DETECT discovered by a main-line motorman

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, and water PREV. adequate

RESC. all men removed from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal, roof, wood AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS isolator switch, circuit breaker and 20 ft. of the 4/0 cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 187

No. 19 Mine Wanamie Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire broke out in inby end of sidetrack. Explosives cars removed, extra ventilation brought up and fire fought unsuccessfully with water. Fire spread to Top Baltimore Vein 2/2/57. Temporary and then permanent seals erected and surface stripped, boreholes drilled and sand and water flushed in. Withdrawal Order revised 2/15 to permit operations. Fortney, G.W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/30-2/20 1957 TIME 2:25P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Bottom Baltimore

HT. NS in. SIZE 2998 TPD 554 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wanamie, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Alden Corp. PERS. Supt. - Ivor L. Williams
Foreman - Edward Reese
Saf. Dir. - Oscar Keller

CAUSE falling materials caused short circuit in power wires DETECT footman discovered fire

EXT. EFF. using O2 breathing apparatus, men fought fire with water and erected seals PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water, seal EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS until 2/15/57

No. 188

No. 41

Report of Coal Mine Fire

After shuttle car carrier wrecked into timbers and fire began, mechanic crouched in locomotive deck to avoid arcing. ran to nip and deenergized trolley and feeder wires. Fire fought with extinguishers, rock dust, and buckets of water from inoperative fire truck. Material outloaded. Jones, J.E., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/30/57 TIME 7:50P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 7000 TPD 535/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Barrackville, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - C.M. Hoard

CAUSE derailed defective carrier dislodged 3 timber legs resulting in roof fall. A fallen steel "H" beam contacted energized trolley wires and angle iron touched track rail igniting wooden lagging DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. extinguishers on jeep and locomotive used, then rock dust and buckets from fire truck PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. Utility vehicle

EFF. No, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 189

Diamond No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Shuttle car crushed trailing cable between bumpers. Disconnecting switch pulled. Chief electrician went to repair and found fire. He applied rock dust and left for help and supplies. CO2 and rock dust could not be applied until brattice erected to course air to fire. Water hose on Colmol finally severed extinguishing fire. Cagley, W.C., Devett, W.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/4/57 TIME 10:30A DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 144/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Charles, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Imperial Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - B.M. Neel
Foreman - D.W. Alberter
Saf. Dir. - Matthew Jarvie

CAUSE shuttle car ran into trailing cable severing insulation and causing arc to ignite cable DETECT electrician upon going to repair cable

EXT. EFF. rock dust and CO2 applied after brattice erected, water hose severed and extinguished the blaze PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EQUIP. cont. miner

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS light, light cable, hydraulic hose, and components PROD. LOSS NS

No. 190

Hawk's Nest Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Conveyor) Fire

Four men on maintenance shift discovered fire and went out to notify officials. They re-entered the mine and cut belt, pulling 80' out of dense smoke and heat. They finally had to leave the mine and seal it at the portals completed 10:15 P.M. Withdrawal Order annulled 3/11/57. Roberts, William, HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 2/7/57 TIME 7:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM "E"

HT. 72-90 in. SIZE 250 TPD 21/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Somerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. Champion Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Ralph Audin

CAUSE conveyor belt dragging over heaved floor and over roller that was inoperative generated sufficient heat to ignite dust and belt DETECT during maintenance shift

EXT. EFF. men attempted direct fighting until smoke forced sealing PREV. coal dust allowed to accumulate; non-fire resistant belt without slippage controls used

RESC. mine reentered 3/8/57 and hot roof cooled with water

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, sealing EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt, 200' of rooms No. 17 to No. 20 in 3 West PROD. LOSS. 1 month, 4 days

---

No. 191

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Locomotive operator asphyxiated by smoke and fumes from fire on trailing cable of locomotive. Three others escaped unassisted and uninjured. Operator went to faces through fumes to warn 3 others and they started for surface. It took two attempts to get through dense smoke. 50' outby site, operator collapsed. 3 men left him to die. McGinity, Denis, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/14/57 TIME 12:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 11

HT. 40 in. SIZE 75 TPD 12/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Eckman, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. S & M Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.E. Harold

CAUSE short in poorly made splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. insufficient ventilation, no examinations

RESC. None, surface employee went into mine sometime later to look for operator and attempted resuscitation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 192

Glen Burn Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

First shift miners discovered fire in original caved monkey airway. All persons withdrawn except fire-fighters. Fire fought with water. Wilson, H.F., Todd, R.C.,Seiger, R.E., 6 pp.

DATE 2/21/57 TIME 8:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 11

HT. NS in. SIZE 1800 TPD 355/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Shamokin, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. Susquehanna Collieries Division, M.A. Hanna Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert Penman Foreman - Edward Regevitz Saf. Dir. - J. Lahnstein

CAUSE blasting unconfined charges DETECT fire smoldered until broke through to airway

EXT. EFF. water trained on fire PREV. adequate, except for unconfined shots

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 193

Rippel and McNutt Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Foreman and crew began man trip descent and encountered smoke in main haulageway. Man trip returned to surface. Foreman returned with 1 employee to look for fire. Fan stopped until following day when fire not specifically located. Main south haulage sealed after pump, 1000' plastic pipe, rails and track switches recovered on 3/1/57. Callahan, J.T., Eakins, J.S., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/26/57 TIME 7:35A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. 42 in. SIZE 40 TPD 8/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas, Ohio OWN. Rippel & McNutt Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Roy McNutt

CAUSE spontaneous heating in gob area DETECT at beginning of day shift

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. poor; smoking was permitted; open flame lamps used; self-rescuers not available

RESC. equipment recovered before sealing

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal, gob AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 194

V.C. No. 8

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Complicated system of conveyor controls cycled many times in short period due to back up in storage silo. Supply crew of night shift discovered fire down in 8 left section but could not locate it exactly. Water lines were set up and water trained into area, and material outloaded by 3/17/57. Closure Order annulled 3/18/57. Haley, J.F., Gallagher, F.J., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 3/1/57 TIME 1:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 36 in. SIZE 3300 TPD 268/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Shrewsbury, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Paul Smith Saf. Dir. - M.J. Mechling Gen. Mgr. - Alan McBane

CAUSE either belt drive roller friction or starting resistor heat DETECT at beginning of midnight shift by supply crew

EXT. EFF. water trained on fire and material outloaded PREV. very good

RESC. men withdrawn except fire-fighters

IG. friction or starting resisor heat FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 280' belt conveyor in north mains, 242' of 8 left belt, 200' of belt structure, 8 left starting box and 30' of trans. cable PROD. LOSS. until 3/18/57

No. 195

Tralee Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Operator noted machine caught fire. He pulled cable and discovered fire behind reel on motor casing. He tried to put it out with CO2 and rock dust. Men arrived to help, self-rescuers obtained and water applied. McGinity, Denis, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/5/57 TIME 3:15A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 46 in. SIZE 4054 TPD 469/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Tralee, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Allied Chemical and Dye Corp. PERS. Supt. - Jesse Gravely

CAUSE short in leads to bit motor DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. first rock dust and CO2 applied, then water put the fire out once power disconnected PREV. adequate

RESC. all persons except fire-fighters withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to electrical system of cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 196

Wyoming Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire boss discovered fire and went for help. Water applied but due to fumes and fire being under fallen material, it was decided to seal the mine area burning and continue to flood it. Sealing was completed 3/12/57 at 7:00 P.M. Lewis, E.M., Ulshafer, A.L., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/11/57 TIME 1:00A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 34 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 132/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wyoming, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - O.L. Childress Foreman - Roy Sherman Saf. Dir. - C.E. Linkous

CAUSE heat in high resistance joint in 2-inch air pipeline after it contacted 250v power wire DETECT by fire boss, during weekly air readings

EXT. EFF. area sealed because of CO and roof falls after water tried to no avail PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 197

Calora

Report of Coal Mine Fire

During pre-shift examination, the fire boss discovered the fire and notified authorities. The crew worked all day to extinguish the blaze with rock dust and water. About 200' of rib was burned. Harris, O.W., MESA Norton.

DATE 3/19/57 TIME 6:00A DUR. 15 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 40 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 118/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. Left Beaver Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof or rib fall upon 250,000 circular-mil feeder cable overloaded the cable DETECT during pre-shift examination by fire boss

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. sufficient

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 198

Dawson Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

On idle day 3 men assigned to clean main haulage noticed smoke issuing from abandoned workings. Pulling cut out switch resulted in arcing, so trolley wire was checked and fire discovered. Help called for and extinguishers applied. Rock dust applied until water hooked up. Fire put out in two hours. Melville, W.R., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/21/57 TIME 8:30A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 202/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dawmont, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Galloway Land Co. PERS. Supt. - A.B. Ord Foreman - Angelo Amondio

CAUSE fall of roof dislodged trolley wire and it contacted wet floor igniting fallen top coal DETECT on idle day, at the beginning of maintenance

EXT. EFF. 3 extinguishers, rock dust and water PREV. very good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 199

Wildwood Mine

Report of Underground Electrical Fire

Rotary dump operator saw flash of fire on lower level at hydraulic pump and drive. Operator got 3 soda-acid extinguishers and applied, called for help. High pressure fire car brought up and fire put out. Fire department called by surface, but not needed. Holcomb, J.W., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/22/57 TIME 11:45A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 30-90 in. SIZE 2065 TPD 226/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wildwood, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Butler Consolidated Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Charles Zotter

CAUSE short in stator winding DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. soda-acid applied, then high pressure water PREV. adequate, but no self-rescuers

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, soda-acid EQUIP. pumps and motor

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS 2 hp 3 phase 440v a.c. motor, telephone and motor control wires and hydraulic hoses and pump ($500) PROD. LOSS NS

No. 200

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Storage-Battery Locomotive) Fire

Locomotive storage battery of locomotive parked in stall at end of second shift caught fire and water put the fire out in 3/4 hr. Zelesky, John, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/28/57 TIME 3:00A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 72 in. SIZE 4800 TPD 382/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bartley, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.M. Holbrook Foreman - J.M. Farley

CAUSE short in "leaker" cell (pin hole in cell) DETECT during inspection round

EXT. EFF. water PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL wood tray AGENT water EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS storage battery PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 201

Book Cliffs Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire in inaccessible area noted to foreman by off-going shift. Area sealed by 2:30 P.M. 3/30/57. Reay, T.T., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/28/57 TIME 7:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 168 in. SIZE 700 TPD 25/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Horse Canyon, Emery, Utah OWN. Book Cliffs Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Walter Anderson

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT by night shift

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal, gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS work resumed 4/2/57

No. 202

Peach Mountain Slope

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Crew blasted through rock into unknown previously mined area and met smoke, fumes and heat. Workmen left face. Other two in mine removed. Sump pump removed, surface openings fenced, danger signs erected and mine allowed to fill with water. Seiger, R.E., Todd, R.C., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/28/57 TIME 11:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 24 TPD 4 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Minersville, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Walacavage Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Edmund Walacavage Foreman - Joseph Walacavage

CAUSE UNK DETECT after blasting through

EXT. EFF. mine allowed to fill with water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL coal, gob AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. complete

No.203

Montour No. 4

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Power Cable)

Workman detected smoke and found fire in working section. Fire car summoned and 1000 gal. of water applied - material outloaded. Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/8/57 TIME 1:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4614 TPD METH. Cont.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE fall of roof shorted conductors - protection not adequate DETECT by workman soon after occurrence

EXT. EFF. water applied after cable disconnected from trolley wire so fire car brought up PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 12' of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 204

Powhatan No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Loading Machine)

Two men were removing loose coal along a main haulageway when loader ran over its trailing cable. Fuse at nip did not burn because of arcing and while one man ran to nip, hydraulic hoses ignited and ruptured. Officials were notified and all men withdrawn except fire-fighters, who, using CO2 extinguishers, put the fire out. Symons, W.J., Eakins, John S., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/9/57 TIME 11:30A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 7500 TPD 492/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Dilles Bottom, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Powhatan Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - George Yonko Saf. Dir. - Charles Heidelbach Gen. Mgr. - Michael Yonko

CAUSE track-mounted loading machine ran over trailing cable during loading operations maneuvering DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 applied by 5 men wearing chemox PREV. insufficient - short-circuit protection, better precautions required during movement of machinery

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, coal, dust AGENT CO2 EFF. Yes EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS damage to electrical and hydraulic systems of loader PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 205

Montour No. 10

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Machinery)

Drill became mired in soft bottom twice. Second time after replacing drive chain, roof appeared unstable. Operator went to wrong nip. He met section foreman who hastened to drill while operator went to correct nip. Roof fell on drill shorting trailing cable at reel. Men donned self-rescuers, changed ventilation and 120# and most of 1 150# dry chemical extinguisher applied. Coals watered. Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/10/57 TIME 10:00P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 63 in. SIZE 2190 TPD 186/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Library, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in trailing cable not sufficient to trip protective devices DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers applied and then water car brought up and trained on coals PREV. adequate

RESC. drill removed and repaired after fallen material removed

IG. auger FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. auger

EQUIP. LOSS 600' of No. 6 2 conductor cable, wires and hose conduit and motor cable leads PROD. LOSS NS

No. 206

Layland Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Thirty feet outby the face roof bolting machine being trammed ran over its trailing cable and resulting flash ignited hydraulic oil. Furin, F.J., Gallagher, F.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 4/12/57 TIME 5:20P DUR. 12 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Fire Creek

HT. 38 in. SIZE 845 TPD 138/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Layland, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. New River and Pocahontas Consolidated Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - O.D. Keaton Foreman - Wilson Gills Saf. Dir. - W.F. Eigenbrod

CAUSE trailing cable "blew up" DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water trained on area PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS 90% of roof bolting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 207

Westland Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Machinery)

Close to the face, roof bolter while tramming, ran over trailing cable and resultant arc ignited belts, oil, dust and hose. Operator ran to pull nip. Repairman applied rock dust. Locomotive extinguisher failed to operate. Fire put out with 20# dry chemical extinguisher obtained from loading ramp. Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 4/15/57 TIME 4:30A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4150 TPD 262/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Westland, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Furlong Foreman - William T. Charlier

CAUSE short in trailing cable of roof bolting machine - did not trip breaker DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied PREV. very good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, rubber, coal, dust AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS rubber drive belts and portion of corrugated dust collecting hose PROD. LOSS NS

No. 208

Flat Top Mine

Report of Coal Mine (gob) Fire

Roof scaler, helper and rope roller repairman leaving mine about 480' inby the portal saw red glow through hole in stopping. Fire found inby the stopping and officials notified. Water applied via hose from the surface. Melhorn, H.E., Young, H.C., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/18/57 TIME 7:30A DUR. 9½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Mary Lee

HT. 74 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 335/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Flat Top, Jefferson, Alabama OWN. U.S. Pipe & Foundry Co. PERS. Supt. - P.M. Cassidy

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by scaler, helpers and repairman

EXT. EFF. water applied via hose from surface PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal, gob AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 209

Buttonwood Colliery-Inman Shaft

Mine closed. HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 4/22/57 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. Glen Alden Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 210

Washington Mine

Special Investigation of Reported Fire

Men on way out detected smoke and thought it was gob fire smoke on surface being blown in which was not the case. Superintendent and assistant foreman returned and found smoke issuing from old seal. New temporary seals erected. One permanent and one temporary seal built the following (idle) day. Mine worked 4/29. Freeman, J., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/26/57 TIME 4:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Erie, Weld, Colorado OWN. Clayton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.T. Wilson Foreman - Jesse Clark

CAUSE UNK DETECT exiting past fire area inby the surface

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal, gob AGENT seal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 211

Sagumore Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Trailing Cable)

Crew finished undercutting, was loading charges when fire broke out. Section foreman told crew to apply extinguisher on machine while he went to nip. Fire went out when power de-energized. Men withdrawn to fresh air. Michael, J.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 5/3/57 TIME 12:00P DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 275 TPD 51/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. McComas, Mercer, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Foreman - Chester Cook

CAUSE short at splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and dry chemical extinguisher applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 120' of cable PROD. LOSS little

No. 212

Henry Shaft Mine, Henry Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Preshift examiner discovered smoke and sulphur fumes. Fire found 8:00 P.M. Power lines of insufficient capacity had shorted and were removed so fire probably had been smoldering. Fall of roof could have also caused short. Water applied to general area and through boreholes and material outloaded. Culverhouse, G.W., Stanton, J.E., Laird, J.R., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/5/57 TIME 5:00A DUR. 10 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Five Foot

HT. 9' SIZE 1360 TPD 439/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Plains, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Lehigh Valley Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.F. Miller Foreman - David Morgan Saf. Dir. - Osborne Morgan

CAUSE short in power cables DETECT by preshift examiner

EXT. EFF. water applied after setting up lines PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal, gob AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 213

No. 7 Mine

Report of Flash Fire (Continuous Miner)

As operator turned machine switch to "off" waiting for empty car, he was enveloped in flame. Machine had been "live" with charge all day, forcing use of rubber gloves, unreported. Flash occurred and operator removed to hospital. Vickers, W.R., Lewis, E.M., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/13/57 TIME 1:15P DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 110 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Vivian, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Peerless Coal and Coke Company PERS. Supt. - Shelby Tolliver Saf. Dir. - Louis Roncaglione

CAUSE presumably ignition of hydraulic oil fumes by electric arc, or gas ignition DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. self-extinguishing PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical or engine heat FUEL gas, hyd. fluid, fumes AGENT None EFF. EQUIP. cont. miner

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 214

Misco No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Storage Battery Jeep)

Fire occurred at charging station at bottom of belt slope in charging jeep because of short in leaking battery. Hughes, F.E., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/11/57 TIME 3:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 53/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Misco, Perry, Ohio OWN. Simpson Coal and Chemical Corp. PERS. Foreman - Pearson Gibbs Fireboss - Andrew Vincent

CAUSE short from leaking batteries during charge DETECT by fire boss reporting for work

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied to jeep after water cut through smoke PREV. battery should have been repaired

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 2 cells, 4'-5' single-conductor cable, 1½ sq. ft. wooden insulating board, foam-rubber seat cushion PROD. LOSS. None

---

No. 215

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Fatal (Trailing Cable Fire) Accident

Operator went to open waterline valve just outby face of No. 1 room. Upon returning he discovered trailing cable fire. He pulled cable off reel, it continued to arc and he then disconnected power at nip. Helper had gone to intake air, coughing. After 10-15 minutes he returned and 2 spliced cable and cut 2 more places. Helper collapsed shortly thereafter and died. Heffers, F., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/24/57 TIME 8:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6700 TPD 534/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H.L. Swihart Foreman - E.P. Skiles

CAUSE high resistance short in trailing cable - fuse did not blow DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. self-extinguishing PREV. good

RESC. man went back to work splicing cable and cutting places

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS little

No. 216

Sunnyside No. 1

Report of Coal Mine Fire

CO detected emitting from inaccessible worked-out pillar section. Affected area sealed after men withdrawn. Withdrawal Order revised 6/28/57. Reay, T.T., Freeman, J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 6/24/57 TIME 7:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 7-14' SIZE 2800 TPD 219/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Sunnyside, Carbon, Utah OWN. Kaiser Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Thomas R. McCourt Foreman - Julius Maki Saf. Dir. - Clarence E. Self

CAUSE UNK DETECT during weekly exam

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 4 days

No. 217

Joanne Mine

Report of Cutting Machine Fire

Short circuit in cable splice at control circuit connection resulted in fire on cutting machine 125 outby the face being used as crane during moving of track and equipment. All available men helped put fire out in 30 minutes. Jones, J.E., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/26/57 TIME 2:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3786 TPD 273/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rachel, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Joanne Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Harold Parrish

CAUSE short in splice at power connection DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, extinguishers PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, dust, grease & oil soaked dust AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hose connection, electrical wiring, 100' t.c. PROD. LOSS NS

No. 218

Indian No. 1 & Fort Grand Mines

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Two mines had been idle since 6/28 for vacation. At 6:00 A.M., foreman at Indian No. 1 arrived and discovered smoke coming out of fan. He noted amp load at substation (short); and pulled breaker. Officials of both mines notified of fire in interconnecting passageway and men and materials brought to fight the fire. Fire out by 3:00 A.M. 7/9/57. O'Connor, L.E., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 7/8/57 TIME 6:00A DUR. 21 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewickley

HT. 60 & 70 in. SIZE 300 & 60 TPD 15 & 9/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Everettville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Preston By-Products Coal Co. M&K Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ted Mullins Foreman - Ray Bucklew

CAUSE fall of roof dislodged trolley wire and causing it to contact steel-framed wooden mining car at a point where feeder connected to rail DETECT by arriving foreman

EXT. EFF. extinguishers and rock dust while water line being hooked up PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. Mine car

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 219

Viking Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Fire broke out on cutting machine from arcing. Helper ran 175' to disconnect nip, while operator waited to get around machine. Smoke soon became too dense to fight directly. Line brattice erected,all service gas masks issued and crew fought fire directly for 2 hrs. Dovidas, C.M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/15/57 TIME 11:55A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 5

HT. 48 in. SIZE 2570 TPD 184/2 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Terre Haute, Vigo, Indiana OWN. Viking Coal Corp. PERS. Supt.- Stewart Johnson Foreman - Jess Sheppard

CAUSE short in "snake" cable of cutter due to breakdown of insulation DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. after line brattice erected last 60' to face, and gas masks used, fire could be put out with water, rock dust and extinguisher PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, dust, grease, oil AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS electrical wiring, hydraulic system and 1 tire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 220

Stotesburg No. 8

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Conveyor) Fire

Fire discovered in vicinity of belt head drive unit in isolated section. Fourteen men inby withdrawn. Rock dust and water applied. Material outloaded. (Ventilation had been shorted as rock dust applied). One man hurt fighting fire - grabbed power wire. Haley, J.F., Kemrite, F.E., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 7/15/57 TIME 12:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 39 in. SIZE 1900 TPD 247/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stotesbury, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas & Fuel Assoc. PERS. Supt. - C.O. Carmen Foreman - William Hugenot

CAUSE friction caused by belt slippage: centrifugal switch "blocked in" due to moving of tailpiece DETECT at start of tailpiece moving (3rd shift)

EXT. EFF. power cut, ventilation shorted, rock dust, and water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 120' belt, 60' of structure PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 221

Glen Lyon Colliery

Report of Minor Coal Mine Fire

Pumpman found pumproom in smoke. He attempted to extinguish it with CCL4 extinguisher and small water line, then notified surface. Men wearing O2 equipment checked for poisonous gas. All-service masks used during fire-fighting. Mine kept idle 2 more shifts. Sigworth, C.S., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/15/57 TIME 5:30P DUR. 12½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 1750 TPD 522 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Glen Lyon, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. M.A. Hanna Co. PERS. Supt. - Michael F. Farrell Foreman - William Harvey Saf. Dir. - C.R. Lytle

CAUSE 2300 v. power cable failed - overload protection deenergized the circuit DETECT by pumpman

EXT. EFF. men donning all service gas masks fought fire with water PREV. excellent

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, CCL4 EQUIP. Pump

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS minimal PROD. LOSS 3 shifts

No. 222

Kentland No. 1

Mine Fire in Kentland No. 1 Mine

Crew moving supplies on maintenance shift. Front car (explosives) wrecked into trolley wire, catching fire. Crew tried to remove car from wire unsuccessfully; cut-out switch pulled, water car brought up and fire put out. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver.

DATE 7/15/57 TIME 3:15A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Freeburn

HT. 54 in. SIZE 3250 TPD 300/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dunlap, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentland-Elkhorn Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE explosives car pushed with 2 supply cars wrecked and contacted trolley wire DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and water applied PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. utility vehicle

EQUIP. LOSS minor damage to car PROD. LOSS. little

No. 223

Mine No. 4

Report of Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Belt attendant noticed belt stoppage and found fire; he warned officials who withdrew men. Mine rescue team erected check curtains, shorted air to return, and applied water, rock dust, and extinguishers. Belt, Loren A., South, C.L., HSAC Denver.

DATE 7/25/57 TIME 9:30P DUR. 4 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 80 in. SIZE 5200 TPD 192/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pittsburgh, Williamson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in or about belt drive motor DETECT by attendant upon noticing belt slippage/stoppage

EXT. EFF. check curtains installed and water, rock dust and extinguishers applied PREV. good

RESC. all 80 men underground left through intake

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, timber AGENT water, rock dust, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS motor and 100' of belt PROD. LOSS only on west side where fire occurred

No. 224

Booth No. 6

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Four man crew working on 2nd shift maintenance. Pumper returning after 1 hour absence discovered smoke 150' outby the pump and notified foreman. All 4 tried to get to fire, but could not due to smoke. Sealing began at midnight and completed 6:00 A.M. 8/4/57. Withdrawal Order of 8/4/57 modified to permit operations but for 2 south where fire occurred. Estep, R.C., O'Connor, L.E., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 8/3/57 TIME 6:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 102 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 91/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Edna, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - W.O. Barnard Foreman - Earl Malone Saf. Dir. - R.P. Mulligan

CAUSE short due to failure of insulation between conductors of trolley phone power conductor DETECT by pumpman

EXT. EFF. area sealed after crew could not get at fire PREV. adequate, but power should not have been left on

RESC. area recovered by 1/9/58

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, dust AGENT rock dust, powder, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. complete in affected section - other sections until 8/6/57

No. 225

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire in shaft discovered by neighboring mine operator who called fire department. Fire put out with water and area covered with dry chemical extinguishers when fire out. Rumburg, N., Noon, J.A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/12/57 TIME 9:30P DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Freeport

HT. 52 in. SIZE 10 TPD 2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Barnesboro, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. E & E Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by neighboring mine operator

EXT. EFF. fire department brought 1000 gal. truck PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, powder EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS ladder PROD. LOSS None

No. 226

Potts Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

It was sought to break down more coal from a rock hole and after shot had blasted, a second concussion was felt. Three days later fire discovered up in hole, after heating had been noticed. Area finally flooded. Retsel, F., Laird, J.R., Todd, R.C., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 8/12/57 TIME 4:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Mammoth

HT. 20-40' SIZE 120/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Locustdale, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Junedale Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - George Eroh Foreman - Harry Kleman

CAUSE unconfined charge, long-hole blasting, or ignition of a methane feeder DETECT during loading of newly "shaken" coal

EXT. EFF. additional water lines installed and water pumped on fire, then dam built PREV. good, but use of unconfined shots

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. at least until 9/1/57

No. 227

Dawson Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Mine was idle for week-end. Fire bosses detected smoke and odor of burning coal. Upon investigation they discovered fall and fire. They applied rock dust and went for help. State rescue team arrived and put fire out with water. Material was outloaded. Melville, W.R., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver 5 pp.

DATE 8/18/57 TIME 1:40A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 174/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dawmont, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Galloway Land Co. PERS. Supt. - A.B. Ord Foreman - Angelo Amodio

CAUSE a roof fall forced energized feeder cable in contact with wet mine floor proximite to bare return feeder DETECT by fire bosses

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied and rescue team called who extinguished fire with water PREV. power circuit not deenergized for week-end

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 228

Highland Park Sanitary Tunnel

Report of Electrical Fire

Locomotive in operation when short occurred. Operator ran to portal and notified officials. 15 men were inby the fire and were brought out by firemen after fire put out with water and locomotive brought out by second locomotive inby the fire. No one hurt despite much confusion. Baker, F.D., Brown, C.L., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 8/23/57 TIME 8:45A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 31/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pittsburgh, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Dravo Corp. Contracting Div. Shaft & Tunnel Dept. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in defective power receptacle between batteries and motor of locomotive DETECT by operator

EXT. EFF. fire put out with water after extinguisher failed PREV. poor availability of equipment

RESC. 2 firemen and chief engineer of Allegheny Sanitary Authority went to fire with extinguishers and chemox breathing apparatus, put out fire with water and brought locomotive out

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder, EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS slight damage to 2200v power cable, damage to one section of tunnel lights power circuit and heavy locomotive damage PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 229

No. 7 Mine

Mine Fire in No. 7 Mine

Small smoldering fire discovered 30' inby the portal. Crew had blasted and then went to lunch, even though flame was observed to surface of one of shots. Fire put out quickly. Hyde, C.E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/29/57 TIME 12:30P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Jellico

HT. 32 in. SIZE 10 TPD 3/Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wilton, Whitley, Kentucky OWN. Nelson Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT after returning from lunch

EXT. EFF. material outloaded, water trained on area PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL coal AGENT water, outloaded EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 230

Osage No. 3

Report of Continuous Miner Fire

While boring a crossbut 18' outby the face, a Marietta continuous miner had a fire when a piece of draw rock fell rupturing conduit covering. Arcing ignited grease and oil-soaked coal dust. One man ran to deenergize the machine, one applied water, rock dust and CO2. O'Connor, L.E., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/12/57 TIME 7:30P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 86 in. SIZE 8000 TPD 355/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Cassville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Warren Sharpenburg Saf. Dir. - Robert Longridge

CAUSE short in trailing cable not high enough to trip overload DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, and CO2 PREV. excellent

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil, insulation, dust AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. Cont. miner

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes,

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hoses, conduit over electrical power circuits and 10' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 231

Orient No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Power Cable)

Workmen enroute to working place discovered smoke, then power cable burning under fall of roof. One went to notify officials; one went to deenergize cable. Shortly, manager and face boss arrived with extinguishers and rock dust which were used until water line hooked up. Material outloaded. Summary, J.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/19/57 TIME 7:50A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 6500 TPD 402/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. West Frankfort, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Chicago, Wilmington, & Franklin Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fall of roof on power cable in infrequently travelled haulageway - c.b. not set low enough DETECT at beginning of day shift by repairman

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, CO2 PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable burned PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 232

Washington Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Foreman discovered hot pillar outby No. 2 seal at 7:30A.M. He returned at 9:30 and found pillar smoldering. Water and rock dust applied while men called out to strengthen seal. First strengthening not good enough and second one built 10' outby. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver.

DATE 9/29/57 TIME 9:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Unnamed

HT. 8-12' SIZE 500 TPD 41/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Erie, Weld, Colorado OWN. Clayton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - P.I. Wilson Foreman - Otava Lowe

CAUSE NS DETECT by foreman during regular idle day examination

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust, area re-sealed PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. 5 days

No. 233

Crescent Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered about 3000' inby slope bottom after smoke seen by foreman on surface. One man received broken leg from shuttle car, and two overcome momentarily by smoke. Mine had been idle. Beck, Brank, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/5/57 TIME 4:15P DUR. 16 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. 60 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 220/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Central City, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. Nashville Coal, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Harold Shrewsbury Foreman - Jesse Rowans Saf. Dir. - Aubin Higgins

CAUSE fall of roof shorted light line DETECT by foreman on surface

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust and extinguishers PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS $8,500 PROD. LOSS 3 days

No. 234

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt) Fire

Supplyman, loading conveyor chain on belt, misplaced it, and it helped cause a short circuit with positive feeder cable. A fire started but was extinguished in 30 minutes - coordinated effort by miners. Cochran, R.L., MESA Norton, 7 pp.

DATE 10/7/57 TIME 5:15A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM 3 .

HT. 42,60 & 40 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 372/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Benham, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. International Harvester PERS. NS

CAUSE coil of chain fouled against chain conveyor and positive feeder cable causing a short DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nearest switch pulled to stop conveyor (no effect) water and rock dust applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. belt, cable

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 235

Compass No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Fire

At 6:55 A.M. No. 1 belt stopped; drive belt of slippage control device repaired. Belt operated until 7:35 A.M. Day shift came on (skeleton crew) and found fire in No. 4 belt entry. All power mistakenly deenergized. Fire spread rapidly due to poor communications and lack of transportation for fire-fighting equipment. Fire area sealed by 5:00 P.M. Estep, R.C., Baldwin, W.D., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 10/10/57 TIME 7:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 4500 TPD 189/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dola, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - L.F. Wilson Foreman - W.P. Wilson Saf. Dir. - Jack Light

CAUSE (believed) friction near tail piece/belthead or short in power cables between transformer and motor DETECT during beginning of a special maintenance shift

EXT. EFF. poor communications hampered fire-fighting efforts; phone lines burned, locomotives stranded by no power PREV. adequate

RESC. area opened 1/31/58; 22 men had been removed during fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, timber, dust AGENT water, rock dust, seal EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS a lot of equipment which will eventually be recovered PROD. LOSS until 2/4/58

No. 236

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Foreman and utilityman discovered fire 150' inby entry in inactive section. Due to roof conditions, area was sealed. Mining machine operator had started rotary converter 9/27 and encountered short; lack ofair movement kept smoke in the area and prevented earlier discovery. Linville, Ray, HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/14/57 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 1

HT. 42 in. SIZE 50 TPD 7/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Garrett, Floyd, Kentucky OWN. Cooley Elkhorn Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Cap Inmon

CAUSE fall of roof forced energized trolley wire against rail DETECT 2 weeks after conjectured start by foreman and utility man

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. inadequate

RESC. Men removed

IG. electrical FUEL coal, gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 237

No. 73 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Shuttle car operator noted arcing cable and proceeded to nip. Section foreman had tripped breaker. Mechanic and continuous miner operators inby and mechanic went through smoke twice to get out. Continuous mine operator waited and shuttle car operator came out upon shuttle operator's return inby the fire. Mechanic and shuttle car operator given O2. Cagley, W.C., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/1/57 TIME 11:55A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 38 in. SIZE 1550 TPD 289/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Franklin Borough, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Foreman - Fred Robson

CAUSE short in trailing cable temporary splice; circuit breaker set too high DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. self-extinguishing PREV. adequate; circuit breaker set too high

RESC. shuttle car operator returned through smoke to find continuous miner operator

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some cable PROD. LOSS little

No. 238

Calvin No. 5 (abandoned)

Report of Mine Fire

Fire was discovered, reported, investigated 2 days later and the mine was sealed 12/6/57. Malesky, J.S., MESA Norton, 7 pp.

DATE 11/23/57 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 54 in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Calvin, Lee, Virginia OWN. N.Y.M. & M. Co. PERS. Supt. - B.F. Mason Gen. Mgr. - B.M. Neel

CAUSE UNK DETECT smoke was seen coming out from the shaft

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 238-b

No. 2 Mine (Calvin No. 5 Mine)

Opening of the Sealed Fire Area

Mine fire had occurred on 11/23/57 and seals were erected to contain the fire. It was decided not to activate the mine and leave the area sealed. Property changed ownership and they reactivated the mine without taking necessary and suitable precautions. Ross, Ray G., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 11/23/57 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 54 in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Calvin, Lee, Virginia OWN. Wright Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. mine sealed PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 239

Laviers No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered in section idle since previous day by employees hunting in area. Cutting had been done previous day, and power was on for ½ hour same day earlier. Fire was at main belt discharge point 1750' inby the portal for this section. Ventilation changed and rock dust and chemical extinguishers applied to no avail. Sealing of area begun. Mears, G.L., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 11/24/57 TIME 9:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. NS in. SIZE 1700 TPD 69/2 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Millstone, Letcher, Kentucky OWN. South East Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - B.F. Gish Foreman - Clyde Daniels

CAUSE cutting metal with torch or discarded cigarette DETECT by employees hunting in the area

EXT. EFF. first rock dust and chemicals, then area was sealed PREV. smoking was permitted

RESC. recovery begun 12/10/57; damage and falls severe and area resealed. Reopened 2/17/58. Closure Order annulled 2/19/58.

IG. cigarette or hot slag FUEL rubber, coal AGENT rock dust, powder, seals EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of belting, damage to elevating conveyor and belt drive and 100' of conveyor frames buried under fall PROD. LOSS. until 2/19/58

No. 240

Roncco Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered 7:30 A.M. 12/9 by operator at transformer station during pre-shift. Fire could not be approached because of falls. Sealing completed 12/14/57. Fire considered extinguished 3/12/58. Christensen, E.L., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 12/7/57 TIME 3:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Osborn

HT. 7-9' SIZE 100 TPD 9/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Gebo, Hot Springs, Wyoming OWN. Roncco Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - believed a short in power cables or connections to transformer bank DETECT by operator during pre-shift

EXT. EFF. fire department called, but could not get at fire, sealing was effective PREV. no water throughout

RESC. 3/10/58 seals removed, smoldering fire put out with water and clean-up began

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. transformers

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable and transformers PROD. LOSS NS

No. 241

Loyal Mine

Report of Mining Machine Trailing Cable Fire

Short occurred in trailing cable while machine being trammed. Power removed and CO2 applied. Two smoke inhalation cases observed 2 hours and released. Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/13/57 TIME 10:45A DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 44 in. SIZE 3300 TPD 190/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Loyalhanna Township, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Wyatt-Seanor Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Rudolph Helfer Foreman - James F. Forney, Jr.

CAUSE short in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut, CO2 applied PREV. very good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cont. miner

EQUIP. LOSS 30' of cable PROD. LOSS. little

No. 242

V.C. No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered at the drive unit of the No. 2 tandem belt conveyor. The fire was fought direct with water and having been extinguished, all loose material was loaded from the fire area. Cordray, W.M., Brown, D.L., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 12/27/57 TIME 6:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 36 in. SIZE 3300 TPD 249/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Shrewsbury, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Paul Smith

CAUSE friction when the rotating of the drive pulleys against the slipping or stalled rubber belt caused the belt to catch fire DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. all men withdrawn from the mien

IG. friction FUEL rubber, belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 600' of belt conveyor, 300 linear ft. of belt structure, starting box, speed reducer, and drive motor PROD. LOSS 12 days

No. 243

No. 2 Mine

Small Fire

A small fire was discovered in the mine in a storeroom. It was extinguished promptly by water. Cochran, Robert L., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 1/12/58 TIME 9:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM B, C, & D

HT. 42,60, & 40 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 372/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Benham, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Wisconsin Steel Coal Mines, Int'l Harvester PERS. Supt. - P.W. Cole Foreman - Charles Palmer Saf. Dir. - J.W. Cope

CAUSE UNK DETECT routine examination by 2 mine examiners

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. None- no one in mine

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 244

Ditney Hill Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire at high-voltage installation discovered by motorman. He alerted officials and several men put the fire out with available materials. McCune, J.A., Douglas, S.J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/27/58 TIME 7:30P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 6

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 162/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elbertfield, Warrick, Indiana OWN. Ingle Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Ralph E. Whitman Gen. Mgr. - Al Vattarris

CAUSE short of unknown cause in power system DETECT by mainline locomotive operator returning empty trip

EXT. EFF. extinguishers, rock dust and water PREV. incorrect switches used; switchgear left in parallel; high-voltage installations should be free of combustibles

RESC. all men except firefighters removed

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS electrical wiring and 2 line switches PROD. LOSS ½ shift

No. 245

Riverside No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

A trailing cable fire caused by insulation failure at a temporary splice in the machine trailing cable occurred. Six men were treated for smoke inhalation. Devett, William R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/28/58 TIME 7:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 6 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 36 in. SIZE 250 TPD 33/2 Emp. METH. Hand

LOC. South Fork, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Adams Fuel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Duaine Becker

CAUSE insulation failure at a temporary splice in the machine trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. self-rescuers not provided

RESC. six men treated for smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS 24 in. of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 246

Hutchinson Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred from a short circuited trailing cable on a cutting machine igniting grease and coal dust on the machine. The fire was extinguished within an hour by chemical type extinguishers. Satterfield, M.J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/12/58 TIME 5:35P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 79 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 101/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hutchinson, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - L.A. Warner
Foreman - Louis Cecchett
Saf. Dir. - C.W. Parisi

CAUSE short circuit in a temporary splice in the trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. men withdrawn from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, grease, dust AGENT chemicals EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 150' of trailing cable, cutting machine PROD. LOSS approx. 2 hours

No. 247

Wenonah, Modoc, & Rich Creek Mines

Report of Fatal Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire Accident

Fire started when a high resistance short circuit occurred at a splice in the trailing cable of the cutting machine. The nips were removed from the trolley wire and the fire stopped burning. One man in attempting to flee was overcome by smoke and fumes and died. Noe, George, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/14/58 TIME 3:40A DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 44 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 148/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dott, Mercer, W. Virginia OWN. Crozer Coal and Land Co. PERS. Foreman - W.C. Waters Gen. Mgr. - W.E. McQuail

CAUSE short circuit at a poorly insulated splice in the trailing cable of a cutting machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. None - self-extinguishing PREV. adequate

RESC. one man who was overcome by smoke and fumes died

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT self-extinguish EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 8 in. of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 248

Suntrana Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A fire caused by spontaneous combustion occurred where a fall of top coal had previously occurred. The fire was effectively sealed. Persons underground were not affected. Ratkovich, Dan R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/17/58 TIME 8:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Nos. 1 & 2

HT. 50-27' SIZE 500 TPD 51/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Suntrana Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - A.C. Costa Foreman - Robert Norris

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT mine foreman smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. men underground not affected by the fire

IG. spontaneous FUEL NS AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 248-b

Suntrana Mine

Supplementary Report of Coal Mine Fire

Concussion from a cave-in inside sealed fire area knocked out fire seal previously erected. The sand tunnel was closed leading to the area by blasting the roof. A permanent seal was erected in the sand tunnel and the area abandoned permanently. Ratkovich, Dan R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/17/58 TIME 7:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Nos. 1 & 2

HT. 50-27' SIZE 500 TPD 51/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Suntrana Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - A.C. Costa

CAUSE concussion from a cave-in inside sealed fire area DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. blasting the roof and erecting a permanent seal PREV. NS

RESC. workmen withdrawn from the area immediately

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 249

Clyde Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire developed while thawing a frozen waterline with a resistance welder. Loose coal and other materials in contact with the steel pipeline caused overheating causing a fire. The fire was extinguished by water. Krek, Ralph I., Kirk, R.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/24/58 TIME 2:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 572/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - William Adamson Foreman - Harry Anderson Saf. Dir. - George Carson

CAUSE overheating DETECT smoke detected by assistant foreman on routine exam

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. overheating FUEL coal, combustible materials AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 250

Russellton Mine

Report of Coal Mine Belt Fire

Fire occurred caused by friction of the drive pulley against a stalled belt. The belt was nearly worn through before catching fire and a piece of belt involved was not fire resistant. The fire was fought from 3 sides and extinguished with water. Holcomb, J.W., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 2/25/58 TIME 3:30A DUR. 4½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper (Double) Freeport

HT. 48-96 in. SIZE 3507 TPD 303 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Russellton, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.N. Hedding Foreman - Michael Sailock Saf. Dir. - Paul Budzak

CAUSE friction of the drive pulley against stalled belt DETECT smoke encountered when men checking on reason why belt was not operating

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. workmen underground escaped unassisted

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of No. 1 belt and 6' of No. 2 belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 251

No. 9 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire occurred when trailing cable on cutting machine short circuited and ignited on the reel. Carbon dioxide extinguishers and rock dust were used to put out the fire. Bowling. V.H., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/27/58 TIME 4:30A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Eagle

HT. 42 in. SIZE 2300 TPD 166/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Melville, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Jewell Eagle Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Richard Smith Foreman - Leonard Thompson

CAUSE trailing cable short circuited and ignited on the reel of cutting machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. all men withdrawn from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 150' of cable, cutting machine, cable reel PROD. LOSS NS

No. 252

Midvale Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire occurred in a roof-bolting machine trailing cable initiated by a high resistance short circuit. The fire was extinguished in 20 minutes by pulling the burning cable to a pool of water. Callahan, J.T., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/4/58 TIME 12:45P DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM No. 6

HT. 46 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 159/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Midvale, Tuscarawas, Ohio OWN. Columbia-Southern Chemical Corp. PERS. Foreman - William Proven Saf. Dir. - W.H. Bennett

CAUSE high resistance short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. men from the mine removed immediately - one man received a burn on his wrist

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS 100' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 253

Enoco Collieries

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire started in the cable reel compartment of shuttle car caused by overheated trailing cable. One man hospitalized due to exposure of smoke and fumes. The fire was extinguished by applying rock dust and water. Douglas, Sanford J., McCune, James A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/11/58 TIME 12:30P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Indiana No. 5

HT. 60-96 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 203/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Bruceville, Knox, Indiana OWN. Enoco Collieries, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE overheated trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. adequate

RESC. all men remained in the mine except for one who was overcome by smoke and fumes and was hospitalized

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable reel compartment of shuttle car PROD. LOSS 1½ hrs.

No. 254

No. 4 Mine

Belt Conveyor Fire

Belt conveyor fire discovered by two workmen. Rock dust and water applied to fire and it was extinguished. No definite cause of the fire was established. Summary, J.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 4/3/58 TIME 7:45 A DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Pittsburgh, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE possibly by friction from a bad bottom belt roller DETECT discovered by two workmen

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. men were sent out of the mine

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 255

King No. 2 Mine

Coal Mine Machinery Fire

Fire occurred when trailing cable short circuited on shuttle car igniting grease and coal dust on the machine. Fire was quickly extinguished by using extinguishers, water, and dry sand. Husted, A.C., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/8/58 TIME 7:30A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 42 in. SIZE 100 TPD 7/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Brick Church, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. King Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT mine operator and an employee discovered the fire

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water, dry sand PREV. NS

RESC. No employees in the mine

IG. electrical FUEL dust, grease AGENT water, sand, extinguishers EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car PROD. LOSS NS

No. 256

Nelms Mine

Small Fire at Track Power Connection

A trip of empty cars being hauled had become derailed near the substation. It was found that the derailment had severed the bond connections to the rail and the ends of the bonds lying against the rail caused the heat which created the fire. Fire quickly extinguished by rock dust and extinguishers. Symons, W.J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/8/58 TIME 11:10P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny & Ohio Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE heat DETECT discovered by a motorman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. men withdrawn promptly from mine

IG. heat FUEL coal AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 257

No. 15 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Machinery)

Trailing cable in mining machine short circuited and ignited on the reel and spread to oil and grease on the machine. Hydraulic fluid also became ignited. Rock dust was applied until extinguished. Whalen, James T., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/9/58 TIME 7:15P DUR. 7 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 45-144 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 331/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stirrat, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Omar Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - G.L. Jordan Saf. Dir. - F.M. Cooper

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguisher, rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. 13 man crew in south section removed to surface

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid grease, cable, oil AGENT rock dust EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine and trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 258

Summerlee Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

While tramming the shuttle car it ran over the trailing cable which short circuited igniting the oil in the hydraulic system on the car. The fuse in the cable nip did not open when it short circuited and the automatic circuit breaker also failed to open. Fire was extinguished by water. Furin, F.J., Michael, W.B., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/9/58 TIME 7:30P DUR. 7½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 183/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Summerlee, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. New River Co. PERS. Supt. - James Marlor Foreman - M. McManus

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. men withdrawn immediately from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, timber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 259

O'Donnell Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when cutting machine operators were unwinding an overheated trailing cable from the reel. The splice that caused the heating was uncovered and the cable burst into flames. Time lost in disconnecting the power nip and trouble in locating an extinguisher allowed the fire to get out of control. Area was then sealed. Estep, Roy C., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 4/14/58 TIME 11:40A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 317/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Four States, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert I. Billings Foreman - Emilio Maset Saf. Dir. - C.H. Patterson

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, sealing PREV. adequate; mine personnel had no training or practice in fire-fighting

RESC. men in mine withdrawn without difficulty

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT rock dust, seals extinguishers, EFF. No, Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS NS, but considerable PROD. LOSS 4 days

No. 260

Allegheny Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Repairman in the mine encountered roof fall and found smoke and fire. Rock dust and water were applied to extinguish it. Fire was caused by roof fall on a section of the power lines or from discarded cigarette embedded in combustible materials. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 4/14/58 TIME 1:00A DUR. 61 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 50 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 183/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hellier, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Hellier Coal and Coke Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Purcell Vance Foreman - Jack Hollan

CAUSE electrical origin, or from discarded cigarette DETECT repairman entering the mine found fire

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. smoking was practiced in the mine

RESC. all persons withdrawn and debarred from mine

IG. electrical or cigarette FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 4 days

No. 261

No. 3 Mine

Report on Investigation of Minor Mine Fire

A high resistance short circuit occurred and the heat generated by the short circuit ignited damp coal dust between feeder line and the steel beam and set fire to the belt. Fire was quickly extinguished by rock dust and fire extinguishers. Brown, D.L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/14/58 TIME 12:10A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Dorothy

HT. 44 in. SIZE 890 TPD 62/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Kayford, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Truax-Traer Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE high resistance short circuit DETECT discovered by mine examiner, maintenance & supply crew

EXT. EFF. extinguishers and rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. No men in mine

IG. electrical FUEL dust, belt AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 30' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 262

Reels Cove No. 2

Double Belt Fire

Loading boom operator had trouble keeping safety control switch for No. 3 rt. main belt from knocking out. Surface electrician by phone told him to bridge-over the switch which should have been done only with persons travelling along the belts to look for trouble. Evidently a large rock had fallen on No. 2 and was blocked at No. 1 tailpiece causing back-up and finally No. 2 belt caught fire. Martin, J.D., MESA Birmingham.

DATE 4/24/58 TIME 6:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 1150 TPD 208 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Whitwell, Marion, Tennessee OWN. Tennessee Products & Chemical Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE friction on belt due to back-up of coal caused by fallen rock blocking tandem delivery point DETECT electrician found one fire; section foreman and electrician found second fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers applied, then water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. belt
EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS 50' of 30" thermoid belt and 2 sets of rollers PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 263

No. 1 Mine

Report on Investigation of Small Trailing Cable Fire

Fire occurred when trailing cable short circuited and caught fire on the reel of a shuttle car. Fire extinguishers and rock dust were used to extinguish the fire within approximately 25 minutes. Brown, Jr., D.L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/29/58 TIME 3:40P DUR. 25 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Coalburg

HT. 96 in. SIZE 2517 TPD 180/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Van, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - David A. Turner

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. 4 men underground assisted in fire-fighting operations

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. shuttle car
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 25' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 264

Abandoned No. 4 and/or No. 11 Mines

Mine Fire

Company officials making exploratory trip into the mine discovered fire. The area was sealed. Hyde, C.E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/58 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 1½

HT. 44 in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Worley, McCreary, Kentucky OWN. Stearns Coal and Lumber Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE smoking or open lights used by prowlers DETECT discovered by a party of company officials making an exploratory trip

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL UNK AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 265

Diamond No. 2 Mine

Mining Machine Fire

Fire was started by short circuiting of power cable to the frame of mining machine. Power was disconnected and water was directed on the fire to extinguish it. Devett, William R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/5/58 TIME 4:00A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Charles, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Imperial Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Donald W. Alberter

CAUSE short circuiting of power cable to the frame of machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. men underground were removed

IG. electrical FUEL cable, hose, hyd. fluid AGENT water EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 266

Enoco Collieries

Machine Fire

Short circuit in trailing cable of roof bolting machine ignited oil on the machine causing a fire which spread to the rubber tires. The fire was handled promptly and effectively by mine officials. McCune, James A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/14/58 TIME 10:50A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Bruceville, Indiana OWN. Enoco Collieries, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, oil AGENT NS EQUIP. bolter

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS roof bolting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 267

Grapevine Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

After men working in mine became ill it was suspected the mine air was the cause. Carbon monoxide was detected in the mine air, but no trace of active fire was found. An extensive area was sealed to eliminate contamination of air and to prevent development of serious gob fire. Henson, N.M., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 5/19/58 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS NS INJ. NS SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. 66 in. SIZE 500 TPD 19/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Sheffield & Coy Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - J.O. Faulk Gen. Mgr. - Raymond Coy

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT fire boss detected an "odor"

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. NS

RESC. Men withdrawn

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 268

Tioga No. 1 Mine

Report of Investigation of Minor Belt Fire

Smoke discovered by shift foreman making examination of the mine. Cause of the fire could not be definitely determined. Fire extinguished with water. Henderson, Francis H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 6/1/58 TIME 2:30P DUR. 7½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kittanning

HT. 36 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 335/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Tioga, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Tioga Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE electrical origin or friction DETECT shift foreman discovered smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. 2 men underground escaped to the surface

IG. electrical or friction FUEL belt, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 269

Orient Mine No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Power Cable) Fire

Fire caused by short circuit in power feeder cable under a fall of roof was discovered. The air course where the fire was discovered was not frequently traveled or inspected. Fire brought under control in an hour. Summary, J.R., Douglas, Sanford J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/5/58 TIME 1:30A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 6150 TPD 413/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. W. Frankfort, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Chicago, Wilmington & Franklin Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in power feeder cable DETECT electrician smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. men withdrawn from mine

IG. electrical FUEL coal, insulation AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 270

Koehler Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Fire occurred by short circuit in temporary power feeder or by short circuiting of the trolley wire possibly caused by roof fall. Area was sealed and finally restricted to a small area by advancing the seals approximately 14 months after discovery of the fire. Hallett, Carl T., Moschetti, A.C., HSAC Denver, 13 pp.

DATE 6/8/58 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Raton

HT. 78-120 in. SIZE 49/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Koehler, Colfax, N. Mexico OWN. Kaiser Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Steve Starkovich

CAUSE short circuit DETECT employees on way to picnic observed smoke and fire emitting from main fan installation

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. No one in mine

IG. electrical FUEL UNK AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 271

Mather Collieries

Investigation of Electrical Fire

A distribution box fire occurred in a working area outby the face. Section foreman and roof bolter tried water and rock dust but could not get close. Men evacuated and crew approached fire wearing self-contained breathing apparatus and put out the fire with water. Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 6/9/58 TIME 7:20A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Pennsylvania OWN. Mather & Company PERS. NS

CAUSE short between distribution box & feeder cables DETECT by section foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. insufficient current carrying capacity

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS 200 ft. of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 272

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was caused by short circuiting of a feeder line near combustible materials. Fire extinguished by Hastings Volunteer Fire Department. Rumburg, Norman, Devett, William R., Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/9/58 TIME 7:30A DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Hastings, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Rich Hill Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Foreman - Frank Shutty

CAUSE short circuit DETECT discovered by supply clerk while checking on automatic breaker

EXT. EFF. water from fire department PREV. adequate

RESC. None - mine was idle

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 273

Dana Slope Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred when arc from short circuit in cutting motor of the cutting machine ignited insulation, grease and coal dust on the machine. Extinguishers and rock dust were used to bring the fire under control and water applied to the machine to cool it down. Cavendish, Alpha B., Michael, William B., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 6/25/58 TIME 6:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 48 in. SIZE 2400 TPD 202/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rensford, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Amherst Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. All men removed from mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. hose, grease AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 274

No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Air Compressor) Fire

Fire occurred when air compressor stuck causing the drive belts to slip causing friction which created heat enough to set afire oil and coal dust around the drive motor of the air compressor. The compressor was pulled away from the coal rib by a car-hoist rope and fire was extinguished with rock dust and extinguishers. Noe, George, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 6/26/58 TIME 2:00P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Bradshaw

HT. 42 in. SIZE 2886 TPD 268/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bradshaw, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE friction DETECT section foreman encountered smoke and heat

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. 5 men were trapped behind the fire for approximately 1 hr. but no injuries resulted; men in other sections of the mine were not informed of the fire and came out at regular quitting time

IG. friction FUEL dust, oil, belt AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. air compressor and belt

EQUIP. LOSS air compressor PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 275

Edwards Mine

Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by detecting odor. Smoke was encountered but no flames were seen. Loose coal had spilled from the ribs and the floor had heaved excessively in this section of the mine. The area was sealed to extinguish the fire. Dimitroff, A.E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 7/6/58 TIME 7:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Sommerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. Clark Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - M.L. O'Connor

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT superintendent discovered fire by detecting odor at the main fan

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. No one in mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 276

Industrial No. 17 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Cutting Machine)

Fire started when poorly made splice in trailing cable contacted metal frame of the cutting machine and ignited coal dust and coal. The fuse in the trailing cable power tap did not open when short circuit occurred. Evans, W.L., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/7/58 TIME 5:30P DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 50 in. SIZE 150 TPD 28/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Kingwood, Preston, W. Virginia OWN. Industrial Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert C. Harvey Foreman - D.A. Rager

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers and rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. 2 men underground escaped to surface

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust AGENT water, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hoses and electrical system of cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 277

Big Jim Mine

Cable Fire

Mine electric power was discovered off and an investigation began. It was found a short circuit had occurred in the power cable which caused fuses to blow. There was a little heat around the cable but this cooled quickly. Mark, T.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 7/8/58 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS NS INJ. NS SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Blanche, Bell, Kentucky OWN. Big Jim Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. UNK PREV. NS

RESC. No one in mine

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 278

Joanne Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when trailing cable short circuited on cutting machine. Fire was fought with fire extinguishers and water and thought to be under control when the hose in the hydraulic system ruptured spraying oil over the heated area causing the fire to spread. The area was subsequently sealed. Estep, Roy C., Jones, John E., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 7/14/58 TIME 3:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 278/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rachel, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Joanne Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Harold Parrish Foreman - Arnett L. Root Saf. Dir. - Mack Riggs

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water, sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. 78 men underground were withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, oil, dust AGENT water, seals, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. No, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 279

Pierce Run Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit occurred in a splice of trailing cable and caused burning of insulation on the cable and 2 tires on the shuttle car. Twelve sacks of rock dust were used to extinguish the fire. Eakins, John S., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/30/58 TIME 6:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 50 in. SIZE 75 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wellsburg, Brooke, W. Virginia OWN. Liberty Colliery, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Chris W. Peluchette Foreman - Eli Veydt

CAUSE short circuit DETECT two machinemen detected an odor of something burning

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. adequate, but self-rescuers not provided

RESC. 2 men underground evacuated to surface

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 450' of trailing cable and 2 tires PROD. LOSS NS

No. 280

Clyde Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was caused by defective or ruptured trailing cable on a loading machine or shuttle car. Undetermined which cable started the fire as it could not be extinguished by direct attack and the area was sealed. Kirk, R.J., Lynch, G.L., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 7/13/58 TIME 2:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 4300 TPD 430/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - William Adamson Foreman - Harry Anderson

CAUSE UNK DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. water, seals PREV. adequate

RESC. all employees were out of the mine at completion of the shift at 4:00 p.m.

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. shuttle car & loader

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS, but considerable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 281

Hi-Lo No. 2 Mine

Mining Machine Fire

Fire damaged a cutting machine 60' outby the face. Workmen ran from the scene and notified management. Line brattice was put up and when smoke cleared, there was no flame. Water and fire extinguishers were applied to the machine and the fire was considered out by 1:00 A.M. Basinger, H.E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/1/58 TIME 10:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Low Splint

HT. 40-46 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 103/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Highsplint, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. High Splint Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Joe Newell

CAUSE arc from short in lead wire DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. line brattice and check curtains erected to clear smoke and then fire extinguishers and water applied to the machine PREV. mining machine overheating not reported & equipment left dirty with combustibles

RESC. Men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil, grease AGENT water, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 282

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Investigation of an Underground Fire

Rectifier caught fire during idle shift. A d.c. power failure alerted electrician to problem. Fire-fighting delayed until line brattice erected. Then rock dust and fire extinguisher applied. Water was used to cool the substation. Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver.

DATE 8/2/58 TIME 7:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - Laird Albison
Foreman - Alex McNab

CAUSE fault in line side of circuit breaker DETECT by electrician investigating power failure

EXT. EFF. line brattice erected and rock dust and extinguisher applied, water used to cool area PREV. c.b. operated excessively indicating problem and more frequent inspection of switch gear indicated

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL NS AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. rectifier

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS $3000 damage to rectifier PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 283

Suntrana Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A fire burned around a permanent fire seal. The area was abandoned permanently and four permanent seals were erected. The area between these seals was sluiced with sand and gravel from the surface to form additional fire barrier. Ratkovich, Dan R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/11/58 TIME 4:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 1 & No. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE 38/2 Emp. METH. Blasting

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Suntrana Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - A.C. Costa

CAUSE fire from behind seal DETECT discovered by night foreman

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. workmen withdrawn from area immediately

IG. fire FUEL seals, coal AGENT resealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 284

Deby No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable Splice) Fire

A short circuit in a temporary splice in mining machine trailing cable caused burning of the insulation of the cable. When the power was removed from the cable it ceased burning. Redin, T.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/19/58 TIME 8:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 6 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 30-47 in. SIZE 825 TPD 95/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hyden, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Deby Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Clell Saylor

CAUSE short circuit in mining machine trailing cable DETECT discovered by a line bratticeman

EXT. EFF. power removed from cable PREV. adequate

RESC. 40 men not affected who were underground - 6 men treated for acute chemical trachitis and bronchitis due to smoke and fumes

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power removed EQUIP. Mining machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS machine cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 285

Powhatan No. 1 Mine

Small Fire in Trailing Cable

Mining machine was being trammed when a bare spot at a temporary splice in trailing cable came in contact with the frame of the machine igniting the oil and grease on the machine. Fire extinguished in 8 minutes with extinguisher. Eakins, John S., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/22/58 TIME 5:45P DUR. 8 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Powhatan Point, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Powhatan Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE temporary splice in trailing cable contacted frame of machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. 20 men were withdrawn promptly and men in other sections were not affected

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, grease, hyd. hoses AGENT powder EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hoses PROD. LOSS 1 hr.

No. 286

No. 27 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Trailing cable on mining machine short circuited igniting hydraulic fluid in mining machine and oil and grease on surface of machine. Fire was fought with rock dust, water, and CO2 and soda-acid extinguishers to quench fire. Whalen, James T., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/27/58 TIME 1:00A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thacker (Cedar Grove)

HT. 40-52 in. SIZE 5300 TPD 361/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Scarlet, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Henry Skiba Foreman - B.J. Skeens

CAUSE short circuit at temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, CO2, soda-acid extinguishers, water PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, oil, grease AGENT water, rock dust, CO2, soda-acid EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine and trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 287

No. 7 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by mine foreman. It was extinguished by use of water, extinguishers, and rock dust. Odor of burning oil was detected and as no electric power or combustible materials were in this area, it is believed the fire was deliberately set. Reese, Jack, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/2/58 TIME 10:00A DUR. 13 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Dean

HT. 40 in. SIZE 200 TPD 179/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Petros, Morgan, Tennessee OWN. Brushy Mountain Coal Mines PERS. NS

CAUSE deliberately set DETECT detected by mine foreman

EXT. EFF. extinguishers, water, rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. all men removed from mine

IG. UNK FUEL oil AGENT water, rock dust extinguishers EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 288

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when arc from short circuit in trailing cable of mining machine ignited coal which had fallen off the conveyor and covered the cable where the fire started. The fire was extinguished within 4 hrs. Jordan, Fornie A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/3/58 TIME 11:00A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Rich Mountain

HT. 33 in. SIZE 285 TPD 53/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Westbourne, Campbell, Tennessee OWN. W.B. Spradlin Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. Men escaped unassisted

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal insulation AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. Mining machine

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes,

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 289

Stanaford No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Tandem Locomotive) Fire

Fire started when flash from short circuit in the tree of leads between units of tandem locomotive set insulation afire. Night foreman applied rock dust until extinguished. Gallagher, F.J., Stortz, F.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/5/58 TIME 11:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Beckley

HT. 30-60 in. SIZE 1570 TPD 308/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stanaford, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. New River Co. PERS. Supt. - David Sizemore

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. 80 men in mine not affected

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive PROD. LOSS NS

No. 290

Crown Mine

GOB Fire

Evidence of fire detected by mine examiner. It was found that roof coal buried under heavy falls had ignited. All burning and heated material was found and removed. Messersmith, M.R., O'Connor, James A., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 9/9/58 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Farmersville, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - John W. Abril

CAUSE NS DETECT by mine examiner

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. No one permitted to enter mine

IG. NS FUEL gob AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 291

Eureka No. 35 Lower Mine

Belt Fire

Fire started when cable slipped out of hanger coming in contact with rollers. Cable insulation became damaged allowing the feeder cable to short circuit to frame of belt conveyor. The arc ignited the insulation and the belt ignited. Fire was promptly extinguished by rock dust and fire extinguishers. Moore, Deward W., Devett, William R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/2/58 TIME 1:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Windber, Somerset, Pennsylvania OWN. Berwind-White Coal Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit DETECT belt operator smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. extinguishers, rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. 3 men escaped unassisted and other men not exposed to the smoke

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, belt, plastic pipe AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 10' of conveyor belt and lagging on the drive roller PROD. LOSS NS

No. 292

West Gulf Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire was caused by dry bearing in a roller on the bottom of the belt which, while the belt was running caused the surface of the roller to become heated to such an extent that when the belt stopped it commenced burning. Gallagher, F.J., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/13/58 TIME 3:50P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Beckley

HT. 38 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 141/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Maben, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - E.V. Bowman Foreman - Robert Lewis

CAUSE friction DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. no men at work inby fire area

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, rock dust extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 80' of belt structure and 160' of belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 293

Pine Branch Colliery No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when roof bolting machine ran over its trailing cable causing it to short circuit. It ignited the oil in the hydraulic system. The nips were removed and fire was fought with rock dust, extinguishers and water until put out. Betchey, George M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/14/58 TIME 4:30A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Taggart

HT. 47 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 190/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dunbar, Wise, Virginia OWN. Stonega Coke and Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.R. King Foreman - L.N. Christian Saf. Dir. - T.J. Liddle

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers, water, rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. men withdrawn immediately

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS roof bolting machine and 15' of cable PROD. LOSS one day

No. 294

Turner No. 5 Mine

Report of Fatal Electrical (Suffocation) Accident

Trailing cable on locomotive short circuited. The nip was removed from the power line to repair damage. One man who observed smoke panicked and in trying to escape traveled into the densest part of the smoke. He was found unconscious and died of suffocation. Clawson, John H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/14/58 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 40 in. SIZE 550 TPD 60/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Drift, Floyd, Kentucky OWN. Left Beaver Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Belford Ritz & Glen Ward

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nip removed from power line PREV. adequate

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT nip removed EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 295

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Trailing cable on cutting machine short circuited and ignited oil and coal dust on machine and burned the insulation. Fire was first approached with extinguishers but they were not effective. Water and fire extinguishers were then used to extinguish it. Michael, James D., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/14/58 TIME 11:40A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 84 in. SIZE 9000 TPD 537/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Gary, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. United States Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Robert Anderson Foreman - Frank Gergley

CAUSE short circuit at temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, dust AGENT water, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 296

Foster No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred in trailing cable of mining machine when it short circuited. A roof fall in the fire area covered the machine. Fire was extinguished by water and cutting machine was pulled out of the fire area. A wagon containing explosives and detonators was recovered and removed. Baker, F.D., Lynch, G.L., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 10/27/58 TIME 11:20P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 38 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 89/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Brownstown, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Leechburg Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - David Batistig Foreman - Henry Jones

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate, but self-rescuers not provided underground

RESC. all men sent from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. hose, combustible materials AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hoses, rubber tires on machine PROD. LOSS. 2 days

---

No. 297

Hubbard Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire believed to have started when arcs or sparks of the rear locomotive on sanded rails ignited the oil-soaked bottoms of the supply car. Heat from the fire caused acetylene gas to expand and blow and feed the fire. Holcomb, J.W., Brown, C.L., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 11/4/58 TIME 12:30A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Freeport

HT. 82 in. SIZE 955 TPD 107/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. McKeesport, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Greensburg-Connellsville Coal and Coke Co. PERS. Foreman - Herbert Bytheway

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by 2 mechanics

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. no one in mine, but 2 mechanics who were both hospitalized for oxygen treatment

IG. electrical FUEL gas, oil AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. supply car

EQUIP. LOSS supply car and its contents PROD. LOSS NS

No. 298

No. 4 Mine

Report of Fatal Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire was caused by short circuit in trailing cable when it was crushed beneath a steel tie by the weight of a locomotive. Section foreman overcome by smoke drowned when he fell in some water. Fire extinguished with rock dust after mine power circuits were deenergized from the surface. Brown, Jr., D.L., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 11/5/58 TIME 5:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Powellton

HT. 34 in. SIZE 927 TPD 95/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Carbon, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - James W. Jones

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. Section foreman overcome by smoke and fumes and drowned in 7 in. of water while trying to escape - rest of men were unharmed

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT rock dust EQUIP. roof bolt drill

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 4' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 299

Colver Mine

Report of Investigation of Minor Belt Fire

A roller bearing had gone bad on main belt line causing it to overheat and causing coal around the roller to smolder. Water was applied to the belt and roller and fire was extinguished. Mortensen, G.M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 11/7/58 TIME 4:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Colver, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Eastern Gas & Fuel Assoc. PERS. NS

CAUSE overheated roller bearing DETECT detected by section foreman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. men in mine were withdrawn

IG. overheated roller FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 300

Pursglove No. 15 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

It is believed that the fire was caused by friction created by the conveyor belt which ignited the belt. Direct fighting of the fire was difficult and after a roof fall occurred, seals were erected. Estep, Roy C., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 11/26/58 TIME 7:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 150/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pursglove, Monongalia W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Cleon Fowler Foreman - J.L. Davis

CAUSE friction DETECT official making fireboss examination discovered smoke

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, seals PREV. adequate

RESC. 55 men underground previously withdrawn due to power failure

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, rock dust seals EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS, but considerable PROD. LOSS. 3 months plus

No. 301

No. 22 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Power Cable) Fire

Fire caused by short circuit in power cables in a borehole. Three cables dropped and ignited loose coal and some timber. Rock dust and water were applied to the fire and it was extinguished. Akers, Paul T., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/28/58 TIME 10:30A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 60 in. SIZE 3200 TPD 175/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Pine Creek, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Claude Smith Foreman - Gordon Swetnam

CAUSE short circuit in power cables DETECT general mine foreman discovered smoke

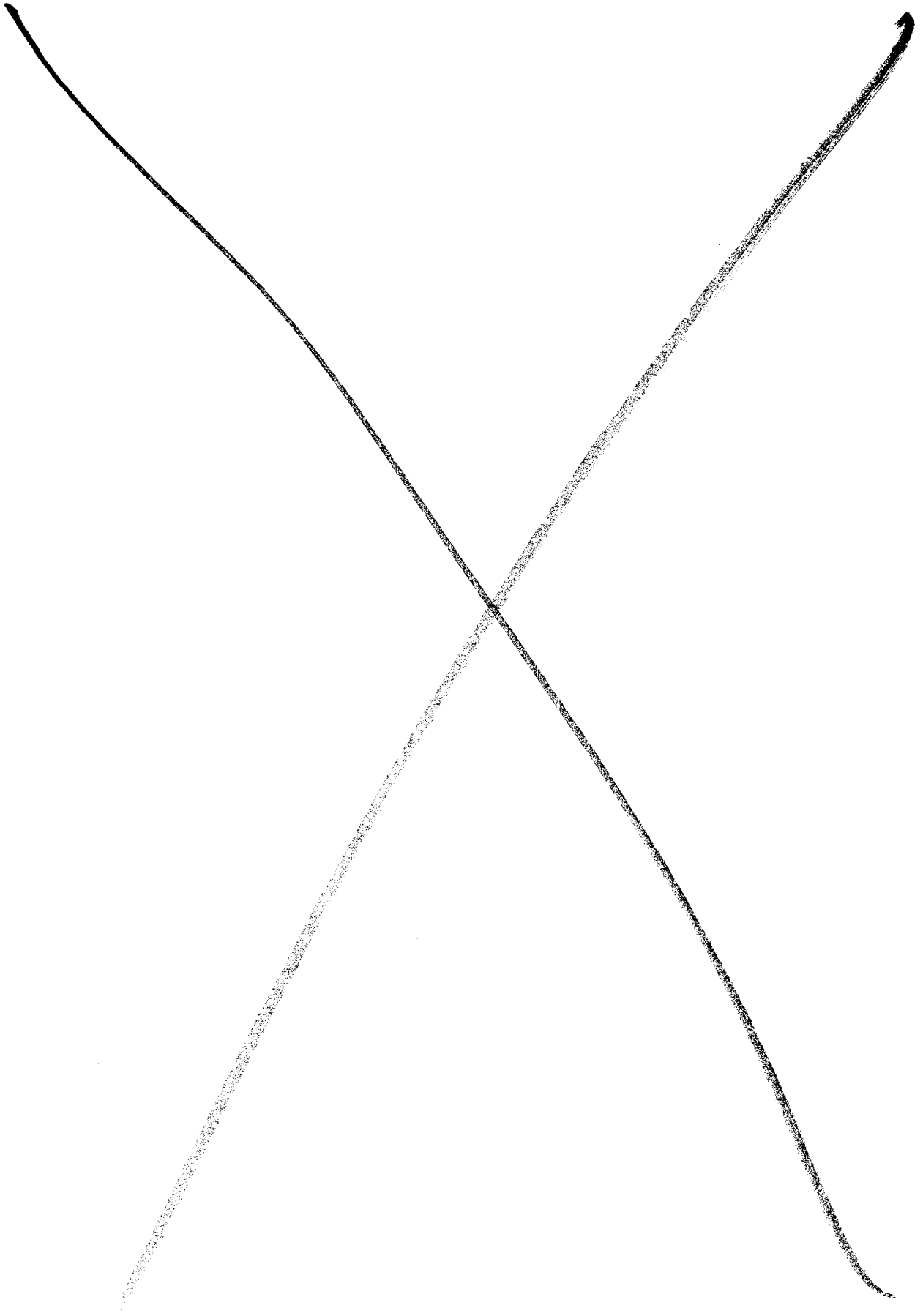
EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. one section of men withdrawn; no one working near fire area

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 2800 ' of power cable, cinder-block switch enclosure and 3 cutout switches PROD. LOSS NS



No. 302

Mine No. 4

Belt Fire

Fire was caused by friction between the drive pulley and the belt. It is believed a chunk of coal wedged between side boards at belt loading station and stopped the belt. Fire was extinguished promptly by water. Belt, Loren A., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 12/5/58 TIME 7:45P DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Pittsburgh, Williamson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE friction DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. all men brought up to the surface

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 303

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

While attempting to rerail wrecked mine car, a wheel of the car caused short circuit in the power wires installed under the track. Rock dust and extinguishers were used. One man overcome by smoke and was hospitalized. Betchey, George M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/17/58 TIME 1:30P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Dorchester

HT. 52 in. SIZE 200 TPD 32/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dorchester, Wise, Virginia OWN. Lease Hollow Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Frank Moore

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. self rescuers and other protective equipment were not available - insufficient fire fighting equipment

RESC. All men withdrawn - one man hospitalized due to exposure to smoke and fumes while fighting fire

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. mine car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS mine car PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 304

Stanaford No. 2 Mine

Electrical Fire

Fire was caused when the insulation between the conductors in the connector broke because of excessive overload from the cutting machine. Childers, Maurice S., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/18/58 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Stanaford, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. New River Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE electrical origin DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. men brought to intake air until smoke cleared

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EQUIP. cutter

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS pin type connector (Miller plug) PROD. LOSS. ½ hr.

No. 305

Clyde Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when wheels of roof bolting truck ran over energized cutting machine cable. The cable short circuited and ignited combustible material on the roof drill. Mc Donald, T.J., Kirk, R.J., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 12/24/58 TIME 1:40P DUR. 17 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 465/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.M. Krese Foreman - J.R. Freeman

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. all men withdrawn from mine

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS roof bolting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 305-b

Clyde Mine

Report of Reopening Sealed Fire Area

Recovery operations were begun 1/12/59 and the fire seals removed. The area was thoroughly explored and a close check of the area was kept. Regular mining operations resumed 1/11/59 except that portion covered by Order of 7/31/58. That Order was annulled 2/6/59. McDonald, T.J., Kirk, R.J., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 12/24/58 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 465/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.M. Krese Foreman - J.R. Freeman

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, coal AGENT sealing EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car and cont. miner

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 306

No. 74 Mine

Report of Mine Locomotive Fire

Fire was caused by short circuit caused when exposed part of power cable contacted the frame of the locomotive near the base of the trolley pole. It was immediately extinguished with a 2 lb. dry chemical fire extinguisher. Hoover, W.H., Devett, William R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/29/58 TIME 10:45P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 7 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Johnstown, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguisher PREV. NS

RESC. 7 men treatet for smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, trolley wire AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive and trolley wire guarding PROD. LOSS NS

No. 307

Valley Camp No. 3 Mine

Fire

Fire occurred when trolley pole became dislodged from the wire and created an arc. The trolley wire guard caught fire by the arc. Fire was quickly extinguished and area was wetted down. Marron, Edward J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/9/59 TIME 12:40A DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 158/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE trolley pole became dislodged from wire and created arc DETECT discovered by 2 supplymen

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers and water PREV. satisfactory

RESC. 22 men were in the mine but none were affected by the fire

IG. electrical FUEL brattice cloth, trolley wire AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 308

Mary Helen Nos. 2 & 3 Mines

Shuttle Car Fire

Fire started by arc from a short circuit in the trailing cable. The arc ignited oil and grease on the storage tank of the shuttle car and ignited front tire of car. The nips were removed and fire extinguished by use of rock dust, water, and fire extinguishers. Basinger, Henry E., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 1/9/59 TIME 2:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Harlan

HT. 28-48 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 141/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Coalgood, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Mary Helen Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water, fire extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. men were removed from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, cable, tire AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car and a short piece of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 309

Suntrana Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was caused by spontaneous combustion or from hot materials in the No. 2 bed fire area entering the No. 1 bed workings through caves. Seals were erected and the area inby the seals permanently abandoned. Ratkovich, Dan R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 1/20/59 TIME 5:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 1 & No. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE 650 TPD 38/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Suntrana Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - A.C. Costa

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT discovered by fire boss making a pre-shift examination

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. NS

RESC. workmen kept from entering the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 310

No. 7 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was started deliberately by workmen who were inmates of local State Penal Institution. Forty-eight inmates refused to leave the mine and stayed there overnight. Fire was discovered by mine foreman after inmates had left mine. Reese, Jack, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/3/59 TIME 12:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Dean

HT. 40 in. SIZE 225 TPD 179/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Petros, Morgan, Tennessee OWN. Brushy Mountain Coal Mines PERS. Supt. - C. Stanley Cross Foreman - Thomas M. Jones

CAUSE deliberately set DETECT discovered by mine foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water, and fire extinguishers PREV. smoking was permitted; adequate number of self-rescuers not available

RESC. None

IG. deliberately set FUEL wooden mine cars AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. mine cars

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 60 wooden mine cars PROD. LOSS approximately 11 days

No. 311

Lance Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was caused by short circuit in power wire that ignited combustible materials and a roof fall had occurred in the area. Water was pumped through a pipeline to the top of the fall and dumped above and near the fire. Torrance, William T., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/5/59 TIME 8:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Bottom Ross

HT. 6' SIZE 1100 TPD 140/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Larksville, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Alden Corp. PERS. Supt. - John Zimmerman Foreman - David Van Fossen

CAUSE short circuit in electric power cable DETECT assistant mine foreman making a routine inspection

EXT. EFF. water, fire extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. all persons were withdrawn from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT water, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 312

Potts Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

The cause of the fire is conjectural but may have been started by methane being ignited in some indeterminable manner. Drillers saw sudden flash of flame from borehole. Fire area was isolated and water pumped into affected area and flooded. Wilson, Harrison F., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 3/5/59 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Mammoth

HT. NS in. SIZE 850 TPD 110/3 Emp. METH. Gravity flow-long hole blasting

LOC. Locustdale, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Locust Dale Mining and Contracting Co. PERS. Supt. - George Eroh Foreman - Harry Kleman

CAUSE UNK DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. men were withdrawn from affected section of mine

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 5 months

No. 313

Federal # 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing & Subsequent Reopening & Resealing Operations

Fire originated under a roof fall caused by electric arc which ignited timber and coal when power conductor contacted the metallic pipeline. Direct attack on fire ineffective and area sealed. Area then was flooded. An attempt was made to recover sealed fire area but conditions prevented this and the area was resealed. Estep, Roy C., HSAC Denver, 11 pp.

DATE 3/6/59 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 82 in. SIZE 11,750 TPD 583/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - John P. Baugues Foreman - Leroy Laxton Saf. Dir. - Joshua Smith

CAUSE power conductor contacted metallic pipeline creating arc DETECT a mainline locomotive operator on his way with a trip smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water, seals PREV. adequate

RESC. men underground escaped without injury

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, rock dust, seals EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive, 10 mine cars, substation, pumps and track completely buried under roof falls - recovery not expected PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 313-b

Federal # 1 Mine

Final Report of Coal Mine Fire & Subsequent Reopening & Resealing Operations

Fire occurring on 3/6/59 resulted in sealing area. Sealed fire area was reopened 11/3/61 but due to extensive falls and evidence of carbon monoxide, the area was resealed 11/4/61. Area again reopened 6/25/66, but due to extensive falls and presence of smoke and carbon monoxide indicating fire had rekindled and area again resealed 6/28/66. Marshalek, Joseph, MESA Morgantown, 6 pp.

DATE 3/6/59 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 82 in. SIZE 11,000 TPD 596/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - John P. Bauges Foreman - Adam Moscary Saf. Dir. - Ben F. Powell

CAUSE fall of roof dislodged energized trolley wire onto metal pipeline and ignited fallen timbers DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. men were evacuated - Withdrawal Order for entire mine issued 3/6/59

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT sealing EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS Order revised 5/1/68 allows production of coal except for 100' outby sealed area

No. 314

Moss No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

During a routine Sunday inspection, foreman discovered the fire. He opened cut-out switches and went for help. With other miners from nearby mine, fire was extinguished in 1 hour. Stinnette, C.E., MESA Norton, 4 pp.

DATE 3/8/59 TIME 1:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Clintwood Coal Bed

HT. 144-168in. SIZE 300 TPD 22/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Moss, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Radford Mullins

CAUSE trolley wire crossed rail as a result of roof and rib fall DETECT during routine foreman inspection

EXT. EFF. foreman deenergized cable and went for help; water, rock dust, chemical extinguishers and material removal worked PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, powder, removal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 315

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

It is believed the fire originated when the locomotive became derailed, resulting in a broken rail causing arcing and igniting combustible material. Fire was fought direct until 2 roof falls occurred when it was decided to seal the area. Calvert, Robert G., Whalen, James T., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/9/59 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 5 Block

HT. 60 in. SIZE 110 TPD 14/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. East Lynn, Wayne, W. Virginia OWN. Fry Brothers Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT cutting machine crew observed smoke

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. all persons withdrawn from the mien

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, seals EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive PROD. LOSS NS

No. 316

Rich Run Mine

Report of Investigation of Mine Fire

Fire started when coal rib turned over onto the trailing cable resulting in a short circuit causing the cable to overheat and ignite. Water was directed on the fire and it was extinguished in about 10 minutes. Bowling, V.H., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 3/15/59 TIME 3-7:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 5 Block

HT. 84 in. SIZE 2875 TPD 201/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Widen, Clay, W. Virginia OWN. Elk River Coal and Lumber Co. PERS. Supt. - Scott Williams Foreman - Darrell Wood

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT smoke detected by section foreman and crew

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. only men in mine were ones who discovered the fire

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS 5' of power cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 317

Snap Creek No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire caused by short circuit in temporary splice of energized trailing cable on the service car, ignited combustible material on the car. The coal rib also ignited and a shuttle car parked nearby ignited. Water and chemicals were used to extinguish the fire. Whalen, James T., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/23-25/1959 TIME 7:30A DUR. 45 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 40 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 68/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Snap Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - James H. Ford, Jr. Foreman - Hassel Johnson

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice of trailing cable DETECT smoke detected by mine foreman

EXT. EFF. water and chemicals PREV. adequate

RESC. all persons withdrawn and debarred from mine

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal, hyd. fluid, service car AGENT water, chemicals EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car and service car

EQUIP. LOSS service car and shuttle car PROD. LOSS 2 days

No. 318

Valley Camp No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Loading Machine)

Fire was result of short circuit in trailing cable which ignited the cable reel. The fire then ignited oil and coal which had accumulated beneath the reel. Fire extinguishers and rock dust were used without success and water was then used to extinguish the fire. Barr, Richard E., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/26/59 TIME 7:10P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 8

HT. 61 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 119/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elm Grove, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Clifford Vitalie Saf. Dir. - M.J. Mechling

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. no one in mine affected by smoke or fumes - the men were alerted and instructed to stand by in case fire got out of control

IG. electrical FUEL coal, oil, cable AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. loader

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 319

Moss No. 3 Mine

Trailing Cable Fire

Fire was caused by overheating of trailing cable on mining machine which ignited the cable and hoses on the machine. Fire brought under control within one hour. Gaddy, Frank L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 3/26/59 TIME 10:20P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Tiller & Jawbone

HT. 10-16' SIZE 4000 TPD 90/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE overheating of trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL cable, hoses AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers (chemical) EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable and hoses on mining machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 320

Enoco Collieries

Final Report of Mine Fire

Trailing cable on cutting machine short circuited causing fire. Fire was extinguished promptly by dumping a sack of cement on it. Two men given oxygen due to smoke and fumes that were carried by the air current where men were working. Douglas, Sanford J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/31/59 TIME 3:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Indiana No. 5

HT. 60-96 in. SIZE 3100 TPD 162/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Bruceville, Knox, Indiana OWN. Enoco Collieries, Inc. PERS. Foreman - William Wininger

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. sack of cement PREV. adequate

RESC. 14 men returned to fresh air - 2 were given oxygen on the surface and one sent to hospital and released the next day

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT cement EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 15' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 321

Clyde Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when roof fall dislodged trolley wire which fell on the track creating arcing and igniting roof coal in the fallen material. Water was applied to extinguish the fire and production was resumed on afternoon shift. Kirk, R.J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/8/59 TIME 7:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 5117 TPD 587/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.M. Krese
Foreman - J.R. Freeman
Saf. Dir. - C.H. Hoch

CAUSE roof fall dislodged trolley wire which fell on track creating arcing DETECT smoke was detected by bratticeman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. workmen withdrawn from face regions

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 322

Suntrana Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered at seal between Nos. 10 & 11 chutes in gangway entry. All workmen were removed except those building fire seals at Nos. 8 & 9 rooms. Work was completed 4/10. After coal removed from No. 3 chute room, permanent seals will be erected between Nos. 3 & 4 rooms. Van Natter, P.C., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/8/59 TIME 1:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 1

HT. 48' SIZE 650 TPD 38/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Suntrana Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Mgr. - Thomas L. Cinkovich

CAUSE either spontaneous combustion at the seal or propagation of previous fire DETECT smoke detected near old seals

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. all men removed inby fire area when it appeared fire would burst through old seal

IG. spontaneous or old fire FUEL timber, coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 323

Piney & Pinnacle Mines

Report of Coal Mine (Roof Bolt Machine) Fire

Trailing cable on mining machine short circuited and ignited the hydraulic system on a roof drill. Fire extinguishers and rock dust were used to bring fire under control and water used to completely extinguish it. Vickers, Ward R., Michael, William B., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 4/14/59 TIME 8:15A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 54 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 80/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Algoma, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Paul Hurley Saf. Dir. - C.E. Linkens

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. men working in affected section assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, grease, dust AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. bolter, roof drill, mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS roof drill PROD. LOSS NS

No. 324

No. 1 Mine

Trailing Cable Fire (Memo)

Two miners were tramming undercut machine to next face and ran over faulty splice which short circuited. The power was quickly disconnected and the fire extinguished. A tire, hoses and the cable were damaged. Gaddy, F.L., MESA Norton.

DATE 4/23/59 TIME 10:20A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 46 in. SIZE 20/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dixiana, Wise, Virginia OWN. Pine Mountain Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Howard Kidd

CAUSE trailing cable splice short circuited DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power was disconnected and chemical extinguisher applied PREV. sufficient

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, cable, oil AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter, cable

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 325

Loomis Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Mine had been idle for 1 year. Four men employed to inspect, pump, and other duties. Fire discovered (pump room, timbers burning). Problem had been noticed at 2:30 A.M. in that water in sump rising. Extinguisher used with little success, smoke and falls hampering efforts. Pump hooked up and fire put out by 4/30/59. Torrance, William J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 4/28/59 TIME 5-6:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - Ivor Williams
Foreman - George Wesley
Saf. Dir. - Willis Devens

CAUSE (opinion) contacts of starting equipment failed to open when short occurred in motor or starting equipment DETECT by pumpman

EXT. EFF. extinguishers applied with no success, area flooded PREV. adequate, but no rescue equipment

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water, powder EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. pump

EQUIP. LOSS pump and motor PROD. LOSS NS

No. 326

No. 9 Mine Coaldale Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered by pre-shift examiner. Four assistant foremen had worked previous day repairing in 414 tunnel and had energized chain conveyor. Fire put out with water and stopping built to flood area. Landis, H.P., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/29/59 TIME 7:30A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Coaldale, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Coaldale Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Norman Richards

CAUSE piece of lagging broke and pinched cable shorting timbers to ground producing smoldering fire DETECT discovered by pre-shift examiner

EXT. EFF. with water - concrete stopping erected in tunnel and area flooded 20' deep PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 327

Robena No. 3

Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Midnight shift found 3/4" water hose ruptured along belt entry, power connector partly submerged. Cables hung up and pillar removal restarted. Belt stopped at 5:00 A.M. and fire found around 6:00 A.M. Employees in the section withdrawn. Power removed and rock dust applied as well as accumulated water. Water hose connected and water wetted roof and ribs. Lyons, W.L., Kirk, R.J., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 5/7/59 TIME 6:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 4 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Greensboro and Carmichaels, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. US Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in circuit supplying power to pump motor of conveyor tail section DETECT after belt stopped

EXT. EFF. power cut, rock dust and water applied PREV. very good

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 5' section of 7-conductor cable and connector and short length of trailing cables PROD. LOSS NS

No. 328

No. 19C Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Section foreman noticed short circuit become blazing and went to investigate. He was unable to see main power. He returned to face and conducted men to safety. Trolley wire disconnected. Smoke became dense. Air was not circulating, because power company had power outtage due to repair truck fire nearby. Fire rock dusted by mine rescue team, posts set as roof support and water applied. Gay, T.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/12/59 TIME 8:45A DUR. 9 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1350 TPD 91/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stirrat, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Omar Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Clinton Parsley Foreman - Paul Pichardo Saf. Dir. - W.M. Cooke

CAUSE high-resistance short in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied by men with all-service gas masks, then water applied and material outloaded PREV. very good

RESC. section foreman removed men from section and adjoining section

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable PROD. LOSS. entire day

No. 329

Stone No. 8

Trailing Cable Fire

Section foreman went to check why magna-trip relay had tripped and found smoke. Told workmen to go to loading point, which was clear of smoke. Foreman found section of jumper-cable which had burned until relay tripped. Harris, O.W., MESA Pikeville, 2 pp.

DATE 5/18/59 TIME 11:40A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pond Creek

HT. 56 in. SIZE 850 TPD 44/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Stone, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Eastern Coal Corp, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Vance Price Foreman - Harold Brogan

CAUSE short in poorly made splice DETECT foreman went to check relay tripping

EXT. EFF. self-extinguishing within 10 minutes PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A - men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT self-extinguish EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 3' of cable PROD. LOSS 2 hrs.

No. 330

Crown Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

"Gob stink" noticed by electrician during maintenance shift. This is common in this area. Search of several hours for source was fruitless. Material was outloaded continuously. Two men hurt during falls of roof and rib. Hot material finally located 6/3. 260 mine cars of mostly rock removed. Kessler, W.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/1/59 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 84 in. SIZE 10,325 TPD 428/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Farmersville, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Frank Koliser

CAUSE spontaneous combustion of material containing pyrites DETECT smoke detected by electrician

EXT. EFF. material outloaded in effort to find fire PREV. very good

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT rock dust, loading EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 2 days

No. 331

Jensie Mine

Belt Fire

Shuttle car struck and dislodged one of the take-up jacks on 9 west belt conveyor discharge head. This permitted the tailpiece to swing out and lock the belt. Operator engaged control switch. Ten minutes later, loader at 2 north belt 200' away saw smoke. He notified everyone and fire was put out with CO2 and water. All men left the mine after the fire. Callahan, J.T,, Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 6/2/59 TIME 6:35P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 54 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 153/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. E. Springfield, Jefferson, Ohio OWN. Powhatan Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE heat generated through friction between belt and drive rollers DETECT 10 minutes after collision, by loader

EXT. EFF. CO2 and water from line applied PREV. adequate, but belt not fire-resistant, slippage control not installed & improper switch installation

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 6' of 30" belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 332

Royal Pond Creek Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Locomotive)

Fire began 500' outby the faces as locomotive pulling a trip. Operator smelled smoke and jumped off. When helper, riding on end reached operator seated, he also got off and took operator to return air. Crew heard of fire and found stopped locomotive 1000' outby the face and extinguished the fire with rock dust and dry chemical extinguishers. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/31/59 TIME 2:25P DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pond Creek

HT. 54 in. SIZE 800 TPD 65/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. McAndrews, Pike, Kentucky OWN. W. Va. & Ky. Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Terry Hope Foreman - Ruby Hatfield

CAUSE power cable short circuited - no fuse DETECT by asthmatic operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and dry chemical applied PREV. adequate

RESC. operator brought to return air where he immediately recovered

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS minor damage to several cables and hydraulic hoses of the braking system PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 333

Ireland Mine

Small Fire

Small fire occurred when trolley wire, dislodged by fall of roof, fell on piece of wood plank burning plank and loose coal. Trolley wire did not contact rail and complete short circuit did not occur, causing slow heating of the trolley wire and failure to trip the circuit breaker. Fire extinguished quickly with water. Symons, W.J., Williams, Fred A., MESA Morgantown, 4 pp.

DATE 8/11/59 TIME 3:00P DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No.8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 7900 TPD 310/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Hanna Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Zitko Saf. Dir. - Julius C. Olzer

CAUSE trolley wire was dislodged by fall of roof DETECT mechanic detected smoke in air current

EXT. EFF. water PREV. fused nips installed in the trolley circuits at the intersections of each entry

RESC. 70 men underground - no evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL coal, wood plank AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 334

Loyal Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A short occurred at the face when a piece of sandrock which had fallen pinched the motor lead against the frame. Power was disconnected at once and a dry chemical extinguisher applied. Fire rekindled insulation and hydraulic oil and machine pulled back with shuttle car. Water, rock dust, and chemical extinguishers applied. Foreman cut on roof bolt head in haste. Stiles, S.L., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/3/59 TIME 2:45P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 40-48 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 200/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Loyalhanna Township, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Wyatt-Seanor Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Rudolph Helfer

CAUSE piece of fallen sandrock pinched motor lead DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. several hours

No. 335

Castle Gate No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Safety enginner and fire boss discovered smoke and haze emitting from an abandoned section during pre-shift. An active fire was not found. The CO was at .01%. Area was sealed off. Husted, A.C., Knill, L.D., MESA Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 8/5/59 TIME 7:20A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Castlegate "D"

HT. 12-24' SIZE 1600 TPD 76/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Castle Gate, Carbon, Utah OWN. Independent Coal and Coke Co. PERS. Supt. - Donald Newburry Foreman - A.R. Johnson Saf. Dir. - Homer Hyatt

CAUSE spontaneous heating DETECT by safety engineer and fire boss on pre-shift

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. rigorous patrol of unsealed abandoned areas

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS until 8/7/59

No. 336

No. 7 Mine

Report of Small Mine Fire

Superintendent and electrician discovered fire after smelling smoke. They cut power and fire went out. A fan was shut down for 15 minutes to clear smoke. Cavendish, Alpha B., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/12/59 TIME 11:00A DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Holden, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D.S. Dasovich

CAUSE uninsulated part of cable contacted frame of starter at connection on pump DETECT by electrician and superintendent on duty

EXT. EFF. power cut off PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut EQUIP. pump

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 2' of insulation and choke coil PROD. LOSS. little

---

No. 337

Black Wolfe No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

On idle day, night foreman arrived and saw smoke coming out of fan at No. 2 section drift. He stopped fan and went for help. Belt discovered burning 300' inby. High pressure pump put into operation and fire put out. Hovanec, M.J., Michael, W.B., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/14/59 TIME 4:10P DUR. 3½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 48 in. SIZE 1100 TPD 80/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Black Wolfe, McDowell, OWN. Nassau Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.L. Poe Foreman - P.E. Lawless

CAUSE friction from stuck roller or frozen bearing DETECT by night foreman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS None

No. 338

Lady Dunn 100 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Operator noticed smoke coming from trailing cable entrance. He yelled at helpers to run and flash occurred shortly thereafter. Operator trapped for short period, then left mine. Shuttle car operator ran to nip and cut power. Crew could not reach machine due to smoke. Line brattice erected and fire fought with water. Croyle, Gerald W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 8/24/59 TIME 9:15A DUR. 1 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 38 in. SIZE 2105 TPD 159/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - R.L. Turner
Foreman - Loda Hiles
Saf. Dir. - W.T. Hawkes

CAUSE short circuit in damaged trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. line brattice put up and water trained on fire PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, oil AGENT water, powder EQUIP. cont. miner

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cont. miner PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 339

Sunnyside No. 1

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Section foreman discovered smoke and haze coming from fall of top coal in abandoned section of mine idle since 1/59. Fire area sprayed with water. Grillos, E.J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 8/26/59 TIME 12:10P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper and Lower Sunnyside

HT. 5'-11' & 6-14' SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Sunnyside, Carbon, Utah OWN. Kaiser Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Thomas McCourt
Foreman - Nick Tallerico
Saf. Dir. - Clarence Self

CAUSE spontaneous heating DETECT during routine patrol of idle mine

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal, gob AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 2 days

No. 340

Murdock

Final Report of Coal Mine Fire

Cable fire occurred on reel of shuttle car. Nip pulled and air shorted to return. Men at face and surface notified. Smoke became dense and much line brattice had to be erected to clear air and get at the fire. CO2 did not help much. Rock dust brigade and water line brought to fire. McCune, J.A., Perz, F., Douglas, S.J., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 8/31-9/2 1959 TIME 11:00A DUR. 51 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Uncorrelated

HT. 84 in. SIZE 2150 TPD 74/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Murdock, OWN. Moffat Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Elmos Williams Saf. Dir. - Coy L. South

CAUSE trailing cable short-circuited - could not be determined if at temporary splice or continuous section DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire previous had emptied extinguishers first used; ventilation changes made, CO2 applied, then rock dust and water PREV. adequate, but water line not hooked up

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes No

EQUIP. LOSS $30,000 - 150' of 30" belt, extensive damage to elevating conveyor and shuttle car PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 341

Wyoming

Report on Investigation of Coal Mine Belt Fire

Fire discovered by fire boss during regular exam at the tailpiece of 2 right east mains conveyor. Help summoned, the fire was put out with water and rock dust. Ulshafer, A.L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 9/6/59 TIME 1:30A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 34 in. SIZE 2150 TPD 199/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wyoming, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Roy Sherman Saf. Dir. - J.H. Porter

CAUSE overheated bearing in pulley tailpiece DETECT by fire boss on regular exam

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 3' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 342

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Owner noticed flashes of fire at joints in haulage track. Thick smoke discovered at mouth of 3 left section. Fire fought 9/24 with rock dust unsuccessfully. Area was sealed. Fire had occurred in pillar 120' outby the face. Linville, Ray, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/17/59 TIME 2:00P DUR. 8 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 30 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Colson, Letcher, Kentucky OWN. Day Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Kerney Day Foreman - Hatler Fleming

CAUSE short in trailing cable which was being used as a jumper cable from trolley wire to a "hot" station DETECT upon checking sources of short circuit

EXT. EFF. rock dust, seals PREV. adequate, trailing cable should not be "rigged" as a jumper

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT rock dust, seal EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 8 days

No. 343

Creighton Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Arriving day crew saw fire on main haulage entry. The fire was fought with water once sludgeline broken and repaired several times until 3:15 A.M. 9/19 when methane reached 3.5%. Foam generator brought from Bruceton and outcrop holes located and filled. Entire mine sealed because of gaseous conditions. Kirk, R.J., McDonald, T.J., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 9/18/59 TIME 9:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 42-72 in. SIZE 45 TPD 23/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. Creighton Coalworks Inc. PERS. Supt. - John Bernardo Foreman - Mike Lecorchick

CAUSE (believed) trolley wire fell and ignited fallen coal DETECT by arriving day crew

EXT. EFF. water applied until methane mix became explosive and mine then sealed PREV. adequate, sludge line outlet near fire was at fire, so could not be used

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 343-b

Creighton Mine

Report of Reopening Sealed Fire Area

Fire had occurred 1000' inby drift portal. Combustible gas proportions forced sealing. Mine recovered beginning 1/5/60. Withdrawal Order annulled 2/16/60. Waterline valves still are needed every 500 ft. and lines should be pressure-tested annually. Holcomb, J.W., Kirk, R.J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/18/59 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 42-72 in. SIZE 45 TPD, 5 sections, 23/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Creighton, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Creighton Coal Works, Inc. PERS. Supt. - John Bernardo, Foreman - Mike Lecorchick

CAUSE trolley wire fell and ignited fallen coal DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. adequate; but need training and outlets to water lines more frequent

RESC. co-ordinated recovery (breaking of seals and reventilation) began 1/5/60. Withdrawal Order annulled 2/16/60

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. until 2/16/60

No. 344

Gorgas Mine No. 4 Opening

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Loader operator on break saw flames and called out to cutter operator to shut machine off, while he pulled the nip. An attempt was made to pull the cable off the reel but it broke. Crew could not get to fire with stream and dry chemical extinguishers until line brattice erected. Rock dust then applied and fire put out. Melhorn, H.E., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/1/59 TIME 12:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM America

HT. 58 in. SIZE 5000 TPD, 334/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Gorgas, Walker, Alabama OWN. Alabama Power PERS. Supt. - John Coleman, Saf. Dir. - John Manasco

CAUSE overheated trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. stream and chemical extinguishers, line brattice erected and rock dust applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical, eng. heat FUEL insulation, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, powder, CO2 EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cable and reel of cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 345

No. 2 Mine

Report of Small Mining Machine Fire

After cutting 8 difficult places, cable on reel began smoking and crew stopped machine and disconnected the power. Section foreman procured CO2 extinguishers. Line of canvas extended to entry to allow crew to rock dust and clear smoke. Chemical car brought up and fire put out. Allamon, T., 2 pp.

DATE 10/9/59 TIME 11:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Chafin Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - T.H. Doty

CAUSE overheated trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 applied, line brattice erected, rock dust applied and chemical car brought up PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical, eng. heat FUEL insulation AGENT powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel PROD. LOSS. several hours

No. 346

No. 1 Mine

Letter Report of a Mine Fire

Fire discovered 800' inby the mouth of 1 right entry in two old rotten timber butts. Foreman traveled to within 75' of smoldering fire and saw no flame. Using Chemox apparatus, state inspectors, foreman and safety director put fire out and timbers outloaded. Mark, T.R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/9/59 TIME 5:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Three Point, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan-Everglow Coals, Inc. PERS. Foreman - Albert White
Saf. Dir. - Rufus Bailey

CAUSE UNK - surmised dropped cigarette butt or spark from machine cable nip DETECT foreman discovered fire

EXT. EFF. CO2 applied, then line canvas extended, rock dust and chemical car brought up PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. smoking or spark FUEL timber, coal AGENT rock dust, powder, CO2 EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 347

Burton Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

After supply foreman completed exam, he instructed supply man to travel to 16 left belt drive. He encountered smoke and traveled 1000' through it to the fire. He continued on to fresh air where he notified the supply foreman who made sure men inby were withdrawn. Henderson, F.H., Croyle, G.W., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 10/30/59 TIME 6:00A DUR. 14½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 48 in. SIZE 1288 TPD 76/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Craigsville, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Oglebay Norton Co. PERS. Supt. - Allen Van Horn Foreman - Clifford Perrine

CAUSE loose splice allowed positive to separate producing arcing DETECT discovered by supplyman travelling belt entry

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. very good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 500' of belt, 250' of structure, a 40 hp motor, 300' of cable PROD. LOSS. 5 days

---

No. 348

Robin Hood No. 8

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered at a substation after power failure noted. Two men nearest scene barricaded themselves in due to misunderstanding of fire boss' escape instructions. Officials notified and water tank car brought up. Pump caught fire and destroyed - line laid to sump and water brought to sump. Additional fire car brought in from other mine and fire put out. Brown, D.L., Childers, Maurice, Cordray, W.M., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 11/4/59 TIME 5:45A DUR. 40 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Dorothy

HT. 70 in. SIZE 3300 TPD 175/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Twilight, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Armco Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.F. Trusley Foreman - Lowell Miller

CAUSE short circuit in primary winding DETECT by maintenance men checking power failure

EXT. EFF. ventilation changes made, rock dust and water applied PREV. adequate

RESC. two men barricaded selves until ventilation changes allowed their escape - all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal, oil AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS transformers and switch panel PROD. LOSS 3 days

No. 349

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Mechanic walking in locomotive barn haulage entry detected smoke. Fire was found in rock fall in a caved entry. Crew loaded material and applied water from nearby line. Zelesky, J., Ulshafer, A.L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/4/59 TIME 7:30A DUR. 10½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 72 in. SIZE 4200 TPD 250/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bartley, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Elmer Layne

CAUSE trolley pole came off wire shorting to pipe DETECT by mechanic walking nearby

EXT. EFF. water from nearby line applied after top of rock fall removed to allow access PREV. very good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 350

No. 41 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire occurred when temporary splice in trailing cable extending from feeder line to a safety circuit center box short circuited and arc ignited insulation on excess cable coiled near the center box. Fire extinguished promptly with fire extinguishers. Duncan, Matthew I., McMaster, C.D., MESA Morgantown, 4 pp.

DATE 11/9/59 TIME 9:05A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 7900 TPD 475/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Barrackville, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - Charles K. Dunlap Foreman - H.I. Steel

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT smoke encountered by workman when returning from nipping station

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers PREV. temporary splices should be made stronger and be well insulated

RESC. No evacuation - crew retreated to a point on intake air

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT extinguishers EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 50' of cable and safety circuit center box PROD. LOSS NS

No. 351

No. 9 Mine Coaldale Colliery

Mine Fire

Fire had been a problem in a worked out section of this mine since 1945. CO was discovered by state mine inspector and he ordered all men out. USBM called in and they concurred. Management decided to seal the area permanently and this was done 11/19, at which time the Withdrawal Order was annulled. Fulmer, J.A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 11/16/59 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Coaldale, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Coaldale Mining Co., Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by state mine inspector on routine inspection

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous (probably) FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until 11/19/59

No. 352

No. D-216 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Operator ran over cables and arc ignited hydraulic oil spillage. He ran to pull the nips. CO2 extinguishers brought up but heat too intense. Smoke backed up to entry and foreman suggested crew get brattice and rock dust. Crew put up line curtain to work way to fire. After retreating several times, they reached the fire applying other CO2 extinguishers and rock dust. Jordan, Fornia A., HSAC Denver 4 pp.

DATE 11/17/59 TIME 11:00A DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewanee

HT. 40 in. SIZE 125 TPD 7/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Daus, Sequatchie, Tennessee OWN. Easy Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Seagle Price Saf. Dir. - Tommie Cates

CAUSE short in one or both cables to shuttle car and loader DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 tried first but smoke and heat forced erection of line curtain, CO2 and rock dust then applied PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. shuttle car and continuous miner

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of cable, 2 tires, hydraulic hose and 1 gal. of fluid PROD. LOSS NS

No. 361

No. 9 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered near face of No. 1 entry. Foreman deenergized power circuit and shorted air to return. All men left the mine. Foreman and 3 other men returned and fought fire with water. Material outloaded after fire put out. Brown, D.L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 1/8/60 TIME 6-8:00A DUR. 7 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 140 TPD 21/1 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Clendenin, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Hanson & Sons Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - M.L. Powell

CAUSE roof material fell on mining machine and short circuit ignited cable, posts and loose coal; cable had been left energized DETECT by foreman and 15 employees on way to work stations

EXT. EFF. air shorted after power cut and water applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS 15' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 362

Zenith & Wyoming Mines

Report of Coal Mine Cutting-Machine Fire

Men returning from lunch heard the roof "working" and left room in time to see 4' of rock cover the cutter. A second fall occurred immediately. Operator ran to nip and cut power. Check curtains erected and water pump installed. Fall later covered pump after fire put out. Zelesky, John, HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/13/60 TIME 9:30P DUR. 22½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 50 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 110/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Crumpler, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. United Pocahontas PERS. Supt. - L.I. Blankenship Foreman - Frank Kemp

CAUSE cable shorted after roof fall on machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate, but no self-rescuers provided

RESC. No attempt to remove equipment from under rock

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS loss of cutting machine, electric drill and cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 363

Suntrana Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Smoke had been issuing from openings to surface of No. 3 & 4 rooms several days before fire discovered in crosscut. Room filled with rock dust. Holes to surface filled with earth. VanNatter, P.C., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/22/60 TIME 4:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE 700 TPD 27/2 Emp. METH. caving and bucking

LOC. Suntrana, Alaska OWN. Suntrana Mining Co., Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE either spontaneous combustion or propagation of a previous fire around seals DETECT smoke seen issuing from surface openings several days

EXT. EFF. room filled with rock dust using bulkheads PREV. adequate, but mine had many problems

RESC. NS

IG. spontaneous FUEL timber, coal, gob AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 364

Diamond Mine

Belt Fire

Fire discovered at 2:00 A.M. by 3rd shift workman. It extended 20 feet up the slope portal to the tipple. Three fire trucks called out. The belt burned in two and rolled 300' down the slope where two maintenance men put the fire out with water and CO2. Dona, B.J., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 2/5/60 TIME 2:00A DUR. 1¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Marissa, St. Clark, Illinois OWN. Mid Continent Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE possibly bad bottom roller DETECT by 3rd shift workman

EXT. EFF. water from trucks applied and water and CO2 applied by maintenance men inby PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction (?) FUEL rubber AGENT water, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of belt, belt enclosure, belt pulley and several pans PROD. LOSS NS

No. 365

Peca Shaft Mine

Report on Coal Mine Fire

Blasts fired about 10:00 A.M; by the time hot coals discovered at 8:00 P.M., 61 cars had been loaded out. As that was the only evidence, shift foreman instructed the men to watch further. More hot coals discovered at 2:50 A.M. and chute was drawn empty. Other chute driven above supposed fire area and hot coal discovered, but fire out. Fulmer, J.A., Todd, R.C., Torrance, W.T., HSAC Denver.

DATE 2/22/60 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Buck Mountain

HT. 4' SIZE 950 TPD 205/2 Emp. METH. longhole blasting

LOC. Mahanoy City, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Peca Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - John L. Swinsburg

CAUSE incomplete detonation: oxygen deficiency kept fire smoldering DETECT upon drawing hot coal down chute

EXT. EFF. chutes driven to locate fire, which, when found, was out PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL coal AGENT None EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until 2/26/60

No. 366

Midvale Mine

Cable Fire

Shuttle car ran over loader and drill trailing cables and short circuit developed shortly thereafter igniting the insulation. Section foreman could not reach nip due to smoke. Two others reached nip and fire went out once power cut. Rock dust extinguished smoldering cable. Symons, W.J., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/24/60 TIME 9:15P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. 46 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 150/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Midvale, Tuscarawas, Ohio OWN. Columbia-Southern Chemical Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit after shuttle car ran over cable DETECT by section foreman

EXT. EFF. power cut and rock dust applied to smoldering cable PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, power cut EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 5' of 3 cables PROD. LOSS NS

No. 367

Crockett Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred 30 ft. from face after bolting machine was trammed over trailing cable. Flames engulfed the machine. Operator removed power to bolter and drill. All men were removed except firefighters. After CCL4, soda acid and rock dust were tried. Pump was installed and fire put out starting at 4:15 A.M. Farris, J.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/29/60 TIME 10:30P DUR. 11 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 34 in. SIZE 1150 TPD 113/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Field, Bell, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Ridge Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Lester Chitwood Foreman - John Christan

CAUSE short in cable run over by bolter DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CCl4, soda acid and rock dust used until heat too intense; pump set up and water used PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL NS AGENT rock dust, water, CCl4, soda acid EQUIP. bolter

EFF. No, Yes, No, No, No,

EQUIP. LOSS roof bolting machine & cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 368

Reels Cove No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Mine had been idle since 3/2 because ice had destroyed underground substations' borehole power lines. Mine foreman and pumper entered the mine for routine inspection and found temporary power connection burned off. Fire found and confined to loose coal accumulation at No. 4 discharge conveyor with rock dust and CO2. Falling roof delayed fire fighting and water line laid to soak coals. Amburgey, Ira, Blackwood, B., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/4/60 TIME 10:00A DUR. 10 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewanee

HT. 36 in. SIZE 1650 TPD 126/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Whitwell, Marion, Tennessee OWN. Tennessee Products and Chemical Corp. PERS. Supt. - Hershel Daffron Foreman - Robert Reeves

CAUSE short circuit in splice DETECT by foreman and pumper on routine inspection

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers confined fire, water put it out PREV. suitable

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 369

Leatherwood Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered in abandoned area along a main entry. After inspection, officials decided to seal the area with 13 seals, completed 1:00 A.M. 3/9/60. Due to surface breaks, the area was reopened 5/11/60 and fire put out 5/14/60. Linville, Ray, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/7/60 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Leatherwood

HT. 60 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 350/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Leatherwood, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Blue Diamond Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Noah Mayhew Foreman - Herb Keffer

CAUSE vandalism by outsider DETECT supply crew noticed smoke from abandoned drift opening

EXT. EFF. area sealed, then reopened due to surface breaks preventing extinguishment. Fire was put out direct PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. vandalism FUEL coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until after 5/14/60

No. 370

No. 22 Mine

Mine Fire (Memo)

Fire discovered near an overcast and 65000 cfm of air soon fanned it out of control. Cars on track blocked and delayed attempts to get carboloy unit to scene of the fire in time to control it. 18 men trapped inby tried to get to old slope which had closed (they were aware). Two others escaped unassisted. Park, W.R., MESA Birmingham, 4 pp.

DATE 3/8/60 TIME 8:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 18 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Cedar Grove

HT. NS in. SIZE 3500 TPD METH. Conv.

LOC. Holden, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - William Donaldson

CAUSE UNK - possibly locomotive wreck DETECT by motorman travelling to farthest inby sections

EXT. EFF. carboloy unit arrived at scene too late PREV. NS

RESC. attempts made to contact men inby were futile

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT rock dust, seals carboloy unit EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 370-b

No. 22 Mine

Final Report of Major Mine Fire Disaster

In a low haulageway, a trolley wire evidently arced igniting timbers and coal dust. A fire had burned at the same location several months previous and was quickly extinguished. 18 men were trapped inby the fire. Two men argued with head of trapped, struck out, and escaped with difficulty. The quickness of the fires spread was a factor. Park, W.R., Whalen, J.T., Cordray, W.M., MESA Mt. Hope.

DATE 3/8/60 TIME NS DUR. sealed 7/10/60 DEATHS 18 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2300 TPD 96/2 Emp. METH. Cont. & Conv.

LOC. Pine Creek, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Claude Smith Foreman - M.B. Collier Saf. Dir. - C.E. Linkous

CAUSE arc across trolley wire DETECT locomotive operator saw fire

EXT. EFF. first chemicals and rock dust, foam was then used, finally area was sealed PREV. adequate

RESC. gas masked crews continually made exploratory trips until bodies were found. Recovery was slow and hazardous. First bodies were found 3/15; last on 3/17.

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water, powder, rock dust, seal EQUIP. cable

EFF. No, No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 371

No. 9 Mine

Report of Fire in No. 9 Mine

Fire occurred at headpiece due to friction of slipping belt. It was put out in 20 minutes with rock dust. Linville, Ray, HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 3/8/60 TIME 8:00P DUR. 1/3 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Allock, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Carrs Fork Coal Co.,Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE frame bolt dislodged from pan of conveyor, carried by belt and lodged between belt & tailpiece, belt slipped & heat ignited it DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 372

Landsburg Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Spontaneous heating occurred in abandoned workings behind old wooden stoppings. Four seals completed 3/12/60. McGuire, Louis H., Williams, Melvin L., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 3/8/60 TIME 11:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 1

HT. 18' SIZE 250 TPD 16/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Landsburg, King, Washington OWN. Palmer Coking Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A.A. Simmons Foreman - Clyde Colwell

CAUSE spontaneous combustion of loose coal in area behind wooden stopping which had decayed and allowed air feed DETECT crew on air ventilation and timbering survey detected fire odor

EXT. EFF. area sealed behind stoppings, CO2 (frozen) introduced to maintain positive seal pressure PREV. non-permissible mining machine in use

RESC. N/A - all men withdrawn except fire-fighters

IG. spontaneous heating FUEL timber, coal AGENT seal, dry ice EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 373

Green Diamond Mine

Belt Head Fire

Fire occurred at belt head when switch contactors froze and coal piled up causing frictional slippage to ignite belt and loose coal. Rescue team and local fire department called out, but fire out after the time day manager got to scene from bathhouse. Messersmith, M.R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 3/12/60 TIME NS DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Marissa, St. Clair, Illinois OWN. Mid-Continent Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE contactor points in main extension head control panel froze DETECT by night shift foreman on belts

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust and extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 17' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 374

Royal No. 2 Mine

Mine Fire After Blasting

Fire boss blasted boreholes before day shift arrived. He saw a fire after blasting this date and immediately applied water, but fire got out of control, so he called superintendent for help. Additional men arrived, air short circuited and 3 streams of water put fire out. Reay, T.T., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 3/14/60 TIME 6:00A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 400 TPD 18/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Royal, Carbon, Utah OWN. Royal Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Mr. Woodward

CAUSE borehole pointing downward sent coal dust into suspension upon blasting and it ignited DETECT immediately after blasting

EXT. EFF. water applied and ventilation changes made PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 375

Peca Shaft Mine

Report on Coal Mine Fire

Fire evidently pulled down from previously mined section. Water by hose would not reach it, so foamex equipment brought by USBM, however, CO liberated forced flooding of the mine and even prevented removal of much electrical equipment. Rachunis, W., Wilson, H., Torrance, W.T., Todd, R.C., Fulmer, J.A., HSAC Denver, 11 pp.

DATE 3/21/60 TIME 1:05P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Buck Mountain

HT. 18' SIZE 950 TPD 205/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Mahanoy City, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Peca Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - John Swinsburg

CAUSE UNK - probably fire of unknown existence pulled down from worked-out areas above active workings DETECT burning coal pulled down No. 30 chute

EXT. EFF. water, foam equipment PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water, foam EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS NS . PROD. LOSS many months

No. 376

Stanaford No. 2 Mine

Report on Investigation of Small Mine Fire

Night foreman discovered fire at 5:30 P.M. in crib holding cap wedges and crib blocks near the dump and belt slope bottom. Using rock dust and water he and several others put the fire out by 7:30 P.M. Jeep trolley shoe had jumped wire and contacted pipe and 1 beam around 2:00 P.M. Cavendish, A.B., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 3/22/60 TIME 2:00P DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Stanaford, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. The New River Co. PERS. Supt. - David Sizemore Foreman - Jack McManas

CAUSE arc at a coupling in 6" discharge line caused by trolley shoe jumping the wire & caught between wire & beam which contacted 2" siphon line and thence to 6" discharge near wood DETECT by night foreman

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. suitable

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. crib

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS negligible PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 377

No. 1 Mine

Report of Fire in No. 1 Mine

Fire occurred when relay controling belt direction reversal did not cut out. Drive sped up and friction of load caused ignition of belt. Employees evacuated and fire put out before outside help arrived. Mark, T.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 3/24/60 TIME 9:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Grays Knob, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. V & C Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE frictional ignition of belt running fast under load DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire fought direct PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS several feet of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 378

Wheelwright No. 3 Mine

Trailing Cable Fire

Helper went to nip to disconnect shuttle car for repairs and found burning splice. He pulled power, applied dry chemical fire extinguisher and ran to telephone. Upon returning to scene, fire was found to have gone out. Harris, O.W., Watson, C.F., HSAC Denver.

DATE 4/5/60 TIME 6:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 30-45' SIZE 2079 TPD 189/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wheelwright, Floyd, Kentucky OWN. Inland Steel Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - W.F. Hughes

CAUSE short circuit in splice poorly made and fuse too high DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and fire went out PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 5' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. little

No. 379

No. 5 Mine

Report of Investigation of Trailing Cable Fire

Fire occurred while cutter being trammed to No. 5 face. Operator ran to nip and pulled power and ran back to assist in rock dust application. Akers, P.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/7/60 TIME 11:30A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Omar, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Omar Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault in cable, breaker failed DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and rock dust applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 380

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire discovered along main belt conveyor 600' inby the main portal on idle day when conference being held to decide on abandonment. Electrician turned conveyor on to enter mine and discharge end piled up. He found fire and called for help. After arrival of Federal and State officials, water was run down the belt and remaining smoldering fire put out directly with water. Haley, J.F., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 4/12/60 TIME 12:00P DUR. 4½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Fire Creek

HT. 30-42 in. SIZE 200 TPD 30/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. East Rainelle, Greenbrier, W. Virginia OWN. Midland Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE friction caused by overheated or frozen belt roller and broken bearing - when belt shut off heat ignited belt DETECT by electrician entering mine after noticing broken belt

EXT. EFF. water run down the belt PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 60' of belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 381

Elzo Mine

Report of Fire in Elzo Mine

Short occurred in trailing cable temporary splice close to junction in loader at No. 2 face. Mark, J.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 4/18/60 TIME 6:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. Gen. Mgr. - Norman Yarborough

CAUSE short in temporary splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS slight damage to loader PROD. LOSS NS

No. 382

Beards Fork Eagle Mine

Report on Investigation of Small Mine (Air Compressor) Fire

Smoke detected in 3 left haulageway road and traced to fire at compressor. It was shut off and water car sent for. Men in 2 left removed as a precaution. Matsko, J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/22/60 TIME 5:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Beards Fork, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates PERS. Supt. - W.M. Plymale

CAUSE tank ruptured DETECT boom man noticed smoke and ran to tell electrician

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction - tank rupture FUEL timber AGENT water EQUIP. compressor

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to compressor PROD. LOSS. 1½ hrs.

No. 383

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Crew cutting crosscut when fire occurred. Power was cut at the nip, but men could not return due to smoke and heat. Line brattice erection backfired and crew fled. Air shorted on way out. All-service gas masks donned, fallen material and covers removed and extinguishers applied. Hoist pulled machine out of cut and it was rock dusted. Jarvis, H.A., Childers, M.S., Cordray, W.M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/2/560 TIME 9:45A DUR. 7½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 70/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Earling, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Elkay Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - E.J. Woods Foreman - Jim Blevins

CAUSE short in wiring DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. ventilation changes backfired, gas masks donned and extinguisher and rock dust applied PREV. two escapeways, good supplies

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to electrical and hydraulic systems of cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 418

Bud Mine

Machine Fire of Electrical Origin

Fire occurred when trailing cable short circuited on the reel of roof bolting machine, igniting coal and hydraulic oil on the machine. Rock dust and fire extinguishers were used to extinguish the fire and water used to cool the machine. Eakins, John S., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/27/60 TIME 1:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 600 TPD 20/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Glen Robbins, Jefferson, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - S.C. Futey Foreman - Floyd Hendershott Saf. Dir. - Stanley W. Norris

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable splice DETECT observed by operator

EXT. EFF. soda acid fire extinguishers, CO2, rock dust PREV. combustible materials on machine; poor splices in cable, fire resistant hydraulic fluid not used

RESC. No evacuation - entire crew helped fight fire

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, coal AGENT rock dust, CO2 soda acid EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hose, wiring, 15' of trailing cable on roof bolting machine PROD. LOSS. 1 hr.

No. 419

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when mine car became derailed and knocked out a concrete pier causing steel roof supports and trolley wire to fall on wooden mine cars. Fire burned for a short period until the trolley feeder switch was opened. Barr, Richard, Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 11/8/60 TIME 7:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 or Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 6195 TPD 406/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Laird Albasin Foreman - Cecil Dutton

CAUSE short circuit between trolley wire and steel reinforced mine car due to roof fall DETECT electrician observed smoke

EXT. EFF. trolley feeder switch opened PREV. circuit breakers functioned correctly but mine personnel re-energized system through misunderstanding of circuits

RESC. 96 men in mine evacuated to surface

IG. electrical FUEL wood AGENT removed power EQUIP. Mine cars

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 3 wooden mine cars PROD. LOSS NS

No. 382

Beards Fork Eagle Mine

Report on Investigation of Small Mine (Air Compressor) Fire

Smoke detected in 3 left haulageway road and traced to fire at compressor. It was shut off and water car sent for. Men in 2 left removed as a precaution. Matsko, J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/22/60 TIME 5:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Beards Fork, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates PERS. Supt. - W.M. Plymale

CAUSE tank ruptured DETECT boom man noticed smoke and ran to tell electrician

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction - tank rupture FUEL timber AGENT water EQUIP. compressor

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to compressor PROD. LOSS. 1½ hrs.

No. 383

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Crew cutting crosscut when fire occurred. Power was cut at the nip, but men could not return due to smoke and heat. Line brattice erection backfired and crew fled. Air shorted on way out. All-service gas masks donned, fallen material and covers removed and extinguishers applied. Hoist pulled machine out of cut and it was rock dusted. Jarvis, H.A., Childers, M.S., Cordray, W.M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/2/560 TIME 9:45A DUR. 7¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 70/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Earling, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Elkay Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - E.J. Woods Foreman - Jim Blevins

CAUSE short in wiring DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. ventilation changes backfired, gas masks donned and extinguisher and rock dust applied PREV. two escapeways, good supplies

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to electrical and hydraulic systems of cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 384

Tralee Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Maintenance crew returning on belt encountered smoke at tailpiece. A stopping was partially knocked out and two temporary ones erected. Fire was put out shortly thereafter with water. Brown, R.W., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/25/60 TIME 12:45A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 40 in. SIZE 4700 TPD 450/4 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Tralee, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Semet-Solvay Division Allied Chemical Corp. PERS. Foreman - C.R. Ingle

CAUSE short in cable ignited hydraulic oil in hose, 600 amp. fuse contributed to duration of arc DETECT upon return of maintenance crew to tailpiece, smoke was detected

EXT. EFF. stoppings erected, gas masks donned, and water applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS damage to shuttle car, and 350' of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 385

No. 5 Mine

Report of Investigation of Small Mine Fire

Track foreman noticed lights dim, then found fire. He rendezvoused with man trip and got phoneman to call 28 men inby to warn them to travel escapeway. Rock dust and water sent for. Rock dust contained and water extinguished the fire. Gay, T.W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/27/60 TIME 7:15A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Omar, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Omar Mining Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - William Cooke

CAUSE NS DETECT track foreman noticed lights go dim

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water brought up, hot coals shoveled from airline PREV. adequate

RESC. men inby warned to travel escapeway and several men headed this way from outby to meet the men

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 386

Chafin No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Shuttle car ran over loader trailing cable. Arc ignited oil and dust. 25 gal. tank burst into flames and operator jumped off and car crashed into rib, igniting it. CO2 and rock dust applied as officials notified. Stoppings of brattice erected and soda-acid applied, section foreman overcome by fumes and hospitalized. Water line hooked up and fire put out by 5:00 A.M. Material outloaded. Tisdale, P.H. Gay, T.W., Whalen, J.T., HSAC Denver,5 pp.

DATE 5/2/60 TIME 6:30P DUR. 10½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 48/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Chafin Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Oscar Damron Foreman - Woodrow Marcum

CAUSE short in loader cable run over by shuttle car, resulted in arc igniting hydraulic oil and dust on shuttle car - no overload protection DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2, rock dust and soda-acid applied until water line connected to sump PREV. inadequate dusting, but good equipment available

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, CO2, soda acid EQUIP. shuttle car and loader

EFF. Yes, No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car and loader PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 387

Jane Ann No. 2 Mine

Report of Small Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Operator was tramming machine to new face when short occurred. Operator ran to nip to disconnect power, but fire had broken out on machine. Hoses ruptured and temperature increase and smoke thickening prevented immediate direct attack with CO2 and rock dust on hand. Men not needed were removed as foreman notified. Foreman and Safety Director with 2 members of rescue crew put fire out after brattice erected. Tisdale, P.H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/3/60 TIME 2:00A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Garnette, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Princess Coals, Inc. Powellton Division PERS. Foreman - Sam Anthony Saf. Dir. - William Meadows

CAUSE short resulting in arc ignited oil and dust DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. brattice erected and water applied PREV. adequate

RESC. all men except men erecting stoppings removed

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, dust AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS wiring of electrical circuits and hoses of the hydraulic system PROD. LOSS NS

No. 388

No. 27 Mine

Report of Investigation of Small Mine Fire

Cutter bar to be sent to shop placed on track-burning equipment car. Roof fall dislodged trolley wire contacting it across bar to 02 tank burning a hole in it and igniting 02. Foreman sustained burns. Fire put out with rock dust and CO2. 1 pp.

DATE 5/5/60 TIME 4:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Scarlett, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Ernest Kutzer

CAUSE short caused by trolley wire dislodged by roof fall DETECT immediate by foreman

EXT. EFF. CO2 and rock dust applied PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL oxygen AGENT rock dust, CO2, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. utility vehicle

EQUIP. LOSS tank PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 389

Crucible Mine

Report of Mine Shaft Fire & Explosions

Fire discovered 12:40 P.M. in No. 4 shaft by contractor employee who had been dismantling fan installation. Two explosions occurred when water applied to hot metal and 2 men hurt, 1 in each explosion. Clay and water dumped in shaft extinguished the blaze. McDonald, T.J., Turner, Everett, HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 5/5/60 TIME 12:40P DUR. 7 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 2400 TPD 185/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Crucible, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Crucible Steel Co. of America, Fuel Division PERS. Supt. - Frank A. Burns Foreman - G.C. Higinbotham Saf. Dir. - F.B. Cormack

CAUSE sparks from torch used to cut bolts from a fan installation landed on wooden lining of shaft and ignited it DETECT by employee of contractor

EXT. EFF. water applied by fire company, then water and clay dumped in shaft PREV. inadequate

RESC. N/A - 10 men in mine removed

IG. spark FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, clay EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. hoist

EQUIP. LOSS shaft PROD. LOSS NS

No. 390

Princess Alma No. 12 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

GSC shuttle car trailing cable shorted igniting hydraulic hoses and exposed parts of machine in entry on return air. Ten men in section assisted in combating fire. Cavendish, C.C., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/17/60 TIME 1:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Alma

HT. 40 in. SIZE 57/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Cinderella, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Sycamore Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Tanda Bartley Foreman - Haskel Coalgrove

CAUSE trailing cable short in temporary splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut, extinguishers and rock dust applied; then water car brought up PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS 400' of cable, reel and 1 tire PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 391

Brookside Mine

Report of Fire in Brookside Mine

Fire occurred at face when temporary splice shorted, igniting tire which in turn ignited oil and grease accumulation around the hydraulic controls. Crew immediately began applying rock dust and CO2. Safety Directors', Federal Inspector and 4 State Inspectors helped extinguish the fire directly. Hager, D.W., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 5/17/60 TIME 1:30P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Brookside, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky-Jellico Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Rufus Bailey

CAUSE temporary splice shorted DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2, rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. all men except firefighters removed

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 392

No. 1 Mine

Mine Fire

40' section of roof 50' inby the portal caved causing trolley wire to contact rail with arc igniting timbers and loose coal. Foreman discovered the fire and called the local fire department which extinguished the fire with water. Mears, G.L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/19/60 TIME 10:00A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Darby No. 5

HT. 34 in. SIZE 25 TPD 6/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. St. Charles, Lee, Virginia OWN. Big Jack Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Sam Lawson, Jr.

CAUSE roof fall caused arc between trolley wire and rails igniting timbers & coal spillage DETECT discovered by foreman

EXT. EFF. local fire department applied water PREV. poor roof quality and control

RESC. N/A - no men inby the fire

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 393

Moss No. 3 Mine, Portal A

Mine Fire (Roof-Bolting Machine) (Memo)

A roof bolter being moved to next face ran over a loader's cable which started the roof-bolter aflame. Power was disconnected and the fire extinguished. Cress, F.A., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 5/20/60 TIME 5:00A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 120-192 in. SIZE 5300 TPD 210/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof-bolting machine ran over loader's cable causing a short DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nip was removed from power; direct application of water, rock dust and CO2 were used PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid, grease, oil AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 394

No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred in crosscut near the face. Both operator and helper shoveling cuttings at time of flash ran from the place. Operator disconnected power at the nip. Smoke backed up and brattice erected to divert air away from fire area. Water applied through hole in crosscut, which was widened. Croyle, G.W., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/25/60 TIME 10:40P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Winifrede

HT. 66 in. SIZE 950 TPD 64/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Winifrede, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. The Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - T.E. Mitchem Foreman - K.E. Massey Saf. Dir. - J.W. Jones

CAUSE short in wiring by breakdown in insulation; fuse failed to blow DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate; fire-resistant hydraulic fluid not used

RESC. all men removed except those fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, dust, oil AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutting machine and cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 395

Moss No. 3 Mine, Portal C

Trailing Cable Fire

As operators trammed machine to next face and had drilled two holes, they noticed the reel on fire. They attempted to throw rock dust on the machine, but could not get to it. They then disconnected power and called the mine office. A line curtain was erected and a fire truck brought equipment. The fire was then extinguished. Stinnette, C.E., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 5/26/60 TIME 4:00P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 120-192 in. SIZE 6200 TPD 180/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Milt Bentley Foreman - John Foy

CAUSE overheated splice on reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, CO2 PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, No, Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 396

Compass No. 1A Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred on shuttle car supply roadway. Crew extending belt detected smoke, withdrew to cut power at substation and notified others in the mine. State rescue team and material brought to fight the fire. Heavy smoke required ventilation changes. Fire company arrived with pumper and fire fought with water. Marshalek, J., Shay, P.M., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 6/2/60 TIME 8:30P DUR. 71½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3200 TPD 107/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Philippi, Barbour, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Jack Light

CAUSE roof fall caused positive and negative feeder cables to contact heating fallen coal and timber to ignition DETECT by crew extending belt

EXT. EFF. water PREV. too many splices in feeder lines & circuit breaker set too high

RESC. 6 escaped through a secondary opening and 8 withdrawn through No. 53 portal

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until 6/6/60

No.397

Montour No. 4

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire occurred near discharge end of belt conveyor and car spotter from unknown cause. Men removed through escapeway and three water cars brought up. Check curtains installed and water applied directly, a losing battle. Foam generator brought in, 4400 gal. of foaming agent used. This contained the fire, cooled the area and permitted sealing. Fire was out by 6/15/60. Bennett, J.A., Turner, Everett, HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 6/10/60 TIME 11:30A DUR. 120 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 60 in. SIZE 5300 TPD 292/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Lawrence, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - S.K. Hissom Foreman - Gaylord Whirlow Saf. Dir. - C.W. Parisi

CAUSE UNK DETECT conveyor belt stoppage noticed

EXT. EFF. ventilation changes made and water used,; foam generator contained fire, seals erected PREV. good

RESC. all men except firefighters removed

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, coal, timber, hyd. fluid AGENT foam, seals EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS Withdrawal Order annulled 6/15/60

No. 397-b

Montour 4 Mine

Report of Reopening Sealed Fire Area

Fire that was discovered 6/10/60 was sealed. Samples of atmosphere behind seals were collected and analyzed periodically. This showed a favorable trend and the seals were opened on 12/8/60 and exploration of sealed area completed the same day. Cause of fire could not be determined. Turner, Everett, Huntley, Donald W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 6/10/60 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS NS INJ. NS SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Lawrence, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 398

Crockett Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Roof Bolting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred at face when hydraulic head contacted trailing cable of roof-bolter. Crew ran to disconnect nip and then panicked and left the section. Ventilation changes and line brattice erected by 12:15 P.M. 6/18/60 and fire put out with rock dust and water. Farris, J.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 6/17/60 TIME 2:00A DUR. 12 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 34 in. SIZE 1150 TPD 113/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Field, Bell, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Ridge Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Lester Chitwood

CAUSE hydraulic head contacted trailing cable causing short DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. crew panicked and did not use extinguisher on machine; water and rock dust PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to electrical and hydraulic systems PROD. LOSS NS

No. 399

Sunnyside No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electric Cable Connection) Fire

Power energized for afternoon shift and cable ignited 400' outby the entry face stopping shuttle car in check curtain shorting air and sending smoke and fumes of carbon tetrachloride extinguisher mechanic used to the face. Two workmen overcome and carried to fresh air. They were taken to hospital for observation and released. Reay, Jr., T.T., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/20/60 TIME 3:40P DUR. 1/6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 5½-10' SIZE 1428 TPD 154/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Sunnyside, Carbon, Utah OWN. Kaiser Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Donald Ross Saf. Dir. - Clarence E. Self

CAUSE overheated cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and CCl4 used PREV. good; connection not of suitable capacity

RESC. men did not use self-rescuers and went wrong way (intake) to get out

IG. overheated cable FUEL insulation AGENT CCl4 EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 400

Carpentertown No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire in highwall of adjacent surface mine leaked gases to active workings through stoppings. Application of water on the surface failed to put the fire out. Defective stoppings were repaired and Withdrawal Order annulled 7/9/60. Fire had been burning in highwall since 4/60. Stiles, S.L., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/23/60 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 150 TPD 15/2 Em p. METH. Conv.

LOC. Carpentertown, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Kenallen Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - possibly backfilling with burning spoil-bank material DETECT by writer during inspection

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. dumping burning material FUEL coal AGENT water, repair stoppings EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 401

No. 31 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire boss discovered smoke during section inspection. He met section foreman at tailpiece and they travelled to room where cutting machine had been left and found fire. Line brattice installed at intake side and fire fought with water. Demkowicz, W.M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/21/60 TIME 8:20A DUR. 3½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 3936 TPD 527/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nanty Glo, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - Howard Schweinbraten Foreman - Donald Oldham

CAUSE short circuits at several places; circuit breakers not operating DETECT by fire boss during inspection

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate; circuit breakers not in operating condition

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel, hydraulic motor and 200' of cable and power leads and conduit to control compartment PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 402

Alexander Mine

Small Fire of Electrical Origin

Fire occurred at shuttle car discharge point. Fifteen men in the section exposed - none harmed. Fire put out in a few minutes with rock dust and 3 dry chemical extinguishers after power cut. Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 7/25/60 TIME 8:30P DUR. 1/10 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 130/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D.R. Haake Saf. Dir. - William S. Patterson

CAUSE steel I-beam roof support became dislodged and made contact with power conductor suspended beneath it DETECT by shuttle car operator approaching dump

EXT. EFF. rock dust, power cut, dry chemical PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust, powder, EQUIP. none

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS small section of fire-resistant belt and I-beam PROD. LOSS NS

No. 403

Dutch Creek Mine

Report of Trailing Cable Fire

Fire discovered 75' outby the face in reel of shuttle car. Before power could be cut off, cable "blew-up". Fire put out shortly with dry chemical extinguishers. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/26/60 TIME 11:00P DUR. 1/10 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Unnamed

HT. 80 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 38/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Redstone, Pitkin, Colorado OWN. NS PERS. Foreman - Edward Selan

CAUSE heating of cable on reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT powder EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 100 ft. of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 404

No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt) Fire

The hydraulic coupling was being watched for overheating, when it did, in fact, overheat and cause a fire. The belt power was inaccessible due to smoke and so a larger circuit was disconnected, the belt was unloaded, reversed, and soaked with water. Ventilation changes allowed access to the fire and it was extinguished. Stinnette, C.E., Mears, G.L, MESA Norton, 9 pp.

DATE 7/29/60 TIME 12:30A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Norton

HT. 45-50 in. SIZE 1600 TPD 160/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dorchester, Wise, Virginia OWN. Wise Coal & Coke Co. PERS. Supt. - Worley Flannary
Foreman - Shelby Jackson
Saf. Dir. - Ernest Teasley

CAUSE overheated hydraulic coupling between motor and gear box ruptured spewing oil on belt and motor DETECT repairman on watch

EXT. EFF. power circuit de-energized PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. coupling ruptured FUEL insulation, oil, rubber, dust, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 405

New Castle No. 3 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Drift driven through inactive Wheeler bed to Allen bed. Foreman discovered the fire on idle day as it had broken through into the haulageway. Heat and fire had been encountered when the entry was driven 1954. Pump at mine proved inadequate to raise water from Colorado river. Farmers irrigation pump worked, but way was blocked by crushed concrete lining and burnt material so temporary seals erected. Roberts, William, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/30/60 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Wheeler/Allen

HT. 42'-10' SIZE 12 TPD 2/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. New Castle, Garfield, Colorado OWN. New Castle Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - W.E. Coles Foreman - Willis Davis

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT by foreman entering main haulageway for exam

EXT. EFF. water, seals PREV. inadequate to fight fire in question

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 406

Kopperston No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Section foreman discovered fire in 1 left panel during idle day exam. He had heard roof fall while checking pumps and went to investigate. Inby end of the fire area sealed off, and water lines laid and water cars brought up. Ventilation change shorted smoke to return and fire fought direct with water. Material completely outloaded by 10:00 A.M. 8/1/60. Ulshafer, A.L., Michael, W.B., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/31/60 TIME 9:45 P DUR. 5¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Campbell Creek

HT. 66 in. SIZE 6800 TPD 412/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Kopperston, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates Coal Div. PERS. Foreman - Lester Buckley Saf. Dir. - Joshua Smith

CAUSE prolonged short circuit when fall caused trolley wire to contact steel crossbars which contacted trackrails - no sectional circuit breakers DETECT by section foreman during routine exam

EXT. EFF. good PREV.

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 407

No. 24 Mine

Report of (Mining Machine) Fire

Operator saw smoke when "scrapping" bottom coal and shut down power to check box, he found nothing wrong and restarted cutting. Lead cables ignited and burst into flames. Operator cut power at the nip, but oil and dust had ignited, so CO2 and rock dust were applied by the crew. Water car dispatched and extinguished fire. Line brattice had been erected. Whalen, J.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/1/60 TIME 6:45P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Foreman - John Hall

CAUSE short in lead cables of cutting bit motor DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. line brattice erected; CO2 and rock dust applied; water car brought up PREV. good training

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, rubber, dust AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 408

Yancey Mine

Report of Fire

Fire occurred at check curtain 700' inby the portal. Mine had been idle since 8/26. Repair crew working in mine had returned to surface and noticed smoke issuing from the mine. Rock dust and soda-acid applied and fire almost out by the time officials arrived. Hager, D.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 8/29/60 TIME 1:00A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE arc from trolley wire as locomotive passed through curtain DETECT by repair crew seeing smoke coming from where they had been

EXT. EFF. rock dust, soda acid applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL check curtain AGENT rock dust, soda-acid EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS check curtain PROD. LOSS NS

No. 409

Elzo Mine

Report of Fire

Fire occurred 1000' inby intersection of the main entry and 1 east main entry when loader trailing cable, caught under corner of shuttle car, pulled apart at a temporary splice and ignited loose coal. All men left the mine. Officials arrived and fire was fought direct until 6:30 A.M. 9/8/60. Hager, D.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 9/7/60 TIME 10:00P DUR. 8½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE trailing cable caught under corner of shuttle car pulled apart at temporary splice and ignited coal DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. N/A - all men left except those fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT NS EQUIP. loader and shuttle car

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 410

Ireland Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Pumper heard fall of roof and then smelled smoke. He went to dispatcher's office and notified section foreman who supervised removal of men and firefighting. Power cut at 1 north substation and supply crew brought water tank truck up to fire. Symons, W.J., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 9/15/60 TIME 2:00A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 8117 TPD 300/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Hanna Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Zitko
Foreman - William Goddard
Saf. Dir. - Julius C. Olzer

CAUSE fall of roof dislodged trolley and feeder cables shorting with the track - poor electrical set-up DETECT pumper smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate; poor resistance to fault

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None - some cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 411

No. 3 Mine

Investigation of Trailing Cable Fire

During normal mining, power went off at the face. The operator followed the cable to the fire. When he could not extinguish it nor reach the power supply (nip), he informed the foreman who moved all men to the intake side. The motorman arrived to pull a trip to the surface and was told to cut the mine's power. The fire went out. Wiley, Harold, MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 9/21/60 TIME 10:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 70 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Jewell Valley, Buchanon, Virginia OWN. McGlothlin Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - King McGlothlin

CAUSE poor splice short circuited DETECT operator traced cable to fire

EXT. EFF. cut electric power PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT power cut EFF. Yes EQUIP. cable

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 412

Viking Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Fire occurred at the face of 1 west right "A" entry; it spread quickly to oil and grease and ruptured hydraulic system quickly making firefighting difficult due to smoke. Area was sealed. Perz, F., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 9/23/60 TIME 7:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 5

HT. 48 in. SIZE 2700 TPD 198/2 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Terre Haute, Vigo, Indiana OWN. Viking Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - C.B. Burke Foreman - Jesse Sheppard

CAUSE short in connection box of main power cable for 50 hp cutting chain motor DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. area sealed after direct fighting unsuccessful PREV. good

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, hyd. fluid AGENT water, seals EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electrical wiring, hydraulic system, 6 tires and 200' of cable - $20,000 PROD. LOSS Withdrawal Order annulled 12/5/60

No. 412-b

Viking Mine

Fire in the Viking Mine (Memo)

Fire occurred on a cutter at the face when a short in the cable junction box ignited waste oil accumulation generating so much smoke that firefighting was impossible. Brattice erected outby excluding air from fire until water car brought up to within 50' of fire. Pump gasket breaking delayed fighting one hour and fire built up so that sealing was necessary. Perz, Frank, MESA Birmingham, 1 pp.

DATE 9/23/60 TIME 7:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Terre Haute, Vigo, Indiana OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE arc from short in cutter junction box DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. brattice erected, water applied, then area sealed PREV. NS

RESC. all men left the mine

IG. electrical FUEL oil AGENT water, seals EQUIP. cutter

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS - at least the cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 413

Morris Creek Mine

Report of Mine Fire (Mining Machine)

Operator finished undercut and saw flash. He disconnected power and then could not reach fire due to smoke. Two temporary stoppings erected and fire put out with rock dust and dry chemical extinguishers. Gaspersich, Sylvester, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/23/60 TIME 12:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Kanawha County, W. Virginia OWN. Central Appalachian Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert McLaughlin Foreman - L.M. Douglas

CAUSE breakdown in insulation in leads between cutting motor and junction box caused short which ignited and ruptured hydraulic system DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. temporary stoppings erected and rock dust and dry chemical applied PREV. NS - power tap did not blow & flame resistant hydraulic fluids not used

RESC. all men except 16 fire-fighters removed

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, hyd. fluid, dust AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 414

Green Valley Mine

Fire of Electrical Origin

During man-trip, fire discovered in rib in main west haulage 100' inby the first curve. Post knocked from under feeder cable arcing and hot coal removed. Employee set to apply water and rock dust for remainder of day. McCune, J.A., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 10/4/60 TIME NS DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Terre Haute, Vigo, Indiana OWN. Snow Hill Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE positive feeder in contact with straight post instead of insulator because of heave DETECT by crew on man-trip

EXT. EFF. hot coal removed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust removal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 415

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred near face of a crosscut when short in lead (tree) cables ignited oil and coal dust on surface of the machine. This ruptured hydraulic hose and flash was seen by foreman. Boom man removed the nip. Line brattice helped advance fresh air so CO2 and rock dust could be applied. Chemical truck and water line brought up and with these the fire was put out. Tisdale, P.H., HSAC Denver.

DATE 10/5/60 TIME 1:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 40 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 55/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Snap Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - F.E. Vincent Foreman - John Gunning

CAUSE short circuit in mining machine; resultant arc ignited materials on machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. line brattice set up, CO2 and rock dust applied Karbaloy, dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, timber, coal, hyd. fluid, dust, rubber AGENT water, rock dust, powder, CO2, Karbaloy EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to hydraulic and electrical systems of machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 416

Lundale Mine

Report of (Roof Bolting Machine) Fire

Roof bolt operator heard loud noise and found fire on underside. He removed fused nip. Crew used CO2 and rock dust to battle fire but smoke became dense. Line brattice erected and 1200 gal. water car brought up upon notification of officials. Whalen, J.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/11/60 TIME 12:35P DUR. 5/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - Howard Brewster
Foreman - Cecil Edwards

CAUSE running over own trailing cable resulting in short DETECT by roof bolt operator

EXT. EFF. CO2, rock dust, line brattice erected, water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A; men continued to work

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of cable, electrical wiring, hydraulic hose jackets and all 4 tires PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 417

Landsburg Mine

Mine Fire, Spontaneous Origin

Fire discovered inby the manway and return. Fire seals constructed immediately. Fire in mined out section. Federal Archives, Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/18/60 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 12 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Black Diamond, King, Washington OWN. Palmer Coking Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous heating DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. shot-down coal being removed from section to prevent spontaneous heating

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL timber, coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 418

Bud Mine

Machine Fire of Electrical Origin

Fire occurred when trailing cable short circuited on the reel of roof bolting machine, igniting coal and hydraulic oil on the machine. Rock dust and fire extinguishers were used to extinguish the fire and water used to cool the machine. Eakins, John S., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/27/60 TIME 1:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 600 TPD 20/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Glen Robbins, Jefferson, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - S.C. Futey Foreman - Floyd Hendershott Saf. Dir. - Stanley W. Norris

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable splice DETECT observed by operator

EXT. EFF. soda acid fire extinguishers, CO2, rock dust PREV. combustible materials on machine; poor splices in cable, fire resistant hydraulic fluid not used

RESC. No evacuation - entire crew helped fight fire

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, coal AGENT rock dust, CO2 soda acid EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hose, wiring, 15' of trailing cable on roof bolting machine PROD. LOSS. 1 hr.

No. 419

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when mine car became derailed and knocked out a concrete pier causing steel roof supports and trolley wire to fall on wooden mine cars. Fire burned for a short period until the trolley feeder switch was opened. Barr, Richard, Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 11/8/60 TIME 7:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 or Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 6195 TPD 406/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Laird Albasin Foreman - Cecil Dutton

CAUSE short circuit between trolley wire and steel reinforced mine car due to roof fall DETECT electrician observed smoke

EXT. EFF. trolley feeder switch opened PREV. circuit breakers functioned correctly but mine personnel re-energized system through misunderstanding of circuits

RESC. 96 men in mine evacuated to surface

IG. electrical FUEL wood AGENT removed power EQUIP. Mine cars

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 3 wooden mine cars PROD. LOSS NS

No. 420

No. 1A Mine

Report of Mine Fire (Coal Rib)

Fire occurred in abandoned area of mine and could have been caused by spontaneous combustion or by trespassers. The fire was extinguished by direct attack of water and rock dust. Betchey, George M., Ross, Ray G., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 11/18/60 TIME 1:30P DUR. 16½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 5

HT. 38 in. SIZE 400 TPD 70/2 Emp. METH. Hand

LOC. St. Charles, Lee, Virginia OWN. Darby Fuels, Inc. PERS. Foreman - Boyd Stidham Gen. Mgr. - Fred Loving

CAUSE spontaneous combustion or arson DETECT plant guard noticed smoke on surface

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied by fire department and mine personnel PREV. abandoned openings should be barricaded against trespassers

RESC. Men immediately withdrawn

IG. spontaneous or arson FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 421

Emerald Mine

Investigation of Fire Underground

The roof over a continuous miner collapsed and caused a short circuit in loading machine trailing cable. The power tap was removed and water applied to the fire. The continuous mining machine was recovered from under the fall in approximately 5 minutes. Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 11/23/60 TIME 4:45P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Emerald Coal & Coke Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable caused by roof fall DETECT smoldering fire detected 24 hrs. after short circuit

EXT. EFF. water applied to burning coal, then coal loaded on cars and removed to surface PREV. circuir breaker failed to open

RESC. other sections of the mine were not affected

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 422

Orient Mine No. 3

Spontaneous Fire

Fire of spontaneous origin discovered in abandoned working section. The fire could not be fought by direct means due to carbon monoxide in the air and location in caved areas. The area was sealed and liquid carbon dioxide introduced into the fire area. Summary, J.R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 11/26/60 TIME 1:00P DUR. 5 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Waltonville, Jefferson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Paul Budzak

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT smoke detected during routine inspection by face boss

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. 26 maintenance men were evaucated

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 5 days

No. 423

Royal No. 2 Mine

Fire

Boreholes were drilled and after they were charged the shot firer connected the charges to the firing cable and fired the shots. This caused fire in the coal which was extinguished in 15 minutes. It is believed due to insufficient burden near back of a borehole, the flames from the explosives set fire to the gas and dust. Freeman, Joe, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/6/60 TIME 7:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 400 TPD 29/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Royal, Carbon, Utah OWN. Royal Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ernest O'Green Foreman - Ernest O'Green

CAUSE blasting DETECT flame observed by shot firer

EXT. EFF. water applied to burning coal PREV. blasting improperly placed holes

RESC. None

IG. explosives FUEL gas, coal, dust AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 424

Orient Mine No. 3

Spontaneous Fire

Gob fire of spontaneous origin discovered during a routine inspection of the mine. Because of heat and concentration of carbon monoxide the fire could not be fought direct and area was sealed. Messersmith, M.R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/12/60 TIME 1:00P DUR. 4 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Waltonville, Jefferson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Paul Budzak

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT haze and heat detected during routine inspection

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. mine was idle

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 425

No. 16 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire was initiated by friction and caused by overheated roller. When the belt stopped the roller caught the belt on fire. It was extinguished by use of water. Cain, Robert M., Muir, John C., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 12/22/60 TIME 12:45A DUR. 4 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Little Eagle

HT. 34-40 in. SIZE 500 TPD 22/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Ameagle, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - H.C. Morton Foreman - Cecil Williams Saf. Dir. - J.W. Jones

CAUSE friction in conveyor belt roller DETECT two mechanics encountered smoke

EXT. EFF. extinguishers and rock dust applied unsuccessfully; water applied after water lines laid to belt area PREV. conveyor belts not fire resistant; poor inspection and lubrication of belt rollers

RESC. All men were out of the mine except 3 who escaped

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS 120' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 430

Montour No. 4 Mine

Trailing Cable Fire

Trailing cable on continuous mining machine short circuited when it was crushed between the bumpers of the miner and a shuttle car. Burning cable ignited grease and coal dust on machine. Fire was quickly extinguished. Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/2/61 TIME 5:45A DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Lawrence, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. One worker while combating the fire became ill after inhaling smoke and fumes - other workers not affected

IG. electrical FUEL dust, grease, insulation AGENT water, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cont. miner

EQUIP. LOSS cont. mining machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 431

Slab Fork No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire was initiated by friction caused by rotating gears being in contact with a metal guard. It was extinguished by direct attack of water. Cordray, W.M., Brown, R.W., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 2/4/61 TIME 7:15A DUR. 8 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 36 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 164/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Slab Fork, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Slab Fork Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - George McKinney Foreman - Cecil Martin Saf. Dir. - Elmer Banker

CAUSE friction caused by rotating gears being in contact with a metal guard DETECT discovered by section foreman during routine inspection

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. None - no one in mine

IG. friction FUEL coal, belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 345' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 432

Orient Mine No. 3

Spontaneous Fire

Smoke from a gob fire was discovered during a routine inspection. It was agreed to flood the area, or seal. Summary, J.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 2/5/61 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Waltonville, Jefferson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous origin DETECT during a routine inspection

EXT. EFF. water and sealing PREV. NS

RESC. None-mine was idle

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 433

Oriole Mine

Locomotive Fire

Locomotive was located between two coupled trips of coal and the vibration of dumping caused electric wires to short circuit to the gear on the locomotive axle. Fire extinguishers were used to put out the fire. Douglas, Sanford J., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 2/15/61 TIME 12:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Bell & Zoller Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in electric wires DETECT discovered by a workman

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers put out fire PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL grease, wires AGENT extinguishers EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 438

Springfield No. 6

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on a shuttle car when loader trailing cable lying on the bottom next to it shorted out and ignited oil and hoses leading to oil reservoir. Operator and loader operator retreated to fresh air and disconnected power at the nip. Rest of crew helped put the fire out with fire extinguishers and rock dust. One man hospitalized for inhalation. Beatty, P.J., MESA Monroeville, 4 pp.

DATE 4/3/61 TIME 7:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 42-60 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 150/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Westover, Clearfield, Pennsylvania OWN. Cambria Clearfield Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Frank P. Waggett Foreman - Steve Rodavich

CAUSE short in temporary splice of loader cable alongside shuttle car DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust used by crew PREV. insufficient equipment & fuse set too high at the nip

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS 2' of cable, 2 water filled tires, and hydraulic hose PROD. LOSS. a few hours

---

No. 438-b

Springfield No. 6 Mine

Quickly Extinguished Cable Fire

Fire occurred on shuttle car caused by short circuit in a temporary splice in the loading machine trailing cable lying alongside the shuttle car. Resulting flash ignited oil on shuttle car. Fire extinguished by several extinguishers and rock dust. One man (loading machine operator's helper) treated for smoke inhalation. Beatty, P.J., MESA Monroeville, 2 pp.

DATE 4/3/61 TIME 7:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Westover, Clearfield, Pennsylvania OWN. Cambria Clearfield Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. extinguishers and rock dust PREV. equipment not clean; more frequent inspection of electrical equipment

RESC. all men in the crew retreated to the intake side of the air current except one who was later treated for smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL oil, rubber, hyd. hoses AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hoses and 2 tires on shuttle car PROD. LOSS NS

No. 439

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on mining machine when short circuit in the electrical wiring ignited insulation, hydraulic oil, grease and dust on the machine. Fire was extinguished by direct attack of CO2, dry chemical extinguishers, and rock dust. Haley, James F., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 4/6/61 TIME 11:00P DUR. 2 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Peerless

HT. 34 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 61/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Winifrede, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Fields Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Herbert Kinder, Jr. Foreman - James Garretson

CAUSE short circuit in electrical wiring DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2, rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. 25 men underground promptly withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, grease, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, CO2, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine electric and hydraulic systems PROD. LOSS. 5 days

---

No. 440

Top Split Slope

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Mine had been idle a week prior to the discovery of the fire and the exact origin could not be determined. (Report incomplete) Todd, Robert C., Fulmer, John A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/10/61 TIME 7:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Top Split Mammoth

HT. 12' SIZE 5 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Valley View, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. F & S Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Edgar Fenstermacher

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by pre-shift examiner

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 449

Crichton No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

It is the opinion that the fire started from heat from a damaged bearing in a roller on return side of the conveyor belt and when it stopped, caused the belt to burn. Falls in the fire area interrupted fire fighting operations several times and it was finally extinguished with water. Cordary, William M., Griffith, Denver S., Childers, Maurice S., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 7/19/61 TIME 8:30A DUR. 10 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 42 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 214/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nettie, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Johnstown Coal and Coke Co. PERS. Supt. - Lewis Fyock Foreman - D. Breedon Saf. Dir. - Jack Cline

CAUSE heat from damaged bearing in a roller on conveyor belt DETECT company officials preparing to enter mine observed smoke

EXT. EFF. water extinguished fire PREV. adequate

RESC. all men evacuated to the surface

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 1120 ' of belt conveyor, 580' of belt structures, and 350' of cable PROD. LOSS. 1 day

---

No. 450

Jane Ann No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Mining Machine Fire

Short circuit occurred in lead cables of pump motor on mining machine and arc ignited materials on the machine. Fire was attacked directly by application of water and extinguished. Gay, Thomas, W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 7/20/61 TIME 11:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Garnette, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Princess Coals, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in lead cables of pump motor on mining machine. DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO_2, rock dust, and water PREV. NS

RESC. 21 men in the mine remained there

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil, hoses, rubber AGENT water, CO_2, rock dust EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 451

Crossbrook Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Trailing cable in cutting machine short circuited while it was parked and temporarily unattended. The hydraulic system caught fire which caused the fire to spread quickly. Fire was brought under control late the same day and completely extinguished early the following morning. Betchey, G.M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/24/61 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Imboden

HT. 72 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 90/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Osaka, Wise, Virginia OWN. Stonega Coke and Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.R. King; Foreman - Clyde Carroll; Saf. Dir. - T.J. Liddle

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT discovered by section foreman

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. Men in mine were withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, coal, planks AGENT water, rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine PROD. LOSS. 4 days

No. 452

Valley Camp No. 5 Mine

Small Fire of Electrical Origin

Fire occurred on a wooden door and was extinguished in a few minutes after discovery. Fire started at the point where moist brattice cloth came in contact with the rail and the current flowing through the rail and cloth created enough heat to ignite the cloth. Barr, Richard E., Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/25/61 TIME 11:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 112/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elm Grove, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D.S. Cunningham

CAUSE moist brattice cloth came in contact with rail and the heat created enough heat to ignite cloth DETECT motorman discovered fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. None - fire extinguished in a few minutes

IG. electrical FUEL brattice cloth, wooden door AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 453

No. 22 Mine

Mine Fire

Fire occurred when a roof fall occurred causing the bare energized feeder wire to contact the bare return wire and the resulting arc ignited the side of a coal pillar. Direct application of water extinguished the fire. Mears, George L., HSAC Denver.

DATE 7/30/61 TIME 2:15A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 42 in. SIZE 4100 TPD 262/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Deane, Letcher, Kentucky OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof fall caused the energized feeder wire to contact return wire creating an arc DETECT fire boss discovered fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. None - mine was idle

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 454

Wharton No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Arc from a short circuit in a shuttle car ignited the cable, wooden ramp and coal. The shuttle car had been operated in a water hole and the power was left on the shuttle car and light bulbs placed in the contactor department to dry out the contactors. Woods, J.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/31/61 TIME 12:30A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hernshaw

HT. 42 in. SIZE 800 TPD 64/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wharton, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas & Fuel Associates PERS. Foreman - Harvey Huguenot

CAUSE short circuit in shuttle car DETECT discovered by 3rd shift foreman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. 10 men in mine assisted in fighting fire operations

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, wood AGENT water EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable and ramp PROD. LOSS NS

No. 455

Karen Mine

Report of Excessive Heating (Frictional) To Conveyor Belt

Fumes and smoke were observed which was created by excessive heat developed by friction when the drive continued to operate and the belt was motionless. Two assistant mine foremen made a thorough inspection for fire in the area, but none was observed. Dydo, E.C., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/2/61 TIME 1:25P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 3894 TPD 171/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Centerville Borough, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. United States Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.W. Boyle Foreman - G. Bell

CAUSE friction against the belt DETECT discovered by assistant mine foreman

EXT. EFF. None PREV. adequate

RESC. all men were led to safety

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT None EQUIP. belt

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS 12 in. of belt PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 456

No. 19-C Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

A short circuit occurred in the trailing cable of a loading machine when it was run over by a cutting machine and arc ignited tires of cutting machine and burned the machine. Water and rock dust were applied to extinguish the fire. Gay, Thomas W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/3/61 TIME 11:00P DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1650 TPD 115/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stirrat, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Omar Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Clinton Parsley Foreman - Paul Picards

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. adequate

RESC. Men had left mine as it was near quitting time

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil, rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. loader and cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine and 50' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 461

No. 1A Mine

Mine Fire

Fire was probably caused by trespassers as there was no electric power in the area and no record of spontaneous combustion in this coal bed. The coal rib which was on fire was extinguished by Pennington Gap Fire Department. Mears, George L., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/4/61 TIME 2:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 5

HT. 38 in. SIZE 350 TPD 70/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. St. Charles, Lee, Virginia OWN. Darby Fuels, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Fred Loving Foreman - Boyd Stidham

CAUSE trespassers DETECT smoke detected by superintendent and mine foreman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. 45 men in the mine were withdrawn

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 462

Crichton No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire was initiated by friction, exact cause could not be determined. Unsuccessful attempt to extinguish the fire was with fire extinguishers and rock dust. Roof falls interrupted fire fighting operations, and water was used to finally extinguish it. Henderson, Francis H., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 9/5/61 TIME 7:20A DUR. 12½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 42 in. SIZE 3300 TPD 254/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nettie, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Johnstown Coal and Coke Co. PERS. Supt. - Louis Fyock Foreman - J.D. Breedon

CAUSE friction (?) DETECT 2 employees encountered smoke

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. Men underground were evacuated

IG. friction FUEL belt, coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, EQUIP. belt extinguishers

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS belt, slippage control switch and 100' of transmission cables PROD. LOSS 2 days

No. 463

No. 16 Mine

Report of Fire in Mining Machine

Fire started when arcs from a blown out cable, in the place cut before fire occurred, ignited materials on top of the machine. State and Federal inspectors were notified, but fire was almost extinguished when they arrived. Hyde, C.E., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 9/8/61 TIME 6:00P DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Hill Top, McCreary, Kentucky OWN. Stearns Coal and Lumber Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE arc from a blown out cable ignited materials DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, soda-acid extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, soda-acid EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS small area of mining machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 464

No. 3 Elkhorn Mine

Report of Fire

Roof fall occurred and the power lines fell and contacted the rail causing an arc and igniting the fallen coal. All supervisory personnel on the surface entered the mine at once after being notified and extinguished the fire within a few minutes. Luke, George W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/13/61 TIME 6:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Evanston, Breathitt, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE power lines fell and contacted the rail creating arc DETECT immediate by 2 motormen

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, and rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. men underground were evacuated to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 465

Scott No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire was caused when a fall of roof rock on belt stalled the belt and the belt head roller continued to operate causing friction and igniting the belt. The air was short circuited across the belt entry so the fire could be fought in fresh air. Water and rock dust were applied to extinguish the fire. Ward, R.J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/16/61 TIME 8:10A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Redstone

HT. 45 in. SIZE 1600 TPD 85/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Buckhannon, Upshur, W. Virginia OWN. Reppert Fairmont Coal Company PERS. Supt. - Lester McGee Foreman - Howard Green

CAUSE friction DETECT smoke encountered by beltman

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. all men evacuated from the mine

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 466

Crown Mine

Conveyor Belt Minor Fire

Fire occurred after belt had been resting on hot roller after being stopped. The roller involved had burst its entire length, probably from internal water or oil that had expanded. Kessler, Walter W., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 9/20/61 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Farmersville, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - Bernard Burke

CAUSE belt resting on hot roller DETECT smoke detected by 2 repairmen

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. NS

RESC. None - no one in mine

IG. hot roller FUEL belt AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 15' of belt PROD. LOSS None

No. 467

Jane Ann No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Spontaneous combustion occurred at the belt speed reducer, due to combination of frictional heat and low supply of oil, and ignited coal spillage. The belt directly over the speed reducer separated due to the heat, but didn't burn. Keith, Coperry, Gaspersich, Sylvester, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/27/61 TIME 6:00A DUR. 4½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 48 in. SIZE 1850 TPD 125/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Garnette, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Princess Coals, Inc. PERS. Foreman - John W. Crawford Gen. Mgr. - H.B. Price

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT smoke discovered by section foreman and an electrician

EXT. EFF. rock dust, CO2, water PREV. adequate

RESC. Men retreated to the surface

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. belt,
EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt speed reducer PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 468

Maple Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A latent fire in a sealed and abandoned mine was rekindled when two openings were recently made into the area. The two reopened drifts were resealed. Orlando, J.F., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/29/61 TIME 7:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Maidsville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Fairmor Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - George Deaner

CAUSE NS DETECT discovered by mine foreman & a miner

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. fire fighting equipment not available at mine; smoking permitted

RESC. Mine was idle

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT seals EQUIP. NS
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS fan installation, 200' of track, feeder wires, 3 wood cars & electric drill PROD. LOSS NS

No. 481

Huber Colliery

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred in cutting machine cable reel which short circuited and caught the cable on fire. Twelve extinguishers were used unsuccessfully; cable was pulled off the reel, but broke, and water was then used to extinguish the fire. Jones, Charles E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/21/61 TIME 4:30A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hillman

HT. 8' SIZE 2243 TPD 428/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Ashley, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Alden Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jacob F. Miller Foreman - George B. Wesley

CAUSE short circuit in cable reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water PREV. adequate

RESC. 6 men in mine - 2 stayed to help fight fire and 4 went to surface for help

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS 120' of cable and 2 rubber tires PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 482

Springfield No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Small fire in coal started by a damaged roller was discovered. The roller became overheated and ignited the coal and dust. Fire was extinguished with rock dust and the roller changed. The mine foreman died due to the inhalation of smoke. Demkowicz, William M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/27/61 TIME 8:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 42-70 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 121/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Westover, Clearfield, Pennsylvania OWN. Cambria Clearfield Mining Company PERS. Supt. - Frank P. Waggett Foreman - Joseph Steech

CAUSE damaged roller became overheated DETECT discovered by foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. One man died as a result of smoke inhalation

IG. friction FUEL coal, dust AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 483

No. 2 Mine

Report on Fire

Smoke was discovered coming from the No. 1 main portal. It was believed the fire was in a caved, abandoned area of the mine and seals were erected and the mine abandoned permanently. Pate, Clay, HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 12/4/61 TIME 6:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Monticello, Wayne, Kentucky OWN. Jones Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT smoke discovered by operator

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL UNK AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 484

Dawson Collieries Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Trailing cable on cutting machine short circuited and arc ignited the cable and continued to burn for 2-3 minutes until power nip was removed. Crew was exposed to smoke and one man died as a result. Contributing cause of death was hemmorhage due to severe coughing. Beck, Brank, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/5/61 TIME 9:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM No.6

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1500 TPD 116/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Dawson Springs, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Dawson Collieries, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Golay Boyd

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power nip removed PREV. adequate

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT nip removed EQUIP. cutting machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 2½' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 489

Nelms No. 2 Mine

Small Fire

Short circuit occurred in trailing cable and was not of sufficient capacity to trip the circuit breaker with the result that the arc continued until the overload device in the breaker was tripped. Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/16/62 TIME 4:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 or Middle Kittanning

HT. 66 in. SIZE 1100 TPD 68/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Hopedale, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Alex McNab

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None - no one in mine was affected

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. hoses AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS several ft. of trailing cable, hydraulic hoses, and oil seals PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 490

No. 7 Mine

Small Mine Fire

Fire was caused by a short circuit when a trolley wire dropped out of several hangers and came in contact with the rail. Short circuit heated the wire and ignited the trolley wire guard. Fire was extinguished promptly but unspecified as to how. Cain, Robert M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/23/62 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Eunice, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Oglebay Norton Co. PERS. Supt. - W.R. Carr

CAUSE short circuit when trolley wire contacted rail DETECT discovered by superintendent

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL trolley wires AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 491

Isabella Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Repair Pit)

Fire occurred when a bucket of cleaning solvent was knocked over and a hot piece of metal fell onto and ignited the solvent. There was excessive smoke, but little burning. Fire was extinguished with fire extinguishers and water. Rudolph E.M., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/23/62 TIME 6:50A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 234/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Isabella, Fayette, Pennsylvania OWN. National Mines Corp. PERS. Foreman - Glen Raymond

CAUSE hot piece of metal fell onto cleaning solvent which spilled on floor DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, fire extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. None - 80 men in mine; no one affected

IG. hot metal FUEL solvent, grease, boards AGENT water, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 492

Crichton No. 4 Mine

Report of Investigation of Trailing Cable Fire

Fire was caused by short circuit in splice of trailing cable and was extinguished in 20 minutes by rock dust. Castell, Fred T., Henderson, Francis H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/26/62 TIME 11:00A DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Nettie, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Johnstown Coal and Coke Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in splice of trailing cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. 8 men taken to intake air - 2 men became ill from fumes and smoke, but were not hospitalized

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 512

No. 73 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when the timbers under falls in the drift were ignited by brush and trees being burned in preparation for grading a new highway on the hillside where the drift was located. The caved area of the drift was excavated completely and all burning materials removed. Demkowicz, W.M., MESA Hazard, 4 pp.

DATE 8/15/62 TIME 8:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 27-54 in. SIZE 1999 TPD 253/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Franklin Borough, Johnstown, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Foreman - Edward F. Kazor

CAUSE burning brush and trees ignited timbers under falls in the drift DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. drift was excavated PREV. NS

RESC. All men withdrawn from mine

IG. burning trees and brush FUEL timber, coal AGENT excavation EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 513

No. 1 Mine

Report of Fire

Fire was located in a fall of coal and extinguished with rock dust and all hot materials removed from the mine. Cause of fire not determined, but believed to have been started by trespassers. Linville, Raymond, HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 8/26/62 TIME 10:00A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Fisty, Knott, Kentucky OWN. Combs Fork Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE probably started by trespassers DETECT discovered by mine foreman and machine crew

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. arson (?) FUEL coal AGENT rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 514

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Surface & Underground)

Fire of unknown origin discovered by hunters near the mine. It is believed that the fire started on the surface and spread to mine portal via the belt conveyor. Fire department called and fire extinguished. Fire destroyed coal storage bin, 150 tons of coal, two supply storage buildings, head drive and 200 ft. of belt conveyor, mine props, chain conveyor unit, and several electric motors. Freeman, Joe, 5 pp.

DATE 9/3/62 TIME 11:00A DUR. 12 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Ivie

HT. 11' SIZE 250 TPD 9/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Salina, Sevier, Utah OWN. Southern Utah Fuel Company PERS. Supt. - Neal Mortensen Foreman - D.T. Huntsman

CAUSE UNK DETECT clouds of smoke observed by persons about 4 miles away from mine

EXT. EFF. fire department was called PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, belt, timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS coal storage bin, 150 tons of coal, 2 supply storage buildings, head drive & 200 ft. belt conveyor, mine props, chain conveyor unit, motors PROD. LOSS. 3 days

---

No. 515

No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire was discovered under pillar fall in the mains. It is believed it was started during blasting the previous day. Attempts were made to flood the area but it was unsuccessful and the fire area was sealed. Estep, Roy C., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/26/62 TIME 6:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 100 in. SIZE 600 TPD 23/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Meadowbrook, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Pitfair Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - James Lester Foreman - James Lester

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered on preshift examination

EXT. EFF. water, seals PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 5 days

No. 516

Emerald Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire was initiated by short circuit in ungrounded power conductor in compartment wall of cutting machine. The arcing burned through compartment wall and ignited combustible material on the machine. Fire was under control in 5 minutes and extinguished in ½ hr. Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/28/62 TIME 9:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 80 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 334/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Hiliman Coal & Coke Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE short circuit in grounded power conductor in cutting machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical fire extinguishers, water PREV. inadequate circuit breaker; poor inspection and housekeeping

RESC. men working in mine were not affected; 3 miles from fire area

IG. electrical FUEL dust, grease AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. cutting machine

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine hydraulic hoses, control & headlight cables, auxiliary control panel PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 517

Loyal Mine

Final Report of Mine (Shuttle Car Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire occurred at trailing cable reel on a shuttle car from an unknown cause. Water was used to quench the fire. Mine foreman suffered from carbon monoxide poisoning and was hospitalized for one week. Zavora, Henry, Huntley, Donald W., Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 10/1/62 TIME 8:35P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1600 TPD 171 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Loyalhanna Township, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Seanor Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Floyd Aliucci Foreman - Leonard Jones

CAUSE UNK DETECT shuttle car operator noticed smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. inadequate ventilation and circuit breakers; escapeway obstructed

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. UNK FUEL insulation AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 518

Kentland No. 1

Mine Fire (Cutting Machine)

Face of No. 5 room half cut when cable shorted and became afire on the reel. Operator ran and disconnected nip and helper applied CO2. 70 bags of rock dust applied to put fire out. Harris, W., MESA Pikeville, 3 pp.

DATE 10/4/62 TIME 9:30A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Freeburn

HT. 54 in. SIZE 3600 TPD 200/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Biggs, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentland-Elkhorn Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Gieger Carter Gen. Mgr. - R.D. Jones

CAUSE cable shorted on reel DETECT immediately by operator

EXT. EFF. nip removed and rock dust and CO2 applied PREV. adequate

RESC. all men other than fire fighters removed

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hyd. fluid, elect. comp. AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS much damage to cutting machine (hydraulic systems & elec. components) PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 519

Wheelwright No. 3

Mine Fire (Cutting Machine)

Operator had cut 5 places and finishing No. 16 room when arc occurred in reel. Cutting motor end completely aflame (inby) he looked for ax to cut cable but smoke prevented him. He then deenergized breaker 350 feet away. All men accounted for and fire fighting began. Several dry chemical extinguishers used until chemical truck and water car brought up. Burgess, W.R., MESA Pikeville, 3 pp.

DATE 10/16/62 TIME 11:15A DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 40 in. SIZE 2284 TPD 191/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wheelright, Floyd, Kentucky OWN. Inland Steel Co., Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE arc occurred in reel of cutting machine DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied until chemical truck and water car brought up PREV. very good

RESC. all men removed except those fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid, oil, grease AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic and electrical systems of cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 520

Gowen Colliery

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Sparks thrown by the welding operation ignited dry timbers along the slope causing a fire. It was extinguished by water. Wilson, H.F., Fulmer, J.A., MESA Hazard, 8 pp.

DATE 10/16/62 TIME 6:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 250 TPD 18/1 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Fern Glen, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Gowen Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Gerald Brown

CAUSE sparks thrown by welding operations ignited dry timbers DETECT discovered by a laborer when he was sent to determine cause of pump failure

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 521

No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire originated from electric arc caused by dislodged trolley wire coming in contact with combustible materials. The materials that fell in the fire area were roof and rib rock, wooden stringers, posts, crib blocks, crossbars & rider seams of coal. Coal ribs did not ignite. Fire extinguished by rock dust and water. Stiltner, Oscar, HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 11/7/62 TIME 11:00A DUR. 19 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Winifrede

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 75/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Winifrede, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - W.W. Plymale Foreman - Arthur Gilliam Saf. Dir. - J.W. Jones

CAUSE dislodged trolley wire contacting combustible materials DETECT immediate by electrician

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. adequate

RESC. men withdrawn from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 4 days

No. 522

Roundup No. 3 Mine

Report of Mine Shaft Fire

Fire was discovered by two men making repairs on hoisting equipment to obtain abatement of a Withdrawal Order issued 6/11/62. Fire was caused when hot metal cut from framework of man-cage dropped onto timber lining below the surface landing of the shaft. Water extinguished the fire and haulage slope sealed at the surface. Christensen, E.L., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 11/12/62 TIME 1:15P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Roundup

HT. 6' SIZE 375 TPD 24/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Roundup, Musselshell, Montana OWN. Roundup Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE hot metal dropped onto timber lining DETECT two men observed smoke & fumes

EXT. EFF. water, fire extinguishers, seals PREV. poor welding procedure

RESC. None

IG. hot metal FUEL timber, wood AGENT water, seals, extinguishers EQUIP. Man-cage

EFF. Yes, Yes No

EQUIP. LOSS main fan, housing, air duct, motor drive PROD. LOSS. None - operations had been previously suspended

---

No. 523

Compass No. 1F Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire caused by cable fault of high resistance when shuttle car trailing cable and/or sagging power conductor was pinched between frame of the car and rib, and arc ignited coal rib. Direct attacks to extinguish the fire failed and area was sealed. Unsealing and recovery operations started 2/23/63; area was explored and ventilation was established. Withdrawal Order annulled 3/6/63. Dobis, Joseph J., MESA Morgantown, 6 pp.

DATE 11/14/62 TIME 2:00A DUR. 24+ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Redstone

HT. 66 in. SIZE 1850 TPD 53/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Philippi, Barbour, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Pete Mattaliano Foreman - Don Hess Saf. Dir. - Jack Light

CAUSE cable fault when shuttle car trailing cable and/or sagging power conductor was pinched between frame of car and rib creating arc DETECT noticed immediately by 2 workmen when parking shuttle car

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water, seals PREV. fire resistant fluids not used; trailing cables & power conductors should be protected against mechanical damage

RESC. 6 men in mine assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, coal AGENT water, rock dust, seals EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car PROD. LOSS Operations resumed 11/20/62 except by fire area; Withdrawal Order annulled 3/6/63

No. 524

Crichton No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Conveyor) Fire

Fire was caused when defective bearing overheated the belt rollers and created heat enough to ignite belt and loose coal on conveyor framework. Water was used to saturate the area. Componation, Paul J., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 12/11/62 TIME 6:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 36-50 in. SIZE 800 TPD 49/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cowen, Webster, W. Virginia OWN. Johnstown Coal and Coke Company PERS. Supt. - Louis Fyock Foreman - Ray Jarrett Saf. Dir. - Jack Cline

CAUSE defective bearing overheated and ignited belt DETECT detected by preshift examiner

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. all men instructed to leave the mine

IG. bearing overheated FUEL coal, belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS portion of conveyor framework PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 525

No. 10 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

During preshift exam, section foreman discovered smoke 1200' inby. Foreman found fire inby 2 west belt drive. Regulator opened in a stopping. Rock dust and water applied. Roof bolt operator was injured by a fall during firefighting. Keith, Coperry, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/23/62 TIME 5:00P DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Lower Chilton

HT. 40 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 84/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Saunders, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Lorado Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert Dials Foreman - Frank Osborne

CAUSE friction from overheated belt roller or overheated resistance at control DETECT during preshift exam by section foreman

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied after ventilation change made PREV. poor inspection

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 160' of fire resistant belt and a wooden stopping PROD. LOSS NS

No. 526

Federal No. 1

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Explosions

Smoke was discovered 800' outby faces in 6 north by two fire bosses. Fire was thought to originate at a belt entry 400' outby the face and when located was widespread. Nine seals were erected, but entire mine sealed after explosions damaged several. Estep, Roy C., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 12/25/62 TIME 3:00A DUR. 250 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 82 in. SIZE 8500 TPD 302/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by fire bosses on idle day patrol

EXT. EFF. too much heat and smoke to fight direct; seals erected PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT seals EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 526-b

Interim Report of Coal Mine Fire & Explosions

Federal No. 1 Mine

Fire occurring 12/25/62 resulted in sealing fire area. An explosion occurred 12/26/62 destroying the seals. Due to rapid spread of fire & explosions, the entire mine was sealed. Recovery of mine started 4/1/63, however, with the reopening, temperature of air rose and an abrupt increase in carbon monoxide content was noted. On 4/3/63 explosion occurred and resealing started and completed that same day. Estep, Roy C., MESA Morgantown, 7 pp.

DATE 12/25/62 TIME 3:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 82 in. SIZE 8500 TPD 302/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates PERS. Supt. - William Laird Saf. Dir. - Joshua Smith

CAUSE NS DETECT 2 fire bosses patrolling the mine

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. reopening of mine premature due to amount of carbon monoxide; sufficient time not allowed for dissipation of the heat

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS, but extensive PROD. LOSS NS

No. 526-c

Federal No. 1 Mine

Second Interim Report of Coal Mine Fire & Explosions

Fire occurring 12/25/62 resulted in sealing fire area. Explosions on 12/26/62 destroyed the seals and mine was sealed at the surface. Recovery started 4/1/63 failed and mine resealed. Unsealing of 4 air shafts started 8/6/63 and ventilation established. Mine explosion Order annulled 9/3/63. Estep, Roy C., MESA Morgantown, 9 pp.

DATE 12/25/62 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 82 in. SIZE 8500 TPD 302/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - William Laird Foreman - LeRoy Laxton Saf. Dir. - Joshua Smith

CAUSE NS DETECT 2 fire bosses patrolling mine

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT sealing EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 526-d

Federal No. 1 Mine

Third Interim Report of Coal Mine Fire & Explosions

Fire occurring 12/25/62 resulted in sealing mine at the surface after explosions destroyed underground seals. Reopening on 4/1/63 was premature and mine resealed. Unsealing of 4 shafts started 8/6/63 and ventilation restored. Reopening of 2 more shafts began 8/14/64 and ventilation established. Mine fire danger Withdrawal Order revised to permit use of one of these shafts as an intake airway and to permit repairs in the other one to the water seal. Estep, Roy C., MESA Morgantown, 6 pp.

DATE 12/25/62 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 82 in. SIZE 7500 TPD 383/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - William Laird Foreman - LeRoy Laxton Saf. Dir. - Joshua Smith

CAUSE NS DETECT 2 fire bosses patrolling the mine

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT sealing EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 527

Thunderbird Mine

Spontaneous Fire

Fire boss discovered smoke coming from under a caved area in an inactive section. Dovidas, C.M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/28/62 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Shelburn, Sullivan, Indiana OWN. Thunderbird Collieries Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT by fire boss

EXT. EFF. seven seals erected around the area PREV. NS; no air from fire section crossed into working sections

RESC. all men removed except those building seals

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob, coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 5 days

No. 528

No. 2 Mine

Report of Mining Machine Fire

Fire occurred at the face on a cutting machine. A short in wiring ignited insulation and outer jackets of hydraulic hose. By the time investigators arrived, the fire had burnt itself out. Craft, William M., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 12/29/62 TIME 2:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Redfox, Knott, Kentucky OWN. Holbrook Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE electrical short ignited insulation DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nip cut and fire burnt itself out PREV. NS

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT power cut EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS moderate damage to cutter wiring and hydraulic hose PROD. LOSS NS

No. 529

Compass No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Conveyor) Fire

Smoke was discovered by beltman near a belt entry after No. 7 main belt broke causing all but No. 2 belt drive to stop. Hoses were connected to a waterline and the fire put out shortly. Balwin, W.D., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 1/8/63 TIME 9:30A DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. NS in. SIZE 3800 TPD 144/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dola, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Jack Light

CAUSE inoperative sequence control device caused coal pile-up which fouled No. 2 belt drive DETECT by beltman after unscheduled belt stoppage

EXT. EFF. water hooked up and applied PREV. safety controls on belt generally well-inspected

RESC. non-firefighters removed

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 530

Lucerne No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Trailing Cable Fire

Fire occurred in a main intake airway when a circuit-breaker box short circuited, continued to arc and burnt along the input cable. The fire was extinguished promptly but 29-person mantrip and 3 trackmen imperiled by smoke. Five men treated for smoke inhalation and released without lost time. Brown, W.D., Devett, W.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/10/63 TIME 3:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 40-80 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 248/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Lucernemines, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Eugene H. Jones Foreman - Thomas C. Harvey

CAUSE short occurred in input connector igniting cable DETECT immediate by mechanic

EXT. EFF. power cut, dry chemical extinguishers applied and water under pressure applied PREV. good, except it was recommended to go to single conductor instead of multiple

RESC. mantrip and 3 trackmen came through smoke for 3 minutes to escape

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder, power cut EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS breaker and some cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 531

Jensie Mine

Small Fire in Belt-Conveyor Drive Motor

Repairman had just finished repairing loose brush in belt drive motor and drilling man noticed smoke. He disconnected the motor and applied dry chemical extinguisher. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/11/63 TIME 12:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 48 in. SIZE 3100 TPD 181/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. East Springfield, Jefferson, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Max S. Edwards

CAUSE sparks from a loose brush in belt drive motor ignited dust and grease DETECT by driller nearby

EXT. EFF. contents of 25-lb. extinguisher applied after power cut PREV. infrequent inspections

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical, eng. heat FUEL insulation, dust, grease AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. motor

EQUIP. LOSS some insulation PROD. LOSS. None

No. 532

Valley Camp No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred while cutting face. Operator went to remove the nip. Others erected a line curtain as smoke was becoming dense and machine could not be reached. With all-service gas masks, crew extinguished the fire with a 30-lb. dry chemical extinguisher. Machine cooled with water. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/15/63 TIME 2:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 109/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elm Grove, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D.S. Cunningham Saf. Dir. - W.S. Patterson

CAUSE short circuit at connection box for power cable ignited insulation and hydraulic hose DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut, line curtain erected, dry chemical extinguisher applied and machine cooled with water PREV. adequate, but machine not cleaned enough

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, grease, rubber AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter electrical and hydraulic systems PROD. LOSS NS

No. 533

Nelms No. 1

Small Fire of Electrical Origin

Wooden car became derailed, dislodged supporting timber and during re-railing attempts, car uncoupled and contacted trolley wire. Smoke travelled inby where power disconnect was located so entire mine power was cut. Car hauled away and doused. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/17/63 TIME 11:10P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 354/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE wooden mine car contacted energized trolley car DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and water applied PREV. trip travelling too fast

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL wooden car AGENT power cut, water, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. man trip

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 534

Powhatan No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Section foreman detected odor of cable smoke and found cable burning on the truck. He put on self-rescuer and applied 20-lb. dry chemical extinguisher. Water was then applied from belt entry line and fire put out. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/18/63 TIME 7:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 6300 TPD 350/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Powhatan Point, Belmont, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Charles S. Winters Saf. Dir. - L.R. Flor

CAUSE splice or damaged portion of a trailing cable shorted while piled on a truck and ignited combustibles on same DETECT section foreman smelled cable smoke

EXT. EFF. 20-lb. dry chemical and water applied PREV. power not disconnected when idle; one nip for two pieces of equipment

RESC. N/S

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, grease AGENT water, powder, cut power EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. utility vehicle

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 535

Robena Mine (Nos. 1, 2 & 3)

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Locomotive)

Crew traveling along haulage road near shaft bottom when flames erupted from contactor compartment. Locomotive was stopped and dry chemical applied. Meanwhile, attempt was made to remove fused current collector from the trolley pole with an axe. Fire was fought from intake side with dry chemical and rock dust. Locomotive removed for repairs. Kirk, R.J., Shannon, J.B., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/21/63 TIME 8:45A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 78 in. SIZE 14,865 TPD 913/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Greensboro and Carmichaels, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. United States Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE high resistance fault burned until overcurrent device set at 1500 amperes opened DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. locomotive's extinguisher applied, then rock dust and dry chemical extinguisher applied PREV. lower capacity fuses should be used

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS $5,000 damage to locomotive PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 536

No. 22 Mine

Mine Fire

A cutting machine contacted the trolley wire while being trammed along the track with 2 wheels outside the track. The arc ignited the oil around the hydraulic hoses and spread to the trailing cable. Fire extinguished with dry chemicals and water. Stevenson, P.F., MESA Pikeville, 2 pp.

DATE 1/22/63 TIME 6:00P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 44 in. SIZE 3600 TPD 276/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Deane, Letcher, Kentucky OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - M.E. Prunty

CAUSE cutting machine contacted trolley wire igniting hydraulic hoses and parts of trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemicals, water PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil AGENT water, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 537

Orient No. 5

Final Report of Mine Fire

Crews were leaving at shift change when they encountered smoke on inby side of vent door and airlock on belt entry. They crossed over to another entry and made it to safety. Three men went back for self-rescuers and suffocated. Crew attempted to fight fire with rock dust, but management finally decided to seal the area with 6 seals. Four men in other section exposed to smoke and treated. Kopp, A.J., HSAC Denver, 12 pp.

DATE 1/29/63 TIME 3:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 3 INJ. 4 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 5500 TPD 207/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Benton, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - Charles E. Sanford Saf. Dir. - Paul Budzak

CAUSE UNK DETECT by crew leaving at shift change

EXT. EFF. evacuating crews applied rock dust; air lock door collapsed and area finally sealed PREV. use of non-fire resistant materials critical; more fire fighting equipment needed

RESC. rescue teams tried unsuccessfully to find missing 3 men before fire area sealed; borehole to 7 east used to inject CO2, then fire area was recovered and bodies found

IG. UNK FUEL insulation, rubber, timber, coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, seals EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 510' of belt, 1030' of roof and rib damage, damage to jeep and belt drive PROD. LOSS. until 3/18/63

No. 538

Sterling No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Shift was over and 5 men were left on to clean up loose coal in runways. Three detected smoke and found adjacent room filled with smoke. Using cable as a guide, 2 found their way to the nip, and cut the switch to all face equipment and then found other two workmen in smokeless room. Together they put the fire out with CO2 and rock dust. Three hospitalized for smoke inhalation. McCarty, J.B., Devett, W.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/19/63 TIME 11:45P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1100 TPD 72/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bakerton, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Sterling Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE temporary splice short circuited on reel DETECT almost immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. 2 10-lb. CO2 extinguishers and several bags of rock dust PREV. face equipment should be deenergized between shifts; electrical maintenance poor

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL canvas, insulation AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS damage to shuttle car and canvas check curtain PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 539

No. 1 Unit, Pleasant View Mine

Mine Fire

During regular cycle, roof bolter was moving his rig to new position and attempted to move a crossbar left in roadway off with the bolter. In doing so, he pinched the cable and a fire broke out. He ran to cut power, but large fire had already started. 16000cfm of air was coursed around the area and rock dust and water applied from all angles. Beck, Brank, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 2/20/63 TIME 1:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. West Kentucky Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE shorted (pinched) trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. attempt to "bulldoze" crossbar in roadway off with roof bolter was contributing factor

RESC. all men except firefighters sent out of mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to roof bolter PROD. LOSS. 2 shifts

No. 540

Robena (Nos. 1, 2 & 3) Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Locomotive) Fire

Motorman and brakeman told to move locomotives and cars out of section where they were parked because of wreck on previous day. Rail had not been repaired when they arrived. While they were waiting and using compressor, flames erupted from contactor compartment. Foreman was notified, power cut and sectionalizing switches opened before power restored. Firefighting equipment brought up and fire put out. Krek, R.I., Young, G.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/13/63 TIME 7:30A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 78 in. SIZE 12,222 TPD 945/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Greensboro & Carmichaels, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK, but assumed electrical fault in power supply circuit to contactor; damage to locomotive prevented determination DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. good; overcurrent device set too high

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to locomotive PROD. LOSS NS

No. 541

Imperial Keystone Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Distribution Box) Fire

Two welders repairing continuous miner broke for lunch and encountered smoke in main haulage. They crawled 180' to fresh air and collapsed (requiring hospitalization). Section motorman found them and told helper locomotive operator to pass on word of the fire and injuries. Motorman disconnected power and applied 2 dry chemical extinguishers and 40 bags of rock dust. Lewis, W.K., Devett, W.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/18/63 TIME 1:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 36 in. SIZE 1350 TPD 89/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Clymer, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Imperial Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - J. Marshall Foreman - Joseph Fako Saf. Dir. - Matthew Jarvie

CAUSE short circuit on input side of circuit breaker box-use of frame-grounded conductor in trailing cable to carry welding currents DETECT by motorman who found 2 collapsed crewmen

EXT. EFF. dry chemical and rock dust PREV. insufficient firefighting supplies; trailing cable of insufficient current carrying capacity for welding

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS distribution box, 25' of shuttle car cable; cable from cont. miner and from feeder circuit and a fire extinguisher PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 542

Harlan Mine

Report of Fire

Small fire discovered along 3 face main haulageway. A rock fall had dislodged power feeder for a pump igniting loose coal. Officials and company employees extinguished the fire with water soon after arriving. Hager, D.R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 4/4/63 TIME 8:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Coalgood, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Pure D Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE small rock fall dislodged a pump power wire causing a short and igniting floor coal DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. pump

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 543

Black Knight Mine

Underground Coal Mine Fire

Mine was idle at the time of the fire. Lampman was cutting with a torch and sparks dropped in kerosene saturated dust. He and another applied rock dust but drum of fumes exploded burning both mens' hands and faces. Fire extinguishers were used to put the fire out before fire dept. arrived. Area was wetted down as a precaution. Symons, W.J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/24/63 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 10 TPD
4 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Ravensdale,
King,
Washington OWN. Coal, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE cutting in the open DETECT immediate by lampman

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied, then Class B extinguishers and then the area was wetted down PREV. cutting in this location was not good

RESC. N/A

IG. spark FUEL coal, dust, kerosene AGENT water, powder, rock dust
EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 544

Gateway Mine

Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered by foreman about 500' outby 2 face section. A fire hose was attached to a nearby outlet and the fire was put out. Evidently a piece of clay vein material had fallen against the belt and loose coal underneath had been ignited. Young, G.D., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/17/63 TIME 10:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Clarksville,
Greene,
Pennsylvania OWN. Gateway Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair
Foreman - Mickey Garnic

CAUSE rib material had fallen and backed up on conveyor belt drive heating belt to ignition and coal underneath DETECT by foreman crossing belt entry

EXT. EFF. fire hose attached to waterline PREV. loose coal should not be allowed to accumulate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water
EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 545

No. 8B Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Locomotive) Fire

A locomotive caught fire 2400' inby the portal when a short occurred in the power supply cable. Locomotive was on normal trip when lights dimmed on front locomotive. He stopped and met rear operator who told him of fire. They could not get close to fight it themselves, so informed the mine. All left the mine. Locomotive brought to pull trip out and fire put out on surface. Keith, Coperry, Whalen, J.T., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/24/63 TIME 6:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Alma

HT. 36 in. SIZE 680 TPD 32/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Lobata, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. By-Products Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Rex Ankrom Foreman - Clayton Ball

CAUSE cause of short undetermined DETECT by operator

EXT. EFF. trip pulled out and fire put out with chemical fire extinguishers PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, grease AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. utility vehicle

EQUIP. LOSS damage to locomotive PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 546

Lady Dunn No. 105 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on a cutting machine at the first intersection outby the face. Cutter had run over cable and severed insulation. Eleven man crew remained to assist in fighting fire. Nip was removed and firefighting with CO2 and rock dust began. A 2" water line was laid and water was applied. DeWeese, R.C., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/2/63 TIME 2:15P DUR. 4 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 32-39 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 216/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cannelton, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Cannelton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - T. Pennington Foreman - C. Hicks

CAUSE NS DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2, rock dust, water PREV. cable not protected from being run over; insufficient water lines

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, grease, dust AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic systems of cutter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 22 Mine No. 547

Report of Investigation of Trailing Cable Fire

All nips except affected one had been removed at the end of second shift 5/10/63. Fire boss stated that during his 5:00 A.M. check he thought nip was for a pump. Foreman patrolling at 11:45 A.M. encountered smoke, acquired extinguishers and extinguished the fire in 30 minutes. Area was then flooded. Akers, P.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/11/63 TIME 11:00A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Pine Creek, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Claude Smith

CAUSE short of unknown cause ignited cable DETECT by section foreman on patrol

EXT. EFF. 1 20-lb. dry chemical extinguisher PREV. adequate

RESC. No one inby

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, plastic air hose AGENT CO2 EFF. Yes EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS damage to some cable and plastic air hose PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 548

Wyoming Mine

Report of Investigation of Small Fire

Arriving day shift encountered smoke in the main belt entry. Superintendent and foreman stopped belt drive and got assistance in extinguishing the fire from the waiting crew. Employees inby notified. Blankenship, J.C., Bragg, M.E., HSAC Denver.

DATE 5/14/63 TIME 8:05A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - John Queen
Foreman - Roy Sherman

CAUSE friction caused by fan blades striking the guard which ignited spilled lubricant and coal dust around reducer DETECT by superintendent and foreman riding belt ahead of crew

EXT. EFF. 2 20-lb. CO2 extinguishers, rock dust, and water PREV. belts and guards should be kept up better

RESC. men inby notified as the fire was put out

IG. friction FUEL rubber, oil, dust AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 549

Archbald Shaft Mine

Report of Coal Mine Shaft Fire

During modifications to the shaft to permit raising the cage higher a crosspiece in the headframe was cut. An hour after cutting was completed, smoke was smelled. Foreman was notified and men were withdrawn. Fire department arrived and played 3 lines of water onto the shaft. Sinicrope, A.A., Fortney, G.W., HSAC Denver.

DATE 5/16/63 TIME 8:55A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Rock

HT. NS in. SIZE 185 TPD
52/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Taylor,
Lackawanna,
Pennsylvania OWN. Moffat Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - William Walsh

CAUSE sparks from headframe crossbeam cutting touched off fire of wooden buntons and panels DETECT by men working nearby temporary hoist

EXT. EFF. water from fire department trucks PREV. adequate; it was suggested a collar be employed to prevent sparks from entering the shaft

RESC. N/A

IG. sparks FUEL timber AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to shaft PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 550

Flat Top Mine

Electric Equipment Fire

Trackman started pump and compensator arced. He pulled switch and notified officials. Motorman passing the pump house noticed smoke and notified nearby officials. Fire was put out promptly with available extinguishers. Melhorn, H.E., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 5/20/63 TIME NS DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Flat Top,
Jefferson,
Alabama OWN. U.S. Pipe & Foundry Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault in compensator wiring DETECT by trackman starting pump and motorman passing soon afterward

EXT. EFF. available extinguishers used PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT powder EQUIP. starting compensator for pump

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS internal parts of starting compensator PROD. LOSS None

No. 551

Black Raven Mine

Investigation of Mine Fire

Fire evidently broke out in entry chute near top of the raise airway. Area was sealed 5/29/63 and fissures were covered with dirt. Men arriving Monday morning saw smoke coming out of return and could see hot coal in outby cross entry chute. As of 6/5/63, fire is slowly extinguishing. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/24/63 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Rifle, Garfield, Colorado OWN. Black Raven Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - William Haas

CAUSE assumed spontaneous combustion DETECT by operators and 2 employees; saw smoke in return upon arrival

EXT. EFF. area sealed with block and cement seals PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 552

Morris Creek Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on a cutter at the face. Cutter had been heating early in the day and had been repaired. It was returned to service at 7:20 P.M. and at 7:40 P.M. after cutting 6 feet across the face, the cable (tree) from the box to the motor blew up. CO2 and rock dust were applied immediately and then water was available. DeWeese, R.C., Micheal, W.B., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/29/63 TIME 7:40P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Winifrede

HT. 48 in. SIZE 2200 TPD 105/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Morris Creek, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Central Appalachian Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.E. McLaughlin Foreman - L.M. Douglas

CAUSE fault in cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 and rock dust applied immediately, water then available PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insualtion, rubber, dust, oil, grease AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic systems of the cutter PROD. LOSS None

No. 553

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Elect. Mach.) Fire

Operator completed face-cut, walked to load point to check progress, looked back and saw flames. He pulled cable at nip station, applied rock dust and contents of 2 extinguishers, and was driven back by smoke. Ventilation changes allowed access to rock dust supply and evacuation of crews. Fire was then fought. Ross, R.G., MESA Norton, 7 pp.

DATE 5/31/63 TIME 10:15P DUR. 6 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Darby Coal Bed

HT. 36-60 in. SIZE 200 TPD 35/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Calvin, Lee, Virginia OWN. Wright Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in cable reel or cable on reel ignited insulation, oil, grease and coal dust DETECT accidental viewing

EXT. EFF. power disconnected, rock dust, powder PREV. adequate

RESC. men brought out after ventilation changes cleared escapeway

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 554

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Loading Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on a loading machine at the face when the trailing cable became entangled in the loader's treads. Insulation broke and cable burned. Crew cut power and put fire out with CO2. Keith, Coperry, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 6/5/63 TIME 8:30P DUR. 1¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Chafin Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE cable became entangled in treads of loader DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. 3 20-lb. CO2 extinguishers applied after power cut PREV. no short-circuit protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT CO2 EFF. Yes EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable and rubber guard on loader PROD. LOSS several hours

No. 555

Cadogan No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Shuttle car was tramming room to room when trailing cable blew up on the reel. Operator disconnected the nip and pulled cable from reel until smoke became dense. He then crawled inby to notify other workmen. Some donned self-rescuers and attempted extinguishment with extinguishers and rock dust, but rib was on fire and they were unsuccessful. Water tried later then area sealed. Holcomb, J.W., Huntley, D.W., Breedon, J.D., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 6/5-6/1963 TIME 10:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 38-44 in. SIZE 2550 TPD 134/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadogan, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Allegheny River Mining Company PERS. Supt. - Roy Shaffer Foreman - Burl Snyder

CAUSE short in trailing cable on reel; fire broke hydraulic hose immediately and intensified fire DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. immediate crew attempted to put fire out with CO2 extinguishers and rock dust; water was also tried, and area was finally sealed PREV. insufficient waterlines installed

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, dust, oil, grease, hyd. fluid AGENT water, CO2, rock dust, seal EFF. No, No, No, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 555-b

Cadogan No. 2 Mine

Report of Reopening Sealed Fire Area

Fire had occurred 6/5/63 and this report detailed the reopening procedure involving air locking and re-ventilation until fire area was reached. Fire was out. Extensive falls had occurred. Investigation showed shuttle car trailing cable to have shorted and breaker was set too high. Huntley, Donald W., Breedon, J.D., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 6/5/63 TIME 10:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Cadogan, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Allegheny River Mining Company PERS. NS

CAUSE short in trailing cable on reel DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. flame-resistant hydraulic fluid not used; waterlines should be installed

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, timber, coal, dust AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS 1 shuttle car PROD. LOSS until 8/7/63

No. 556

No. 1 Mine

Report of Fires

Eight fires were set by trespassers over the week-end and found by arriving first shift 800' inby the main portal. Area sealed and work permitted after 7/26 and full operations permitted 8/1. Linville, R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 6/10/63 TIME 7:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Ritchie, Knott, Kentucky OWN. Garner Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE set by trespassers DETECT by arriving day shift crew

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. vandalism FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until 8/1/63

No. 557

Pond Creek Mine

Cutting Machine Fire Report

Short in headlight wiring burned through hydraulic hose releasing under pressure and igniting the hydraulic fluid. Fire extinguished in 1.5 hours with water and rock dust. Laird, J.M., MESA Vincennes, 1 pp.

DATE 6/11/63 TIME 6:00A DUR. 1.5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 40 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Drakesbury, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. Beech Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in headlight wiring burned through hydraulic line igniting oil DETECT observed by machine operator

EXT. EFF. applied water and rock dust successfully PREV. wired around fuses; flammable hydraulic fluid used

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes,

EQUIP. LOSS UNK PROD. LOSS UNK

No. 558

Mine No. 2

Report on Investigation of Coal Mine Fire

Short circuit in electrical wiring ignited the insulation, oil, grease and tires on a cutting machine as it was being trammed. Water was applied to the machine and the fire extinguished. Tisdale, Paul H., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 7/9/63 TIME 1:30P DUR. 6½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. McHenry, Ohio, Kentucky OWN. Drakes Creek Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Wilford Wicks

CAUSE short circuit in wiring of cutting machine DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water pump, rock dust PREV. adequate, however roof had fallen on pump and not been removed; also fire extinguishers in the mine were misplaced

RESC. 10 men underground withdrawn from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease, rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic systems and 2 front tires on cutting machine PROD. LOSS. 6½ hrs.

No. 559

No. 2 Mine

Report of Fire

Small fire occurred along the rib of right return inby an entry when a rock fall dislodged power wire to the battery-charging station igniting loose coal. The fire spread 13' along the rib before it was put out with water. Sample, C.H., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 7/14/63 TIME 4:30P DUR. 7 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Brookside, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky-Jellico Coal Co., Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof fall dislodged power feeder short circuiting it and arc ignited loose coal DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water applied by officials and employees PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. battery charging station

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS negligible PROD. LOSS NS

No. 560

Ireland Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Continuous Miner) Fire

Roof bolter was standing in a crosscut and saw fire on continuous miner parked in a room. He notified foreman who shorted air from the fire. He notified dispatcher and attempted to put fire out with 150-lb. dry chemical extinguisher but smoke was dense. Ventilation restored and water applied; roof falls were a problem. Rock dust bag dam helped. Callahan, J.T., Williams, F.A., Eakins, J.S., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 7/19/63 TIME 4:35P DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 8800 TPD 249/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Hanna Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Zitko Saf. Dir. - Ewalt Herzog

CAUSE spontaneous combustion of coal dust, oil and wood chips accumulated on parked continuous miner which was running hot DETECT discovered by roof bolter standing in adjacent crosscut

EXT. EFF. ventilation and extinguisher tried; then crew applied water PREV. adequate; equipment should be kept clean and fire-resistant hydraulic fluid was not used

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous combustion FUEL coal, dust, wood chips, oil AGENT water, CO2 EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to miner PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 561

No. 6 Mine

Report of Fire

Shooting truck ran over trailing cable and cable and loose coal burned. Machine men put the fire out with extinguishers, but it rekindled and was discovered by arriving day shift. Section foreman put the fire out with wood fiber. Lynch, H.B., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 7/25/63 TIME 2:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Wooton, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Mountain Coal Company PERS. Supt. - Thomas Davis Foreman - Foister Barker

CAUSE broken trailing cable DETECT immediate (1st occurrence) & by crew (2nd occurrence)

EXT. EFF. first occurrence extinguished with extinguisher; second was put out with wood fiber PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT CO2, wood fiber EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. shooting truck

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 566

Pleasant View Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred in face areas due to short circuit in loader trailing cable caused by shuttle car running over it during face dusting operations. Crew ran out and disconnected power but could not get back to fire. All men removed. Direct attack attempted but caving forced sealing the area by 8/21. Beck, Brank, HSAC Denver, 4pp.

DATE 8/15/63 TIME 2:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 11 & No. 9

HT. 60 in. SIZE 7000 TPD 300/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. West Kentucky Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Edwin McGaw Foreman - Everett Morris Saf. Dir. - Aubin Higgins

CAUSE short in loader trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut, all men left mine, fire fighting team attempted direct attack and mine sealed PREV. supplies adequate, but cables should be protected and flame resistant hyd. fluid not used

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, rubber, dust timber, coal, AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car and loader

EQUIP. LOSS two shuttle cars and loader PROD. LOSS. until 8/26/63

No. 567

Keystone Mine

Report of Investigation of Mining Machine Fire

Machine operator reported fire to writer during spot inspection. All men withdrawn to intake. Operator had thrown rock dust on fire before smoke became intense. Gas masks obtained and CO2 applied to fire while road ahead of fire was wetted. Bragg, M.E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/22/63 TIME 10:35A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Keystone, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - J. Bowling

CAUSE (believed) short circuit in power tree connecting controller to motor DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, then CO2 extinguishers, area ahead of fire wetted PREV. machines should be equipped with extinguishers

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, dust, oil AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS damage to electrical and hydraulic systems PROD. LOSS NS

No. 568

No. 3 Elkhorn Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A fire started at unknown time, when, it is believed, a stalled roller ignited coal dust. All officials concurred to seal the area. This was done and with regular air sampling, the mine was reopened 3/23/64 with the fire extinguished. Linville, R., MESA Norton, 9 pp.

DATE 8/24/63 TIME 1:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 36 in. SIZE 700 TPD 34 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Evanston, Breathitt County, Kentucky OWN. NS PERS. Foreman - L. Sexton

CAUSE UNK - believed to be friction of stalled roller igniting coal dust DETECT by foreman encountering smoke on fire boss inspection

EXT. EFF. 17 seals PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. friction (?) FUEL rubber, timber, dust AGENT seals EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. until 3/23/64

No. 569

South Dip Skidmore Slope Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered in coal being drawn out of a pillar chute. The fire area was flooded because 4 interconnected mines would be affected. O'Connor, L.E., Fulmer, J.A., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 8/26/63 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Skidmore No. 9

HT. 10' SIZE 150 TPD 14/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Valley View, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Clark Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Arthur Hand

CAUSE multiple blasting of a series of longholes in solid coal DETECT while pulling coal down chute

EXT. EFF. area flooded PREV. longholes should be fired singly using Primacord

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS considerable damage to pumps fans and other equipment left in area PROD. LOSS until 10/15/63

No. 570

Robena No. 1

Investigation of Locomotive Fire

Fire occurred on a 20 ton tandem locomotive near the repair shop on the shaft bottom. It was immediately put out and exact cause could not be determined due to extensive arcing. Young, G.D., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/5/63 TIME 5:30P DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Greensboro, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Asst. Gen. Supt. - W.E. Cook

CAUSE UNK; but initiated by electrical fault from insulation failure or contact of conductive material in fuse box DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers applied after attempt to remove trolley pole from wire manually PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT powder EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive PROD. LOSS. None

No. 571

Crown Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Small gob fire in a crosscut discovered by 1 of 3 assistant managers on routine safety inspection. Superintendent arrived and fire fighting began, tapping a main water line and hooking up two 1" lines. Hot material was loaded out. Hammons, G.W., HSAC Denver.

DATE 9/22/63 TIME 10:15A DUR. 14 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 84 in. SIZE 10,000 TPD 397/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Farmersville, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - Bernard Burke

CAUSE spontaneous ignition of coal under gob DETECT by assistant manager on routine safety inspection

EXT. EFF. water line tapped and two pipes extended to the fire; hot material then loaded out PREV. open areas should be kept free of gob and should be well ventilated

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous combustion FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS until 9/23/63

No. 572

Parkway Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Section where fire occurred was abandoned. Foreman noticed smoke in gangway and discovered coal and wood fire in tunnel. Fan was installed to clear smoke, pump installed and line connected to fight fire with water. Second blower was installed and second pump put in. The fire was out by 10/3/63. O'Connor, L.E., Fulmer, J.A., Cummings, W.T., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 9/30/63 TIME 4:00P DUR. 4 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Top Split Mammoth

HT. 14' SIZE 100 TPD 38/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Valley View, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Parkway Anthracite, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Harlin Lins Foreman - J. Krizanauskas

CAUSE UNK DETECT by foreman on patrol

EXT. EFF. fans and pumps hooked up to area and water directed into and onto the fire PREV. no recommendations

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until 10/9/63

No. 573

No. 28 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Mine was idle for the week-end and belts had been emptied. A 3 man crew of electricians finished repairs and headed for surface. They encountered smoke in a track entry. They retreated, donned self-rescuers and travelled by portal bus to the surface where they were treated for smoke inhalation and released. Officials arrived and fought fire with rock dust and water during rooffalls and steaming until 11/14. Whalen, J.T., HSAC Denver,8 pp.

DATE 10/5/63 TIME 11:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 3445 TPD 155/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Verdunville, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. National Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - H.J. Stapleton Foreman - Curtis Evans Saf. Dir. - C.E. Linkous

CAUSE UNK - believed to have been "frozen" bearing or roller or by belt rubbing against wood DETECT by 3 electricians on their way out of mine

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water applied PREV. suitable

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS damage to belt and accessories, 2400' of belt and 950' of belt structure PROD. LOSS until 11/15/63

No. 562

Crescent Mine

Minor Mine Fire

Fire occurred in room 3 near the face when shuttle car ran over cables of cutter and pinner machines pinching and short circuiting them. Operator ran to pull the nips and then could not get back to fire because of smoke. Mine officials arrived and water, rock dust, and type C extinguisher applied. Beck, Brank, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/1/63 TIME 1:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Central City, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. Nashville Coal, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE shorting of trailing cable owing to it being run over DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust that were immediately available, plus type C extinguishers PREV. adequate; cables should be protected better

RESC. N/A - all men except fire fighters removed from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 563

Karen Mine

Investigation of Short Circuit in Trailing Cable of a Shuttle Car

Three men suffered smoke inhalation as a result of a short circuit in a trailing cable of a shuttle car parked outby a room. Two of the men noticed the smoke and retreated 2 crosscuts to fresh air. Four others also retreated. One of these took rock dust and applied it to the area of fire and suffered ill effects of the fumes. All were released next day. Kirk, R.J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/8/63 TIME 2:55A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 2 shifts METH. Cont.

LOC. Centerville Borough, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in trailing cable DETECT by workmen seeing and then smelling smoke

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 8' of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 564

Wharton No. 3

Final Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Power went off while sumping cutter to face; while checking source of trouble, smoke was discovered. Section foreman was at face when loader operator (victim) alerted crew to smoke and power failure. Foreman donned self-rescuer to attempt to get through smoke for help. Crew congregated at face. Foreman found help, got power off for section, covered hot cable with rock dust while area was wetted. Croyle, G.W., Woods, J.A., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 8/9/63 TIME 5:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 3 SEAM Hernshaw

HT. 45 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 232/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Barrett, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Company PERS. Supt. - J.S. Wells Foreman - C.M. Mynhier

CAUSE short in loader trailing cable DETECT by cutter operator and helper noticing power failure

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied and area wetted down PREV. poor cabling methods; poor nip location; no overload protection; cables overloaded

RESC. foreman donned self-rescuer and went through smoke to obtain help

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EQUIP. loader

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 100' of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 565

Elzo Mine

Report of Cable Fire

Small cable fire occurred 50' inby the loading ramp when draw rock fell in unused section of entry causing short which ignited cable. Section foreman with help of crew put fire out with rock dust and CO2 in about 10 minutes. Lahnstein, J.G., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 8/10/63 TIME 2:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof fall struck cables and caused short circuit DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. section foreman removed nips and fire put out using rock dust and CO2 PREV. cables not provided with overload protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some cable PROD. LOSS little

No. 574

Lancashire No. 15 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Sequence switch and slippage control switch had been left "off" during shift. At 7:00 P.M. main belt system was shut down to check spotter. Six tons of coal on still running S-44 belt head piled up at drive and stalled the belt enough to ignite the belt and coal. Fire was put out immediately. Gaskill, C.H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/11/63 TIME 7:15P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 5800 TPD 247/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bakerton, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Barnes & Tucker Co. PERS. Supt. - George Dunchuck Foreman - John Drahwak Saf. Dir. - Mike Mehal

CAUSE supply man failed to reset the sequence and slippage control switches to "on" when sending supplies to section DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. two 10-lb. dry chemical extinguishers and water from water line applied PREV. sufficient

RESC. N/A - all men removed on separate split of air

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, CO2 EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 10' of belt and covering on drive roller PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 575

McAlpin No. 2

Report of Investigation of Small Mine Fire

Fire discovered at underground dumping point by section foreman. He immediately applied 25 bags of rock dust and 1 20-lb. extinguisher and then went for help. Foreman brought water car and water was applied until pump motor cut off. Sophia fire department arrived and fire was put out. Puskas, A., Childers, M., 3 pp.

DATE 10/12/63 TIME 6:30P DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. McAlpin, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - David Sizemore Foreman - Clarence Meadows

CAUSE trolley wire had fallen on a rail causing a short DETECT by section foreman on exam

EXT. EFF. rock dust, CO2 applied, then water car used until power cut, then fire dept. PREV. power cables should be installed on insulators and correct fuse size should be determined

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL NS AGENT water, rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS damage to wooden floor, electric switch boxes and a tandem locomotive PROD. LOSS operations resumed 10/14/63

No. 576

Lady Dunn No. 105

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire discovered along belt conveyor by 2 preshift examiners, on Sunday night supply shift. Surface was immediately called and water and rock dust were applied until 1:00 A.M. 10/21. Croyle, Gerald W., DeWeese, R.C., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/20/63 TIME 10:00P DUR. 3 hrs.+ DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 32-39 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 199/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - T. Pennington Foreman - C. Hicks

CAUSE (believed) to have been friction at stalled rollers DETECT by 2 preshift examiners

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. good; but conveyor not inspected often for loose coal

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal, timber, dust AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 577

No. 17 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Mechanic, enroute to the mine, saw smoke issuing from the mine fan and discovered the fire on the No. 2 belt conveyor 600' inby a portal. Help was obtained and water was applied until 11/9/63. Cain, R.M., Allamon, T., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/27/63 TIME 11:00A DUR. 310 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Belmont

HT. 35 in. SIZE 1340 TPD 62/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Gallagher, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Riverton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H.E. Kinder Foreman - Cleve Christian

CAUSE (believed) a stalled roller(s) ignited coal dust due to friction DETECT by mechanic enroute to the mine

EXT. EFF. water PREV. inadequate belt inspection and dust allowed to build up

RESC. No men in mine

IG. friction FUEL rubber, dust, timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 80' of belt PROD. LOSS until 11/19/63

No. 578

Stanaford No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Section foreman noticed belt begin to jerk, travelled to drive unit and found No. 1 chain conveyor line stopped. Travelling to No. 1 drive, he found the fire outby the drive unit. He notified the surface and he with several others applied rock dust and water. Wotring, L., Childers, M., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/28/63 TIME 10:45P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Beckley

HT. NS in. SIZE 975 TPD 110/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stanaford, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. New River Co. PERS. Supt. - E.E. Varney

CAUSE arcing created by a fault between positive and negative feeder wires ignited fine coal DETECT by section foreman

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, CO2 PREV. no sectionalizing automatic circuit breakers; coal dust accumulations

RESC. all except fire fighters removed

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 11' of belt PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 579

Ernest No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Explosives Fire & Gas Ignition

Charge failed to completely detonate and smoldering fire ignited gas shortly. Fire was extinguished promptly. Brown, W.D., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 10/31/63 TIME 10:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 77 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 275/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Ernest, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE part of a charge of permissible explosives failed to detonate; they smoldered until igniting gas from the cut DETECT immediately

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL gas, dust AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 580

Segco No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on a cutting machine while it was tramming to a new face. Operator thought smoke was from shot which had just been fired, but ran to disconnect nip. Electrician and helper met him and had already done so. They waited for smoke to clear, but when it didn't, they pulled cable from reel and put fire out with water. Kahre, C.F., Shoemaker, J.F., 6 pp.

DATE 11/13/63 TIME 8:20P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Montevallo

HT. 64 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 183/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Brantleyville, Shelby, Alabama OWN. Southern Electric Generating Company PERS. Supt. - C.C. Lyford Foreman - J.B. Dollar Saf. Dir. - J. Johnstone

CAUSE short in trailing cable DETECT immediate by cutter operator

EXT. EFF. water line connected PREV. equipment should be kept clean of combustible material accumulations

RESC. N/A - most employees on separate split

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electric and hydraulic systems of cutter PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 581

Moss No. 3 Portal B

Mine Fire

Blasting crew returned to face after blasting and found a fire burning across 2/3 of the face. They notified dispatcher and began applying CO2 and water successfully. Mears, G.L., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 11/27/63 TIME 6:30A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 10-18' SIZE 3882 TPD 188/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D. Harris

CAUSE part of permissible charge failed to detonate igniting gas DETECT immediately after blasting

EXT. EFF. water and CO2 PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL gas, coal AGENT water, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 582

Splash Dam Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

During normal mining, the power failed and when the foreman went to check the source, he found dense smoke. He pulled the trailing cable and found it to be severed. He returned to the working area and waited with the men for the smoke to clear. After 1 hour, it did and the men applied rock dust. Smoke appeared at the loading point at which time men were brought out and power disconnected. Ellis, R.L., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/27/63 TIME 8:10P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Splash Dam

HT. 29-32 in. SIZE 600 TPD 55/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Roseann, Buchanan, Virginia OWN. Panther Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - James Brown

CAUSE rock fall on trailing cable (flame-resistive) of continuous miner DETECT by operator checking power outtage

EXT. EFF. power disconnected, rock dust PREV. suitable; but no circuit breaker on cable; poor ventilation set up; no telephone communication

RESC. men left to themselves

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, power cut EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS 100' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 583

King Mine

Fire in King Mine

Fire boss found smoke and power had cut off. He found ventilation door burning and got extinguisher off locomotive. He then drove to foreman's house to get help. Men arrived and extinguishers and buckets of water were available. VanNatter, P.C., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/2/63 TIME 12:15A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Hiawatha, Carbon, Utah OWN. United States Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - Max Robb Foreman - C. Wall

CAUSE ventilation door rubbed 4160 volt a.c. cable damaging the insulation DETECT by fire boss examining old workings

EXT. EFF. extinguisher from locomotive; then crew applied water and extinguisher PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS ventilation door PROD. LOSS NS

No. 584

Montcoal No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Loading machine was connected at nip and when operator arrived at the face, he found fire and dense smoke. Nip was removed, but men could not get back to the machine owing to smoke. Check curtain was repaired and men were sent to get the water car. Meanwhile, rock dust and extinguishers were being used on the fire. Water put the fire out. Croyle, R.G., HSAC Denver.

DATE 12/3/63 TIME 6:10A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Dorothy

HT. 72 in. SIZE 2100 TPD 140/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Montcoal, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Armco Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Lacy Mitchell Saf. Dir. - Alex Keleman

CAUSE short in power conductors in controller compartment DETECT upon arrival at face by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguisher applied until water car brought up PREV. equipment not kept clean

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, dust, hyd. fluid AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 585

Nemacolin

Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Timberman was changing bits on a continuous miner when he noticed sparks. He went to nip and heard cable blow on his way. Help arrived and dry chemical and water was applied. Rudolph,E.M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/20/63 TIME 9:10P DUR. 1/20 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE sparks from miner DETECT by repairman on his way to nip to disconnect it

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied, then water line, chemical car not required PREV. adequate; but machines should be kept clean and deenergized when being repaired

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS 6 hydraulic hoses and 5' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 586

No. 1 "A" Mine

Report of Fires in No. 1 "A" Mine (2 memos)

Fire occurred at face when deteriorated explosives failed to detonate completely and ignited coal. Fire was put out in several hours with soda acid and CO2 and snow. Sample, C.H., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 1/1/64 TIME 6:30P DUR. 7 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Cranks, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Webb Coal Co. PERS. Property Supv. - C. Napier

CAUSE incomplete detonation DETECT by workmen returning to face after blasting

EXT. EFF. soda acid and CO2 applied; snow brought in PREV. non-permissible battery used to fire shots

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL coal AGENT CO2, snow, soda acid EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS Negligible PROD. LOSS. None

No. 587

Gateway Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Crew returning to face found fire on continuous miner. Self-rescuers and rock dust were obtained, water line hooked up and fire put out after nip disconnected. Breedon, J.D., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/2/64 TIME 7:50P DUR. 1/3 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 80 in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Gateway Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.D. Williamson
Foreman - Mickey Garnic
Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE short occurred between positive feeder and frame igniting materials on machine DETECT by crew returning to face

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied PREV. good; but machine should be kept free of combustible materials

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 6 hydraulic hoses and 2 power cables PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 588

Nemacolin Mine

Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Small fire occurred when cable short circuited on reel of shuttle car and ignited oil and grease. The fire was quickly extinguished by dry chemical extinguishers. Rudolph. E.M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/15/64 TIME 6:30P DUR. 3 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable splice DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers PREV. equipment should be kept free of combustible materials; temporary splices should be well made

RESC. No evacuation - no one suffered serious effects from smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease AGENT powder EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS - short time

No. 589

South Dip Skidmore Slope Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was discovered in long hole blasted coal in mine. Water was applied and fire thought to be extinguished, but was not. Atmosphere became saturated with carbon monoxide and fire was out of control. Fire area was flooded until fire extinguished. Wilson, Harrison F., Fulmer, John A., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 1/15/64 TIME 4:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Skidmore or No. 9

HT. 10' SIZE 120 TPD 14/2 Emp. METH. Gravity flow

LOC. Valley View, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Clark Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Arthur Hand Operator - Clark Maurer, Jr.

CAUSE multiple blasting of a series of improperly charged long holes in coal DETECT assistant foreman discovered fire burning in loose coal

EXT. EFF. water, then area flooded PREV. multiple blasting of series of improperly charged long holes in coal

RESC. Six persons in mine assisted in combatting the fire

IG. explosives FUEL coal, explosives AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minimal damage PROD. LOSS 2 months plus

No. 590

Harlan Mine

Report of Mining Machine Fire

Fire occurred in mining machine when short circuit in electrical wiring near pump motor ignited insulation on wiring, hydraulic oil and hydraulic hoses. Fire was fought with fire extinguishers, water and rock dust until extinguished. Sample, Charles H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/15/64 TIME 10:00A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Coalgood, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. A & W Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in electrical wiring near the pump motor DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water, rock dust PREV. non-flammable fluid not used; accumulation of combustible materials on machine

RESC. No evacuation - 3 men in section where fire occurred; 8 men in another section

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, hyd. hoses AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS electrical wiring and hydraulic hoses on mining machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 591

Dove #1

Report of Coal Mine (Belt) Fire

Positive feeder lines driving the belts in this mine were not permanently hung. One section fell loose, contacted the negative line, creating an arc which ignited #1 right belt. The fire was quickly extinguished. Fire travelled up the belt about 800' outby the ignition point and was also promptly discovered and extinguished. Ellis, R.L., MESA Norton, 8 pp.

DATE 1/27/64 TIME 5:00A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 27-30 in. SIZE 400 TPD 29 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Big Rock, Buchanon, Virginia OWN. Dove Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.F. Nelson

CAUSE arc created by a fault between the uninsulated + and - feeder wires; a hanger support at the end of the positive wire broke permitting it to fall DETECT workman went to belt to obtain a jack and discovered the fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust and dry chemical extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 592

Oakmont Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Roof Bolting Machine) Fire

Fire originated when short circuit in trailing cable of bolting machine when roof bolter began drilling. Source of power disconnected, but cable blew again and continued to burn. Rock dust bags were damp and broke and smoke was too dense to effectively use extinguishers. Water was then applied to extinguish the fire. Holcomb, J.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/10/64 TIME 6:45P DUR. 2 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper (Double) Freeport

HT. 72-96 in. SIZE 3187 TPD 163 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Barking, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Harmar Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Joseph Kristoff

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice of trailing cable of roof bolting machine DETECT roof bolter observed short circuit when starting to drill

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. trailing cable not adequately protected against short circuit by fuse of proper capacity

RESC. 46 men in mine - 16 stayed to fight fire; other 30 removed from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, belt, insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS bolting machine including electric wiring, front tires, drive belts, 75' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 593

Lundale No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Cutting machine operator cutting 2nd cut when the power leads in conduit hose from junction box to bit motor ignited. Power was disconnected and fire extinguished. Fire apparently started from grounded power lead in the tree of leads in conduit hose for bit motor. Keith, Coperry, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 2/12/64 TIME 11:45A DUR. 2 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Lundale, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Amherst Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Aubra Channing
Foreman - Cecil Edwards

CAUSE grounded power lead in the tree of leads in the conduit hose for the bit motor DETECT cutting machine operator observed fire

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust, and water PREV. cable protected against short circuits; when electrical fault occurred the fuse blew & deenergized the machine

RESC. Men on section assisted in fighting the fire - no evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL oil, hose, rubber AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine power conductors from junction box to bit motor and hydraulic hose PROD. LOSS NS

No. 594

Parkway Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Pumpman while checking pumps in abandoned No. 2 level east discovered smoke. Blower was installed and water directed into fire area from boreholes and from inside the mine. Boreholes were drilled and slushing was started 6/26 when heating was again detected. Fire again fought direct, completed 8/29. No sign of fire but withdrawal Order still in effect. O'Connor, L.E., Cummings, W.T., Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 7 pp.

DATE 2/15/64 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Top Split Mammoth

HT. 14' SIZE 250 TPD 48/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Valley View, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Parkway Anthracite, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Harlin Lins Foreman - Arthur Hand

CAUSE UNK DETECT by pumpman checking pumps

EXT. EFF. blower installed, overcast erected and water played into fire area from above & below PREV. No recommendations

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. to date

No. 595

Stone Mine

Report of Fire From Burning Explosives

A cut of coal was discovered on fire as a result of blasting and extinguished by use of water. The fire was coming from a cut of coal that had been shot near the end of the previous shift. No evidence of fire at that time and explosives did not appear to be old or deteriorated. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 3/11/64 TIME 4:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pond Creek

HT. 48-88 in. SIZE 5700 TPD 383/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stone, Kentucky OWN. Eastern Coal Corp. Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE burning of explosives DETECT crew of men smelled smoke & traveled to face of No. 2 entry where fire was discovered

EXT. EFF. water PREV. improper use of burning of explosives

RESC. No evacuation

IG. explosives FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 596

Mole No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit occurred in trailing cable near terminal block in bumper of machine. Trailing cable was deenergized and fire extinguished promptly. Exact cause of cable fault could not be determined. Parry, D.F., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/24/64 TIME 2:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 500 TPD 7/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Bradys Bend, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Harcliff Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - John Woodall

CAUSE fault in trailing cable near terminal block in bumper of machine DETECT mining machine operator observed flames

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, and water PREV. accumulations of combustible materials on machine; cable failure not determined as machine had been repaired

RESC. No evacuation - 3 persons in mine

IG. electrical FUEL coal, grease, oil AGENT water, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS several hydraulic hoses and 2' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 597

Crown Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

A fire of electrical origin caused by a fault in the cable in the west belt entry occurred. Unsuccessful and prolonged attempts were made to extinguish the fire by direct attack. Due to intense heat, unfavorable roof conditions and increase in methane content in return air, the area was sealed. Hammons, G.W., Douglas, S.J., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 3/29/64 TIME 8:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 86 in. SIZE 9875 TPD 390/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Farmersville, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - Harry Williamson Saf. Dir. - Paul Budzak

CAUSE electrical origin probably caused by a fault in the cable in the west belt entry DETECT discovered by mine examiners on regular patrol duty

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, foam, seals PREV. when power not needed breakers should be opened; regular mine patrol tours should be made during idle periods

RESC. all workmen were out of the mine at time of occurrence; 1 man overcome by smoke and 1 man bruised his leg while fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL belt AGENT water, foam, rock dust, seals EFF. No, No, No, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 8 days

No. 598

Guyan No. 1 Mine

Mine Fire

Short circuit occurred when trolley wire cut-out switch fell and came in contact with bare return power conductor. Wooden post, track tie and coal became ignited. Fire was extinguished with soda acid extinguishers and rock dust and water was applied to cool the area down. Gay, Thomas W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/2/64 TIME 6:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Amherstdale, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trolley wire switch DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. rock dust, soda acid extinguishers, water PREV. NS

RESC. men transported to another section of mine but not evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL coal, wood post AGENT water, rock dust, soda acid extin. EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS Negligible PROD. LOSS. only temporarily interrupted

---

No. 599

Zeigler No. 3 Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Fire started when short circuit developed in the resistance near compressed air storage tank of locomotive after being parked and unattended with the trolley pole assembly in contact with energized trolley wire. Fire was fought direct and extinguished and one man lost his life as a result of the fire. Kopp, A.J., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 4/14/64 TIME 2:00A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 4600 TPD 208/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Zeigler, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Bell & Zoller Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - George Stachura

CAUSE short circuit in resistance of locomotive DETECT 2 workmen after parking locomotive returned 30 minutes later and found it afire

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. trolley poles should be removed from trolley wire when locomotives are unattended; self-rescuers should be carried by all employees

RESC. men in mine were evacuated - one man died when he became confused and possibly got lost in smoke laden atmosphere without respiratory protection

IG. electrical FUEL timber, locomotive AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. mine cars and locomotive

EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive and 8 mine cars PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 600

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit in series of leads connecting cutter motor with contactor compartment ignited combustible materials on cutting machine. Water was applied continuously until fire was extinguished. Woods, J.A., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 4/15/64 TIME 1:15P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 52-84 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 180/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Lawrence Hill Foreman - Woodrow Forninash

CAUSE short circuit in series of leads of cutting machine DETECT machine operator noticed fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. accumulations of combustible materials on machine; nonflammable hydraulic fluid not used; power leads not well insulated

RESC. 90 men in mine evacuated except 10 man crew who assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, hyd. hoses, grease AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS confined to mining machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 601

Crossbrook Mine

Roof-Bolting Machine Fire

The fire occurred when a rubber tired Fletcher roof-bolting machine ran over its own cable causing a short circuit. The resulting arc and flame ignited a tire. The men attempted to extinguish by themselves, but failed. They got help and the fire was out in 3 hours. Ross, R.G., MESA Norton.

DATE 4/15/64 TIME 5:45A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Imboden

HT. 72 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 43/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Osaka, Wise, Virginia OWN. Stonega Coke & Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof bolting machine ran over its own cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nip pulled immediately; 1st extinguisher did not function; rock dust applied, dry chemical extinguishers and water used PREV. sufficient

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, oil AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 602

Stone Mine

Mine Fire (Roof Bolting Machine)

Roof bolting machine damaged by fire when splice in the trailing cable on the reel short circuited igniting oil and grease. Trailing cable pulled off reel and cable nip removed immediately. Fire extinguished in 1½ hrs. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/22/64 TIME 6:00P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pond Creek

HT. 48-88 in. SIZE 6400 TPD 372/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Stone, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Eastern Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in splice in trailing cable on reel DETECT observed by bolting machine operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. splices in trailing cables should be strong & well insulated; precautions against oil leakages should be taken

RESC. Men evacuated from mine

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic system of bolting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 603

Mather Collieries

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire resulted when roof fall dislodged energized trolley and feeder wires causing high resistance ground fault between power wires and rails of track. The early discovery of the fall and the manually deenergizing of the circuits prevented a more serious fire. Water was applied until fire extinguished. Shannon, James B., Noon, John A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/3/64 TIME 6:20A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 4117 TPD 282 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Mather, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Pickands, Mather & Co. PERS. Supt. - John Blosser Foreman - Mendell McKinney

CAUSE roof fall dislodged energized trolley and feeder wires which fell on track DETECT man patrolling mine on idle day saw smoke issuing from under roof fall

EXT. EFF. water PREV. trolley & feeder circuits should be protected with an overcurrent device

RESC. None - mine was idle

IG. electrical FUEL coal, wood AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 604

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Small Fire as Result of Haulage Wreck

Coupling pin on coal haulage train with lead and following locomotive failed, sending loaded cars down grade pushing the following locomotive. Before the train could be stopped, one wooden car derailed, contacting the trolley wire. Before the circuit breaker tripped, the arc ignited the corner of the car. It was soon extinguished by hand portable extinguishers and rock dust. Symons, W.J., MESA St. Clairsville, 4 pp.

DATE 5/5/64 TIME 11:30P DUR. .20 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 6200 TPD 322/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. The Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Laird Albasin Foreman - John Coutts

CAUSE coupling pin failure caused derailment and contact between coal haulage car causing arc igniting wooden car bed DETECT observed by train operators

EXT. EFF. train operators utilized hand portable extinguishers and rock dust successfully PREV. circuit breakers and car inspection inadequate

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL haulage car wooden bed AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. haulage train

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 605

Gateway Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire resulted when sparks or molten metal produced by cutting steel beams with oxyacetylene torch contacted combustible material under a fall. Rock dust was used ineffectively and water applied to extinguish the fire. Fire area kept under surveillance until 5/16/64 when the materials were loaded out of the mine. Breedon, J.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/11/64 TIME 7:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 80 in. SIZE 10,400 TPD 475/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Gateway Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Mickey Garnic Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE sparks or molten metal produced by cutting steel beams with torch DETECT 2 employees discovered the fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. provisions should be made to prevent sparks & molten metal from falling onto combustible materials

RESC. men were evacuated from mine

IG. electrical FUEL coal, fallen roof material AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS Negligible PROD. LOSS NS

No. 606

No. 16 Mine

Report of Mining Machine Fire

Small fire occurred in main control cable in mining machine. The machine was cutting across the face when control cable caught fire. It was extinguished promptly by removing the top plate from the machine and using rock dust and powder type extinguishers on the machine. Hyde, C.E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/13/64 TIME 10:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Hill Top, McCreary, Kentucky OWN. Stearns Coal & Lumber Co. PERS. Foreman - Stanley Davis

CAUSE control cable caught fire DETECT machine operator saw fire while mining machine was cutting across face

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry powder fire extinguishers PREV. no recommendations

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 607

Valley Camp No. 3 Mine

Small Fire

Small fire occurred when section of roof fell on a pair of cables that fed a nipping station. Arcing from feeder cables continued and disconnect switch was pulled. The fall was then wetted down with water. Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/25/64 TIME 7:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 63 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 220/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A.B. Rushton Foreman - H.L. Littlehales

CAUSE roof fell on pair of cables that fed a nipping station DETECT section foreman saw roof fall and resulting arcing and smoke

EXT. EFF. disconnect switch pulled and water used to wet area down PREV. power disconnect switch should be where short section of feeder for a nipping station connects to main feeder circuit

RESC. No evacuation - men working underground not affected

IG. electrical FUEL cables AGENT water, power cut EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 608

Orient Mine No. 3

Supplemental (Rekindling) Report of Coal Mine Fire

Smoke issuing from fire seal previously erected to contain a fire of spontaneous origin. Seals were in good condition and it appeared a quantity of air was entering the sealed area through fractured strata over the seals and pillars through fractured roof strata. Eight new seals were erected to re-enclose the fire area. Summary, J.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/8/64 TIME 12:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 11,380 TPD 368/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Waltonville, Jefferson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - Howard L. Schulz Saf. Dir. - Paul Budzak

CAUSE partial mining of barrier pillar to be left to protect the previously sealed fire area brought on caving permitting oxygen to enter DETECT mine examiner and another official observed smoke issuing from fire seal

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. adequate protective barrier pillars should be left when pillars are extracted in and around a sealed fire area

RESC. all men evacuated from mine - about 200 underground

IG. previous fire that was sealed FUEL gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 609

Dixiana

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Elect. Mach.)

During normal mining operations, a trailing cable overheated on the reel and ignited grease, oil, and coal dust. This spread quickly to coal rib and floor. Some roof fell on the cutting machine. Ventilation was correctly redirected and fire could be fought safely. Ross, Ray G., MESA Norton, 9 pp.

DATE 6/8/64 TIME 6:45P DUR. 43¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Taggart

HT. 54 in. SIZE 2100 TPD 125/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Norton, Wise, Virginia OWN. Coal Processing Co. PERS. Supt. - Wayne Haynie Foreman - Owen Kilgore

CAUSE short circuit on trailing cable on reel or reel collecting rings ignited oil, grease, and coal dust DETECT it was noticed that cable on reel was heating; upon pulling it off, there was a flash of flames

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied directly PREV. adequate

RESC. Men were informed immediately and used escapeway

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust, grease, oil AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 610

No. 3 Mine

Report of Cable Fire

Fire apparently started by faulty splice in cable of mining machine. All power was removed from the mine and the fire either burned itself out or was extinguished when power was cut. Sample, Charles H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 6/9/64 TIME 8:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Dizney, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Pace Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE faulty splice in cable DETECT discovered by tractor operator enroute to the surface

EXT. EFF. power cut off or burned itself out PREV. fuses of excess ampere capacity should not be used as short circuit protection for cables

RESC. 10 men underground evacuated to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT power cut EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 611

Moss No. 3 Mine

Mine Fire

Bearing in conveyor belt head drive overheated and ignited the wood frame and curtain enclosure. Extinguished promptly with water. Ross, R.G., MESA Norton, 2 pp.

DATE 6/17/64 TIME 7:05A DUR. .50 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 96 in. SIZE 3900 TPD 159/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE conveyor belt head roller frame was warped causing bearing to overheat, igniting wood frame and curtain enclosure DETECT dayshift examiner encountered smoke while entering to start shift

EXT. EFF. applied water to quickly extinguish PREV. conveyor belt fire resistant, wiring properly installed with overload protection, trailing cables fire resistant

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL timber, cloth AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 612

No. 31 Mine

Trailing Cable Fire

Fire occurred in cable reel of parked shuttle car. Ground-fault relay designed to trip the breaker was out of order and at inception of fire, overload current flowed until fuse melted. Power was disconnected and fire was attacked and extinguished promptly. Brown, Walter D., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 6/20/64 TIME 4:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Nanty Glo, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE failure of splice in trailing cable DETECT smoke encountered by 2nd shift crew

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers, water PREV. cable nip not disconnected from power cable at departure of personnel from mine

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hose, insulation AGENT water, powder EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable, cable reel & its accessories, 6 hydraulic hoses and a tire PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 613

Norton Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was caused when dislodged energized trolley wire in idle section came in contact with wet mine pavement and the heat from the short circuit ignited combustible materials. Five days elapsed before adequate ventilation for approachment to fire were built. Water was used for 98 consecutive hours and fire extinguished. It was discovered that cut-out switch for trolley wire leading to No. 5 left section was in an engaged position. Estep, Roy C., HSAD Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/3/64 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kittanning

HT. 70 in. SIZE 300 TPD 33/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Norton, Randolph, W. Virginia OWN. Demotto Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Julie V. Ross Foreman - W.C. Corder

CAUSE energized trolley wire came in contact with wet mine pavement igniting combustible materials DETECT workmen detected smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. power circuits not in use in idle sections should be de-energized; idle area should be examined

RESC. men in mine evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL coal, roof materials & fallen crossbars AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 10 days

No. 614

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Small Fire of Electrical Origin

Fall of roof material struck transmission cable causing cable to move and force power conductors against roof supporting rail, damaging the insulation. Energized rail was in contact with coal rib causing fire. Fire was extinguished immediately after power disconnected. Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/3/64 TIME 11:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 or Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 326/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE steel rail that supported metal roof of switch house ignited coal rib DETECT odor of smoke detected by assistant foreman and mine safety committee

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. metal structure of switch house not grounded

RESC. men evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 615

Morco Colliery

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred in cable reel of cutting machine when short circuit in splice(s) contacted the reel igniting combustible materials on machine. Fire extinguishers used ineffectively and rock dust and water applied until fire extinguished. Martin, John D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 8/6/64 TIME 11:15P DUR. 36 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Dean

HT. 42 in. SIZE 2300 TPD 124/3 Em p. METH. Conv.

LOC. Devonia, Anderson, Tennessee OWN. Pocahontas Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - Irwin Sampson

CAUSE poorly insulated cable splice contacted reel of the machine DETECT machine man noticed fire and smoke under cable on reel of machine

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers, water PREV. splices not adequately insulated; combustible materials accumulated on machine; non-flammable hyd. fluid not used

RESC. 44 men in mine were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL oil, hoses, insulation, dust AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS total loss of cutter, one hydraulic rotary coal drill & 200' of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 616

No. 20 Mine

Mine Fire

Fire occurred when a moving trip of loaded mine cars dislodged a crossbar and resultant roof fall caused the bare energized feeder wire to contact the steel mine car. Arc ignited coal and timbers. Fire extinguished by use of water and fire extinguishers. Ross, Ray G., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/11/64 TIME 9:40A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 66 in. SIZE 800 TPD 55/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Jenkins, Letcher, Kentucky OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - M.E. Prunty

CAUSE energized feeder wire came in contact with steel mine car creating an arc

DETECT locomotive operator observed smoke coming from under a roof fall

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water

PREV. automatic circuit breaker in power line had opened and a re-evaluation of overload setting on automatic circuit breakers was discussed

RESC. 7 men evacuated from affected area

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, extinguishers EQUIP. mine cars

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 617

Ireland Mine

Flash Fire of Electrical Origin

Fire occurred when rigid urethane foam was ignited by arc caused by short circuit that occurred in a cable coupler. Phase to phase fault occurred in end of cable coupler installed on line side of the oil circuit breaker. Flame burned out immediately. Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/13/64 TIME 12:50P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 8800 TPD 273/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Hanna Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Zitko Saf. Dir. - Ewalt Herzog

CAUSE foam ignited by arc caused by short circuit in a cable coupler

DETECT noticed by 2 workmen near the circuit breaker house

EXT. EFF. flame burned itself out immediately

PREV. foam should not be used where danger present from electrical arcs; borehole cable should be entered directly into oil circuit breaker

RESC. all men evacuated to surface

IG. electrical FUEL urethane foam AGENT self-extinguished EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 618

Cadogan No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire on cutting machine was caused by a fault that occurred within the cutting motor cable when the insulation on the cable was damaged by heating of smaller conductors. After making changes in ventilation to approach fire, it was extinguished with dry chemicals, rock dust and water. Huntley, Donald W., Williams, Fred A., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 8/17/64 TIME 8:00P DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 38-44 in. SIZE 1800 TPD 133 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Cadogan, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Allegheny River Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Burl Snyder Foreman - Charles Scott

CAUSE fault in electric cable on cutting machine DETECT cutting machine operator saw fire under the cover plates on top of machine

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. NS

RESC. men in other sections of mine not evacuated; however, men in 7 right withdrew from mine

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hyd. hoses AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutting machine

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 619

No. 1 Mine

Report of Belt Drive Motor Fire

Short circuit in the belt drive motor ignited combustible materials. Electrical circuit of the drive motor was equipped with a mercury-tube overload protective device and a 100 amp. fuse which was not considered adequate for high resistant shorts in the motor. Fire was extinguished with CO2 and rock dust. Duke, W.E., Jones, R.B., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/21/64 TIME 11:10P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Fonde, Bell, Kentucky OWN. Pruden-Hignite Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Troy Vance Foreman - Raymond Reynolds

CAUSE short circuit in belt drive motor DETECT discovered by foreman

EXT. EFF. CO2 extinguishers, rock dust PREV. oil accumulated on equipment; suitable circuit breaker should have been provided

RESC. men were evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, belt AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS electrical circuit of drive motor, speed reducer and 20' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 620

Kentland No. 1 Mine

Mine Fire (Cutting Machine)

Cutting machine crew cutting the face when tree of leads to the cutting motor became grounded on frame of cutting machine where they entered the motor compartment. The arc ignited oil and grease on the machine. Cable nip removed and fire extinguished by application of rock dust and dry chemical fire extinguishers. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/27/64 TIME 6:00P DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Freeburn (Pond Creek)

HT. 54 in. SIZE 3600 TPD 200/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Biggs, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentland Elkhorn Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE tree of leads to cutting motor on machine short circuited against frame of machine DETECT observed by cutting machine crew

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. accumulations of oil and grease on machine; nonflammable fluid not used; frames of electric equipment should be grounded effectively

RESC. all persons evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutting machine

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic system of cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 621

Stone Mine

Mine Fire (Shuttle Car)

A Jeffrey shuttle car (MT66) was damaged by fire when a spark or arc resulting from the discharge boom of the car contacted a mine car igniting leaking hydraulic fluid. The fire was extinguished quickly. Watson, C.F., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 8/31/64 TIME 2:10P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 48-88 in. SIZE 6400 TPD 372 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Stone, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Eastern Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Richard Smith

CAUSE boom of shuttle car went over the side of a mine car, a hydraulic line leaked and resultant arc ignited hydraulic fluid on tire DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire was immediately extinguished with water and dry powder extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, powder EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes,

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 622

No. 10 Mine

Mining Machine (Cable) Fire

Fire occurred during shift change by short circuit between the cable on the reel and grounded frame of mining machine. Source of power for electrical face equipment was not disconnected when men left the section. Water was used to extinguish the fire. Cochran, R.L., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 9/9/64 TIME 8:00A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM "A"

HT. 54-70 in. SIZE 1875 TPD 100/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Benham, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Wisconsin Steel Coal Mines PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit between cable on reel and grounded frame of the mining machine DETECT section foreman noticed smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. power circuit to face equipment not deenergized when left unattended

RESC. no one near fire area - occurred during interim of a shift change

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, cable reel, hyd. hose AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS confined to mining machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 623

No. 9 Vein Slope

Coal Mine Fire

On day before fire was discovered, coal had been blasted with no indication of fire when workmen left the mine. On 9/10/64, smoke was observed in return airway. Smoke and carbon monoxide made entering the mine unsafe and the slope and airway were sealed. Cause of the fire not determined due to inaccessibility to mine. O'Connor, Louis E., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 9/10/64 TIME 6:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Holmes

HT. 10' SIZE 15 TPD 2/1 Emp. METH. gravity flow

LOC. Wiconisco, Dauphin, Pennsylvania OWN. H.L.D. Coal Co. PERS. Co-partners - Monroe Header, Henry Dunleavy & Elvin Header

CAUSE UNK DETECT copartners discovered smoke emanating from return airway

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. None stated

RESC. None - no one working in mine

IG. UNK FUEL UNK AGENT sealing EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS - mine was completely sealed

No. 624

Pee Wee Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire initiated by arcing when wheel of mining machine ran over the cable, at or near a splice, burning a tire and spreading fire to oil leakages and coal dust deposits. Some cap coal fell on machine and caught on fire. Short circuit did not blow the fuse in the power tap. Rock dust and extinguishers were applied to extinguish fire. Zimmermann, Dee, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/6-7/1964 TIME 8:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Dean

HT. 60 in. SIZE 600 TPD 14/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pioneer, Campbell, Tennessee OWN. Pee Wee Mining Co., Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE arcing when wheel of mining machine ran over cable DETECT machineman and helper observed fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust, powder extinguishers, carbon dioxide extinguishers PREV. oil leakages should be repaired promptly; accumulation of combustible materials should be removed

RESC. men evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL tire, oil, coal, dust AGENT rock dust, powder, carbon dioxide EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hydraulic hose compartment, electrical wiring and 2 tires PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 625

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Report of Investigation of Small Mine Fire

Fire boss while inspecting the belt to ascertain cause of its stoppage found belt separated and an excessively hot bottom roller. Rock dust and water were used to cool the roller and belt was cleared from contact with the belt structure. The fire occurred where belt and roller were in contact with loose coal and coal dust. Fire extinguished quickly. Childers, M.S., Lester, Cecil E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/16/64 TIME 12:20A DUR. 15 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Lawrence Hill

CAUSE frictional nature originating where belt and roller were in contact with loose coal and coal dust DETECT discovered by fire boss

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water, rock dust PREV. loose coal and coal dust accumulated along conveyor belts

RESC. 27 men in mine - no one evaucated and no one affected by the fire

IG. friction FUEL coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS approximately 13 hours

No. 626

Jane Ann No. 3 Mine

Report of Mine Fire (Locomotive)

Fire occurred in parked, unattended locomotive and trolley pole was left in contact with the wire. Short circuit subsequently occurred by breakdown of insulation in power lead to controller compartment of locomotive. Fire fighters arriving at the fire area discovered fire was extinguished. Rock dust then applied to area. Gaspersich, Sylvester, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/17/64 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Garnette, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Princess Coals, Inc. PERS. Foreman - Jasper Green

CAUSE short circuit caused by breakdown of insulation in power lead to controller compartment

DETECT crew enroute to lunch encountered smoke & fire

EXT. EFF. fire burned itself out and rock dust then used in the area

PREV. power to the unattended locomotive not disconnected

RESC. 4 men in mine escaped without injury

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT self-extinguished, rock dust EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to locomotive; electrical wiring and components of controller compartment

PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 627

No. 1 Mine

Report of Belt Fire

Mine had been idle over 24 hours when fire was discovered. The belt had been stopped at end of 2nd shift on 10/16/64 and power had been disconnected from the mine. An overheated bearing ignited coal dust around the tailpiece and the belt. The belt was flame-resistant type. Water and fire extinguishing fluid put out the fire. Craft, William M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/18/64 TIME 11:00A DUR. 10 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. David, Floyd, Kentucky OWN. Princess Coals, Inc. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Ray Spears

CAUSE overheated bearing in tailpiece ignited coal dust and belt

DETECT discovered by section foreman while making idle day inspection

EXT. EFF. water, fire extinguishers

PREV. belt conveyors and bearings that are subject to heating should be carefully inspected before they are stopped

RESC. No evacuation - 2 other foremen in mine

IG. friction (?) FUEL belt, dust AGENT water, extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 50' of belting and 3 belt rollers

PROD. LOSS NS

No. 628

Grays Creek No. 11 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt) Fire

Fire occurred in tandem conveyor belt drive unit when a torn piece of belt, the loose end of a splice or dust pan, had caught in the belt causing the drive rollers to slip on the conveyor belt. The frictional heat ignited various combustible materials. Direct applications of water, rock dust, and dry chemical extinguishers put out fire. Martin, John D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/29/64 TIME 7:00P DUR. 2 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewanee

HT. 40 in. SIZE 500 TPD 40/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Whitwell, Marion, Tennessee OWN. Grundy Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Max Condra Foreman - Buddy Layne

CAUSE frictional heat from slipping drive rollers DETECT discovered by electricians and belt maintenance man when trying to find out cause of belt stoppage

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. belt control units should be connected in sequence and safety stop switches should be provided

RESC. 16 men in mine were evacuated

IG. friction FUEL timber, coal, dust, belt, oil, grease AGENT water, rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to belt drive and 35' of conveyor belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 629

No. 1A Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Accumulations of combustible materials on machine ignited when short circuit developed in power circuit leading to bit motor on machine; subsequent rupture of hoses released non-resistant oil adding to intensity of fire. Operator went to remove power nips without first shutting off the controller. Also, fire extinguishers were empty. Estep, Roy C., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 11/5/64 TIME 2:15P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 66 in. SIZE 300 TPD 13/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Sand Fork, Gilmer, W. Virginia OWN. Compton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Charles E. Compton Foreman - William B. Douglas

CAUSE short circuit in power circuit leading to bit motor on machine DETECT machine operator noticed fire after short circuit developed

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. combustible materials allowed to accumulate on machine; extinguishers were empty; fire resistant fluids not used

RESC. all men evacuated from mine

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, dust, oil, grease AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 630

MacAlpin No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on cutting machine when fault occurred in series of leads connecting cutter motor with contactor compartment igniting combustible materials. Fire extinguished with rock dust and water. Fire area soaked with water and machine removed to surface for repairs. Childers, Maurice S., Lester, Cecil E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/19/64 TIME 11:30A DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 36 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 115/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. McAlpin, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - David Sizemore Foreman - Clarence Meadows

CAUSE arcing when fault occurred in series of leads in cutting motor cable between contactor compartment and cutting motor DETECT observed by machine operator

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers, water, rock dust PREV. combustible materials accumulated on machine; suitable short circuit protection should be provided on equipment; electric equipment should be grounded effectively

RESC. 32 men in mine not evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, hose, oil AGENT water, rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 631

Lucerne No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Borehole Cable) Fire

Fire originated with short circuit caused by failure of cable insulation in the borehole; short circuit not relieved due to bypassing and poor maintenance of 2 protective sectionalizing circuit breakers. Power underground was disconnected and fire extinguished. This was third instance of failure of cables within boreholes at this mine. Brown, Walter, D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/21/64 TIME 4:00A DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 50-80 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 170/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Lucernemines, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit caused by failure of cable insulation within the borehole DETECT workman on fire patrol encountered smoke

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. more durable cable insulation for borehole installations should be used

RESC. all men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS borehole casing, cables & switchgear PROD. LOSS NS

No. 632

Gateway Mine

Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire occurred when mechanic attempted to move a shuttle car which was parked on energized trailing cables of continuous mining machine, and shuttle car, causing cables to short circuit and start a fire. Fire was extinguished immediately. Rudolph, E.M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/5/64 TIME 1:00A DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Gateway Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Mickey Garnic

CAUSE short circuit in cables DETECT mechanic discovered fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. circuit breakers should be provided with a ground-fault limiting relay; equipment should not be parked or trammed on or over trailing cables

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, grease AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car and continuous miner

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 1 tire and 5' of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 633

Dora No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when a roof fall in No. 9 room and entry from which it was turned crushed power cables on chain conveyor in the room. Arc ignited cable insulation and loose coal. Power was cut off from the surface; more roof fall prevented attempts to extinguish fire with extinguishers and rock dust. Water was pumped in to put fire out. Devett, William R., Lewis, Warren K., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/6/64 TIME 10:00A DUR. 16½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 26-36 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 32/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Dora, Jefferson, Pennsylvania OWN. Doverspike Brothers, Inc. PERS. Supt. - J.R. Doverspike Foreman - Harry Philp

CAUSE failure to cut off power from mine during idle period DETECT discovered by mine examiner on routine patrol

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, fire extinguishers PREV. underground power circuits not in use should be de-energized on idle days or shifts

RESC. None - mine idle

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS power cables PROD. LOSS 4 days

No. 634

Birmingport Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cable) Fire

Fire occurred when trailing cable on cutting machine, of which approximately 200 feet was in a coil, was ignited from arc due to short circuit in cable. Power nip removed and fire extinguished promptly. Farris, Jay D., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 12/10/64 TIME 9:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pratt

HT. 34 in. SIZE 800 TPD 57/2 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Birmingport, Jefferson, Alabama OWN. Pratt Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Ervin Rollo

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT face crew & foreman observed flames in coil of the cable

EXT. EFF. rock dust and fire extinguishers PREV. trailing cables should be coiled in a manner to allow ventilation & prevent overheating of the cable

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. ½ hr.

No. 635

No. 32 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car Cable) Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit occurred at temporary splice in trailing cable on reel of shuttle car. Fire was extinguished in 10 minutes. It was indicated that continuity of the frame-ground conductor was broken. Jones, Benjamin J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/14/64 TIME 8:00P DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 54 in. SIZE 4050 TPD 458/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Revloc, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - John Salvetti

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT shuttle car operator discovered shuttle car cable reel smoking

EXT. EFF. carbon dioxide fire extinguishers, water, and rock dust PREV. cable reel should be well insulated; continuity of frame-ground conductor & reliability of ground current trip circuit should be checked frequently

RESC. No evacuation - 3 men working inby the fire but not affected by the smoke

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, cable reel, hyd. hoses AGENT water, rock dust, carbon dioxide EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel, 150-200' of cable, 2 hydraulic hoses and 2 cables to cable reel connection box PROD. LOSS NS

No. 636

No. 18 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire occurred when bottom brush holder stud of belt drive motor grounded causing arcing at the brushes and the stud. Burning material dropped from brush holder stud through bottom covers to the coal and dust below the motor. Power wires deenergized and fire fought direct with rock dust and chemical fire extinguishers. Allamon, T., Lester, C.E., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 12/21/64 TIME 12:15A DUR. 3 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Peerless

HT. 40 in. SIZE 2200 TPD 112/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Mahan, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. Riverton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H.E. Kinder Foreman - Bert Nesbitt

CAUSE bottom brush holder stud of belt drive motor grounded causing arcing at the brushes and burning at the stud DETECT discovered by pre-shift examiner

EXT. EFF. rock dust and chemical fire extinguishers PREV. combustible materials had accumulated around belt conveyor; power should be deenergized on idle days; electric equipment should be grounded effectively

RESC. no men in mine at time of occurrence

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust, combustible material AGENT rock dust, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. production resumed on 2nd shift on 12/21/64

No. 637

Moss # 3 Mine

Acetylene Tank Fire

Acetylene tank being transported in rear of locomotive rolled into contact with resistance wiring. The short circuit burned a hole in the tank and ignited the escaping acetylene. Fire was extinguished with dry chemical. West, M.L., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 12/28/64 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 76 in. SIZE 4400 TPD 187/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jim Hutchinson Foreman - Lester Flint Saf. Dir. - John Cape

CAUSE electrical arc on locomotive pierced acetylene tank and ignited escaping acetylene DETECT observed by locomotive operator

EXT. EFF. operator disconnected electrical power, notified mine officials, obtained dry chemical extinguishers and put out fire PREV. no overload protection on locomotive; no fire extinguisher on locomotive; acetylene tank not secured in place; electrical wiring exposed to mechanical injury

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL acetylene AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 638

Crichton No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Air Compressor) Fire

Fire occurred when unloading valve and relief valve failed to operate permitting excessive heat from air compressor to ignite combustible materials. Ignition of oil vapors in the air reservoir and resultant rupture contributed to intensity of fire. Water was applied until fire completely extinguished. Potter, Herschel H., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 1/8/65 TIME 10:30P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Sewell

HT. 44 in. SIZE 2700 TPD 203/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nettie, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Johnstown Coal and Coke Co. PERS. Supt. - P.W. Galeener Foreman - E.J. Schmidt Saf. Dir. - W.C. Miller

CAUSE unloading and relief valve failed to operate on air compressor DETECT section mechanic smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. air compressor not kept free of oil and coal dust; air compressor should be installed in well ventilated places

RESC. 67 men in mine evacuated except 6 man crew of which 2 assisted in fighting the fire and other 4 men were behind a barricade. Section foreman treated for smoke inhalation

IG. heat from compressor FUEL oil, hose, insulation, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. air compressor

EQUIP. LOSS air compressor PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 639

Cadogan No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Prior to fire on the same day, splice on cable on mining machine had been repaired, thereby shortening the cable. After the repairs cutting of face in progress when cable blew up and started fire. Power was shut off and fire extinguished by water. Huntley, Donald W., Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 1/29/65 TIME 9:45P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 38-44 in. SIZE 1100 TPD 82 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadogan, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Allegheny River Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Kenneth Dinger Foreman - Burl Snyder

CAUSE electric fault in cable leading from connection box to cutting motor cable after being shortened DETECT cutting machine operator heard cable blow up and saw fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. any defects found in electric equipment should be corrected and repairs made properly

RESC. No evacuation - men withdrawn from area and assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hyd. hose, pump motor AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine in area of pump motor, electric wiring, hyd. hoses & a rubber tire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 640

Grapevine Mine

Report of Coal Mine Cutting Machine Fire

Short circuit occurred in trailing cable which caused the positive conductor to become welded to frame of the cable reel. No short circuit protection was provided for this cable and no frame ground to trip the main circuit breaker. Short circuit continued until cable nip was removed. Fire then fought direct and extinguished. Laird, James R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/10/65 TIME 3:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 400 TPD 25/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Five Star Coal Co., Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in splice of trailing cable on reel DETECT machine operator observed fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust, chemical extinguishers PREV. no short circuit protection provided for cable; temporary splice should be well insulated and strong; equipment should be grounded effectively

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, combustible materials AGENT rock dust, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine & trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 641

Dove # 1

Report of Coal Mine (Belt) Fire

Fire was discovered by the 6 man day shift crew when a cracking noise at first believed to be roof settling was investigated. Stoppings were removed, water, dry extinguishers, and rock dust were used and the fire was put out in less than 6 hours. Ellis, Raymond L., MESA Norton.

DATE 2/23/65 TIME 7:05A DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 27-30 in. SIZE 300 TPD 17 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Big Rock, Buchanon, Virginia OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - Charles Rigg

CAUSE small fall of roof broke insulation off a suspended power cable and the exposed part contacted the conveyor frame and arc ignited belt DETECT day shift crew of 6 discovered belt in flames

EXT. EFF. water, extinguishers and rock dust PREV. smoking was permitted and practiced in mine

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal, structural supports AGENT water, rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 642

O'Donnell No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Drive) Fire

Fire occurred when conveyor belt, rubbing against metal framework next to gear wheels and front gear wheel of the tandem drive contacting the angle iron of the framework, created heat sufficient enough to ignite oil and grease around the gear wheels. Fire was extinguished quickly with rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers and water. Dobis, Joseph J., McMaster, C.D., MESA Morgantown, 3 pp.

DATE 2/23/65 TIME 8:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 200/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Four States, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE conveyor belt rubbing against metal framework DETECT noticed by beltman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, chemical extinguishers and water PREV. conveyor belt not aligned properly; insufficient clearance between gear wheels of belt conveyor drive and metal framework

RESC. No evacuation

IG. friction FUEL oil, grease AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. operations resumed after fire extinguished

---

No. 643

Moss No. 2 Mine

Electrical Fire

A trolley wire contacted a mine car creating a direct short which overheated the trolley feeder wire, igniting a nearby brattice cloth stopping. The fire was extinguished by fire extinguishers and rock dust. Stewart, W.R., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 2/24/65 TIME 9:00A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Tiller

HT. 45 in. SIZE 5500 TPD 381/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Clinchfield, Russell, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Fred Johnson
Foreman - Roy Evans
Saf. Dir. - W.E. Desmond

CAUSE trolley wire splice failed and wire contacted a train car creating short which overheated the trolley feeder wire which ignited a brattice cloth stopping DETECT foreman observed smoke during routine inspection

EXT. EFF. disconnected cutout; disconnected power for main rectifier and extinguished fire with rock dust and extinguishers PREV. circuit breaker system not sectionalized; cloth stopping should not have been in contact with trolley feeder wire; men did not know which breaker controlled what equipment

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, brattice cloth AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. trolley feeder wire

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 644

Elzo Mine

Report of Cable Fire on Shuttle Car

Fire occurred on reel of shuttle car caused by short circuit at temporary splice in trailing cable on the reel. Cable was fire resistant but not provided with short circuit protection. Fire extinguished with rock dust and water. Sample, Charles H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 2/25/65 TIME 11:30A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Rufus Bailey

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. splice in cable not effectively insulated & cable not provided with short circuit protection

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, reel AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 170' of cable and the reel PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 645

Melcroft Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Continuous Mining Machine) Fire

Fire started at a connection box on continuous miner machine when fault occurred between single conductor power cable and packing gland in the box. Circuit breaker opened by operator and fire fought direct with dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, and water. Stiles, S.L., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/10/65 TIME 6:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 40 in. SIZE 1450 TPD 67/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Melcroft, Fayette, Pennsylvania OWN. Eastern Gas & Fuel Associates PERS. Supt. - Marvin A. Graham Foreman - Paul Miller Saf. Dir. - Joshua Smith

CAUSE fault between ungrounded power conductor and packing gland in connection box on machine DETECT crewman saw the fire

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water, and rock dust PREV. trailing cables should be secured properly; combustible materials accumulated on machine; fire resistant fluid not used

RESC. 19 men underground - no evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to continuous miner - $3,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 646

No. 601 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Cutting machine was being trammed into crosscut when wheels of the machine ran over splice in trailing cable of loading machine. No short circuit protection provided for trailing cable of loading machine and circuit breaker in substation released. Fire extinguished in 45 minutes. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/12/65 TIME 5:00P DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Elkhorn

HT. 46 in. SIZE 300 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elkhorn City, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Indian Gap Coal Co. PERS. Owner- Loran Bartley

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable splice DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust PREV. trailing cable not provided with short circuit protection; frames of off-track equipment should be grounded

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, insulation AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. loader and cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cable of loading machine and tires of cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 647

Martha B Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Electrical fault occurred in trailing cable on cable reel of cutting machine and arc ignited combustible materials on machine. Temporary splices not involved and it is believed the cable fault which caused the fire occurred as a result of damage to its insulation prior to time of this fire. Fire extinguished with water. Rudolph, E.M., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 3/18/65 TIME 12:00P DUR. 6¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewickley

HT. 56 in. SIZE 160 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dunkard, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Lee Mineral Industries, Inc. PERS. Co-owners - Harold A. Lee Richard Hornbeck

CAUSE fault in trailing cable on cable reel DETECT cutting machine operator observed sparks & flames from the machine

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. trailing cable defects should be promptly corrected; cable reel should be insulated; combustible materials allowed to accumulate on machine

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. hoses, combustible materials AGENT water, powder EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine and trailing cable - 250' PROD. LOSS NS

No. 648

Standard Colombine Mine

Investigation Suspected Mine Fire

Superintendent observed fire-like odor and atmosphere deficiency in oxygen emitting from abandoned area of mine. Area was sealed and tests later made revealed no presence of oxygen deficiency, carbon monoxide or methane. Freeman, Joe, HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 3/22/65 TIME 3:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Castlegate "A" & "B" & No. 2

HT. 84,75, in. & 58 SIZE 300 TPD 12/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Scofield, Carbon, Utah OWN. Standard Colombine Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Walter Anderson

CAUSE UNK DETECT superintendent observed fire-like odor & atmosphere deficiency in oxygen

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. None stated

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL UNK AGENT sealing EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 649

Somerset Mine No. 60

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Roof fall dislodged energized trolley wire and feeder cable causing electric fault between power wires and track rail. Coal ignited by the arcing. Fire extinguished using chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust, foam, and water. Kirk, R.J., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/25/65 TIME 5:45A DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 70 in. SIZE 5274 TPD 345 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Cokeburg, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - R. Livingston Foreman - John Anderson

CAUSE roof fall dislodged energized trolley wire and feeder cable causing electrical fault between power wires and track rail DETECT smoke encountered by 2 workmen

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust, foam, water PREV. No recommendations made

RESC. Men were withdrawn from section

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal, trolley wire AGENT water, powder, rock dust, foam EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 6' of trolley wire and trolley feeder cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 650

No. 51 Mine

Fire

Wheels of shuttle car turned too sharply on corner and trailing cable was pinched causing arc and igniting some coal. Circuit breaker for miner did not open and ground fault trip did not actuate as the frame ground conductor not attached to main return conductor at nip station. Dry chemical extinguishers and water put out the fire. Zavora, Henry, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 3/31/65 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Ellsworth, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - D. Flanagan Foreman - F. Delegram

CAUSE trailing cable on mine floor pinched by wheels of shuttle car causing arc and igniting coal DETECT observed by shuttle car operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. NS

RESC. No evacuation, - one man became ill from smoke inhalation, taken to doctor, treated and released

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, powder EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minor damage to shuttle car PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 651

Clyde Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when derailed mine cars knocked out concrete piers, which supported steel crossbars, causing crossbars and feeder cable to fall and contact a steel mine car. Powerline was de-energized and fire extinguished with rock dust and fire extinguishers. Krek, Ralph I., Young, Gerald D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/20/65 TIME 12:20A DUR. 25 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 4850 TPD 286/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Ed Filer

CAUSE fault that occurred when derailed mine cars knocked out concrete piers causing crossbars & energized feeder cable to fall & contact mine car DETECT observed by foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers PREV. application of tie circuit breaker between substations should be considered; periodic evaluation of direct-current power system should be made

RESC. No evacuation - 16 men withdrawn to suitable locations - men in other sections not affected

IG. electrical FUEL roof planks, coal AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. mine car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS wooden planks, coal, side of mine car PROD. LOSS ½ hr. to 1 hr.

No. 652

Osage No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Power surges caused several borehole cables to short when their insulation rubbed to failure against borehole casing. They burned in two, falling to the floor and igniting loose coal. Shift foreman notified by locomotive operator via dispatcher and he and section crew applied water while waiting for more help. Fire department pumped water down borehole. Foam used with stoppings. Estep, R.C., Marshalek, J., MESA Morgantown, 7 pp.

DATE 4/27/65 TIME 6:15P DUR. 9 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 8500 TPD 280/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cassville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.W. St.Clair

CAUSE insulation failure from load related movement against borehole lining resulted in short-circuit DETECT by locomotive operator checking power failure

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied until stoppings erected so foam could be used. PREV. adequate

RESC. all men removed

IG. electrical FUEL circuit breaker, insulation, coal AGENT water, foam, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS power cables and a circuit breaker PROD. LOSS. until 5/6/65

No. 653

Quinwood No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire started from short circuit that occurred when shuttle car ran over trailing cable of mining machine carrier truck. Nips were removed and cables deenergized. Rock dust and water extinguished the fire. Potter, Herschel H., Casteel, Fred T., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 4/29/65 TIME 10:40P DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 40-60 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 116/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Carl, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Imperial Smokeless Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A.P. Littleton Foreman - George Marshall

CAUSE short circuit when shuttle car ran over trailing cable of mining machine carrier truck DETECT shuttle car operator saw fire immediately

EXT. EFF. CO_2 fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. cable was not laid so as to be clear of the roadway

RESC. Men were evacuated to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, rubber, wiring, hyd. hoses AGENT water, CO_2, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car & trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 654

Margaret No. 7 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Short circuit in power cable for cutting motor of machine caused arc to ignite combustible materials on machine. Cable of machine was removed from power feeder wires and brattice cloth stopping erected to seal fire. As smoke moved to the return airways, fire was fought and extinguished. Hutchens, James E., Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 4/30/65 TIME 3:15A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1800 TPD 97 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Margaret, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.C. Chapman Foreman - R.C. Chapman Saf. Dir. - D.H. Jones

CAUSE short circuit in power cable for cutting motor DETECT cutting machine operator heard noise and saw fire

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. accumulations of combustible materials on machine; cable was damaged from continuous flexing or being crushed

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, dust AGENT powder, water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine cutting motor, electric wiring, hyd. hoses and hyd. control valves PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 655

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire started from short circuit in trailing cable at a defective temporary splice on top of cable reel of roof bolter while machine was in operation. Cable immediately deenergized and fire extinguished with water. Woods, J.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 5/4/65 TIME 11:10A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 48-84 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 201/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Lawrence Hill Foreman - John Saunders

CAUSE defective temporary splice in trailing cable short circuited DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. combustible materials on machine; defective temporary splice should have been repaired immediately

RESC. 90 men in mine were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT water, rock dust extinguishers EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS roof bolter electric wiring to driving motor and hyd. hoses under the shield PROD. LOSS NS

No. 656

Red Wing Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Odor of smoke detected coming from gobbed area of mine; fire not observed. Line brattice installed across the slope to gobbed area and gob removed. Temporary seal first installed and permanent seal of incombustible material equipped with a pipe and valve was later built. Roberts, William, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 5/12/65 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Collom

HT. 23' SIZE 450 TPD 16/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Axial, Moffat, Colorado OWN. Colowyo Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jack White

CAUSE spontaneous heating in an area which could not be adequately ventilated and not sealed properly DETECT miner detected odor of smoke

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. areas which cannot be ventilated adequately & inspected should be sealed

RESC. Men evacuated from the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 5 days

No. 657

No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire was caused by ignition of oil and coal dust around chain conveyor motor by arcing of poorly insulated splice in trailing cable lying in channel of motor frame of continuous mining machine. The bridge and chain conveyor pans were energized due to contact of bare conductor in damaged continuous miner trailing cable. Fire extinguished quickly. McMaster, C.D., Dobis, Joseph J., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/14/65 TIME 7:40A DUR. 8 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kittanning

HT. 33-60 in. SIZE 200 TPD 21/1 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Norton, Randolph, W. Virginia OWN. Roaring Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE arcing caused by contact of poorly insulated temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. frames of electric equipment should be grounded effectively; self-rescuers should be provided

RESC. 7 men crawled to intake airway; 3 men were slightly ill from smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT rock dust EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cables PROD. LOSS NS

No. 658

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Sparks or molten metal from oxyacetylene torch being used to make repairs to canopy ignited grease on wooden shaft guide. Flames traveled along the grease on the guides and terminated near the skip-dumping platform. Fire extinguished quickly. Barr, Richard E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/15/65 TIME 8:25A DUR. 15 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 or Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 323/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Laird Albasin Foreman - Alex Fillipovich

CAUSE hot spark or molten slag from material being burned with torch ignited grease DETECT maintenance man observed small flame

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water, fire extinguishers PREV. all loose combustible materials should be cleaned in area before work commences

RESC. 50 men underground - 4 men exposed to smoke and fumes but not affected - everyone was evacuated to the surface

IG. hot spark FUEL grease AGENT water, rock dust extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. oxyacetylene torch

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 659

V.C. No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire initiated when friction heat from defective bottom belt roller ignited conveyor belt and coal dust after the belt had been stopped. Line brattice and check curtains installed to reduce air velocity. Roof falls occurred throughout fire area. Water applied to fire from several locations continuously until extinguished. DeWeese, R.C., Childers, Maurice S., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/25/65 TIME 4:00A DUR. 83 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 34 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 150/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Shrewsbury, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - S.A. Harvey Foreman - Paul Smith Saf. Dir. - Joseph Marshall

CAUSE frictional heat from defective belt roller DETECT mine foreman noticed dense smoke & fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. coal dust accumulations along belt conveyor; belt roller defective; conveyor belt not fire resistant

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. friction FUEL dust, belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 600' of conveyor belt, 300' conveyor structure PROD. LOSS NS

No. 660

Joanne Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire started when damaged trailing cable or splice on reel of shuttle car short circuited and ignited combustible materials. The shuttle car and a loading machine covered by large falls. Prolonged direct means of attack did not cool fire sufficiently to be controlled by direct means and fire area was sealed. Marshalek, Joseph, Dobis, Joseph J., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 5/29/65 TIME 12:10A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4830 TPD 224/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rachel, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Joanne Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Gene Jordan Foreman - Leslie Evans Saf. Dir. - John Balint

CAUSE short circuit in damaged trailing cable or a splice on reel of shuttle car DETECT section foreman saw flames

EXT. EFF. fire extinguisher (which malfunctioned) water, rock dust, foam, sealing PREV. combustible materials on machine; fire resistant fluid not used; fire extinguisher malfunctioned;

RESC. men in mine were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, foam, seals, extinguishers EQUIP. shuttle car and and a loader

EFF. No, No, No, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car and loading machine covered by large falls & extensively damaged PROD. LOSS. 8 days

---

No. 661

No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Short circuit occurred between 2 bare power conductors of direct current power system when covered by a roof fall, and arc ignited float and coal dust and loose coal. Ventilation changes were made so as to fight the fire direct and it was extinguished with fire extinguishers, rock dust and water. Allamon, T., Phillips, C.E., Childers, M., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 6/5/65 TIME 10:00A DUR. 10½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 42 in. SIZE 600 TPD 20/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Burnwell, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Imperial Colliery Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert Saxton Foreman - Charles Couch

CAUSE short circuit between 2 bare power conductors when covered with a fall of roof DETECT electrician discovered smoke

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. roof not adequately supported; accumulations of coal and coal dust

RESC. 2 men in mine evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust, AGENT water, rock dust extinguishers EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 662

Swank No. 13 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was caused by a lighted cigarette discarded into combustible materials against a stopping. Fire was extinguished by water and all loose material then loaded out of the area. Nelson, Robert G., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/17/65 TIME 7:00A DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Kittanning

HT. 66 in. SIZE 60 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Dean Township, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Davis Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Frank Yankosky Foreman - Frank Yankosky

CAUSE lighted cigarette discarded from locomotive onto dry material DETECT 8 employees on man trip encountered dense smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. smoking underground was permitted

RESC. men evacuated to surface; 3 returned to fight the fire

IG. lighted cigarette FUEL timber, coal, brattice cloth, crossbars AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 663

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred from heat resulting from short circuit at a defective splice in the power tree for cutting motor which ruptured the hydraulic hose and ignited hydraulic oil. Nips were removed which deenergized trailing cable. Line brattice erected and water applied directly to fire and extinguished. Calvert, R.G., Lester, C.E., Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 6/21/65 TIME 11:00P DUR. 8 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 44 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 86/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Chafin Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.P. Skeens Foreman - J. Hardin

CAUSE short circuit at defective splice in power tree to cutting motor ruptured hyd. hose and ignited oil DETECT observed by mining machine operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. nonflammable fluid not used; defective wiring should be replaced; trailing cables should have suitable short circuit protection

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS limited to mining machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 664

North Dip Gripp Slope Mine

Extinguishment of Fire

Passerby noticed flames rising from portal of the abandoned mine and saw burning barricade, track and supports fall into the mine. Water was pumped into the mine and a bulldozer used to push clay, sand and mine rock into the mine filling both openings to the surface. Deak, Theodore F., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 6/23/65 TIME 12:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Shamokin, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. Gripp Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE burning wood on surface fell into mine slope and ignited coal pocket DETECT passerby noticed flames rising from the portal

EXT. EFF. water, clay, sand PREV. NS

RESC. None - mine was abandoned

IG. burning wood FUEL coal AGENT water, clay, sand EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 665

Culbertson & Myers No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire believed to have started from discarded cigarette or spontaneous combustion. Water was pumped into fire area without success and seals were then erected in all openings determined to be connected to the fire area. Huntley, D.W., Hutchens, J.E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/13/65 TIME 8:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 40 in. SIZE 20 TPD 4/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rimersburg, Clarion, Pennsylvania OWN. Culbertson & Myers Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - possibly from discarded cigarette or spontaneous combustion DETECT smoke detected by one of the partners of the mine

EXT. EFF. water, sealing PREV. smoking was permitted underground

RESC. Men evacuated from the mine

IG. UNK FUEL UNK AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 666

Princess Sewell Mine

Small Electrical Fire

Fire was caused when heat from the starting resistors ignited insulation on the conductors beneath the controller of the belt drive motor. Fire was extinguished quickly with fire extinguishers. Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 7/21/65 TIME 9:00A DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Nettie, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Sewell Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Max Bailes

CAUSE heat from starting resistors ignited insulation on the conductors beneath the controller DETECT discovered by chief electrician

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers PREV. conductors should be well insulated if exposed to heat

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS controller of belt drive motor PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 667

Margaret No. 7 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Ten fires were found smoldering in coal dust beneath belt structure on belt conveyor. These were easily extinguished by smothering and scattering. Another fire also occurred resulting from a fault in power circuit between feeder cable and circuit breaker box for continuous miner. This was extinguished with water in approximately 1 hour. Huntley, D.W., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/22/65 TIME 7:05A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 91 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Margaret, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ralph Chapman Foreman - William Seese Saf. Dir. - E.J. Onuscheck

CAUSE fault occurred in energized cable between feeder circuit and circuit breaker box for continuous miner DETECT crew encountered smoke while traveling toward the section

EXT. EFF. water PREV. number of splices in cable should be reduced; combustible materials allowed to accumulate;

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal, dust AGENT water EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 668

Arkwright No. 1 Mine

Final Report of Reopening Sealed Fire Area

Fire that occurred 7/24/65 resulted in sealing of fire area. Opening of fire area started on 12/11/65. Tests made during the unsealing and recovery operations indicated no evidence of fire and smoke or heated materials were not found. Work continued to rehabilitate the reopened area and Withdrawal Order was annulled on 1/25/66. Marshalke, Joseph, MESA Morgantown, 5 pp.

DATE 7/24/65 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 2 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 7500 TPD 275/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Mona, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Fred Miller

CAUSE phase to phase fault DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. NS

RESC. 2 men died after returning to a section by the fire area for firefighting supplies

IG. electrical FUEL NS AGENT seals EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 669

V.C. No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Debris had accumulated beneath trailing cable reel preventing it from turning freely. Machine was being trammed in reverse and ran over the trailing cable resulting in a fault between the conductors. Arcing ignited combustible materials. Fire fought direct and extinguished. Croyle, Gerald W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 8/13/65 TIME 3:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 34 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 150/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Shrewsbury, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - S.A. Harvey Foreman - Paul Smith Saf. Dir. - Joseph Marshall

CAUSE short circuit which occurred when cutting machine ran over cable DETECT electricians helper saw flash of fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. combustible materials on machine; fire resistant fluid not used; trailing cable not protected when machine was trammed

RESC. No evacuation - 5 men in area assisted in fighting fire & 25 other men in various parts of mine not affected

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, oil, insulation, hyd. hose, dust AGENT water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to mining machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 670

Norton Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Head) Fire

Fire caused when fault developed in the belt drive motor and burned the frame ground conductor apart causing ignition of combustible materials. Brattice cloth check curtains were placed to direct air over the fire and remove smoke and fumes. Foam gun and water tank were placed into service and fire extinguished. Barr, R.E., Eakins, J.S., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 9/3/65 TIME 9:00P DUR. 7 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 61 in. SIZE 2914 TPD 125/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Powhatan Point, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Oglebay Norton Co. PERS. Supt. - David Wallace Foreman - David Wallace

CAUSE fault developed in belt drive motor which burned the frame ground conductor apart causing ignition of combustible materials

DETECT afternoon shift foreman smelled smoke while on routine check of belts

EXT. EFF. water, foam

PREV. accumulation of oil spillage; frame ground conductors should be attached securely to the return conductor

RESC. Men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL coal, oil, wood planks, posts & lagging AGENT water, foam EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS drive motor, portion of belt head, 50' of conveyor belt, timbering material

PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 671

No. 3D Mine

Final Report of Mine Fire

Cutting machine caught fire on trailing cable reel at temporary splice which was initiated by a phase to phase fault. Fire spread quickly. Attempts to control and extinguish fire by direct means was unsuccessful, and fire area was sealed. Unsealing and recovery operations of fire area started on 4/11/66 and Withdrawal Order annulled on 4/26/66. Croyle, G.W., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 12 pp.

DATE 9/23/65 TIME 8:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 5 Block

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 30/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pond Gap, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Union Carbide Corp. PERS. Supt. - T.F. Hill Foreman - H.A. Kinley

CAUSE phase to phase fault occurred at temporary splice in trailing cable

DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. water, seals

PREV. combustible materials on machine; grounding conductors at temporary splice was left exposed and unconnected

RESC. men assisted in fighting the fire - no evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, combustible materials AGENT water, seals EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS NS

PROD. LOSS Withdrawal Order annulled 4/26/66

No. 672

Vesta No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when wooden timbers atop a steel roof support heated to combustion as result of leakage current when a section of corrugated sheet steel installed between the beams contacted an energized power feeder cable. Flames promptly extinguished by use of dry chemical fire extinguishers. Breedon, J.D., Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/24/65 TIME 1:40A DUR. 1 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 67 in. SIZE 2300 TPD 143 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Vestaburg, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Martin Ulicne Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE corrugated sheet metal used between steel roof supports came in contact with energized power feeder cable DETECT smoke encountered by workman while traveling on locomotive

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers, water PREV. a thorough examination of power circuits should be made during each shift

RESC. No evacuation - 7 men in mine who assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water, powder EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 673

Newfield Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Section foreman heard sound of roof fall and found fire upon investigation. He instructed brakeman to disconnect power to section. Splice of cable to effected area disconnected and power restored for pump. Water trained on fire after earlier attempts with CO2 failed. Zavora, H., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/29/65 TIME 5:50A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 72 in. SIZE 3050 TPD 187/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Newfield, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Section foreman - John Penman

CAUSE roof fall dislodged the negative and positive feeders DETECT by section foreman and mechanic investigating noise of roof fall

EXT. EFF. fire fought in intake air with water (power disconnected) after attempts with dry chemical extinguishers failed PREV. adequate facilities, but circuit protective device set lower inby the sub-station would have prevented fire

RESC. foreman ran to face to warn men

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, CO2 EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS $7,000 PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 674

No. 12 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred 15' outby face of main haulageway when drill ran over its trailing cable entangling it in drive chain. Arcing ignited a tire and fire spread to tires, hydraulic hose and oil and coal dust. Nip was removed and all nearby applied rock dust. Heat became intense. Line curtain erected and 40-gal. chemical extinguishers and rock dust applied. Linville, R., HSAC Denver.

DATE 9/29/65 TIME 10:00A DUR. 9 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 40 in. SIZE 100 TPD 8/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cody, Knott, Kentucky OWN. A.K.P. Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Woodrow Birchwell

CAUSE trailing cable was run over and became entangled in the drive chain DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied, then line curtain erected and 40-gallon chemical extinguishers and rock dust applied PREV. cables should be correctly fused; mining equipment should be kept clean; operators of equipment should take care to protect cable

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, hyd. fluid, dust AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. drill

EQUIP. LOSS damage to drilling machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 675

Hillsboro Mine

Urethane Foam Fire

Roof had caved near the center of some overcasts and men were spraying urethane foam as fill. Thirty-five minutes after spraying one of these, the men noticed a glare of light from the overcast. They found the entire roof cavity to be aflame. Hand held extinguishers were readily available and the fire was quickly put out. Douglas, S.J., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/2/65 TIME 11:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 84 in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Coffeen, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Truax-Traer Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE overfilling foam too thick and incorrect mixture DETECT by crew spraying foam on another overcast

EXT. EFF. hand held extinguishers PREV. ignorance of foam cautions a factor

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL urethane foam AGENT CO2 EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 676

Gateway Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred about 600' outby the face area in 2 section when a roof fall dislodged an energized trolley feeder and ground cable. Post setters heard the fall and found the fire. They disconnected mining equipment and notified officials. Crew arrived with rock dust and fire extinguishers. Feeder circuit was disconnected, flames diminished and after trying rock dust and extinguishers, water was used. Rudolph, E.M., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver.

DATE 10/4/65 TIME 7:50P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 70 in. SIZE 9500 TPD 500 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Gateway Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.D. Williamson Foreman - Mickey Garnek Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE roof fall dislodged energized trolley feeder and ground cable DETECT post setters heard roof fall and found fire

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, CO2 PREV. too many splices in feeder cable and lower overcurrent setting required

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 677

Mars No. 2

Final Report of Major Mine Fire & Explosion Disaster

Fire occurred along north mains track haulageway when during the moving of a continuous miner, the top of the traction pump drive contacted trolley wire and ignited rubber belting. Seven men were inby and all died when the fan was shut off and combustibles built up causing an explosion. Fire was fought with water after all bodies were found. Dobis, J.J., Marshalek, J., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 19 pp.

DATE 10/16/65 TIME 10:50P DUR. NS DEATHS 7 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 80 in. SIZE 3100 TPD 140/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Wilsonburg, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Henry B. Price Foreman - William Post Saf. Dir. - Louis Sabo

CAUSE short occurred when top of traction pump drive on stripped down continuous miner contacted energized trolley and/or feeder wires DETECT immediate by crew

EXT. EFF. small fires put out easily with extinguishers, main fire was put out with water and material loaded out PREV. poor-inadequate short circuit protection; no fire training; no direction signs; poor rock dusting; no disconnecting switches convenient in emergency

RESC. rescue teams entered the mine beginning 10/7/65 to find missing men; bodies were found as in escape

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hyd. fluid coal AGENT water, CO2 EQUIP. cont. miner

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS continuous miner PROD. LOSS until 11/23/65

No. 678

Valley No. 8

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Conveyor) Fire

Fire occurred at a belt drive when the belt stalled on loose rock from a fall. Slippage control had been removed. Surface was notified, 12 men inby were notified and escaped and the fire was put out with water and rock dust. There was little flame, but heavy smoke. Brown, W.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/18/65 TIME 1:20P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Freeport

HT. 36-44 in. SIZE 800 TPD 36/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Heilwood, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Valley Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE friction between stalled belt and drive DETECT by spillage cleaners investigating belt stoppage

EXT. EFF. water from hose and rock dust applied PREV. self-rescuers not provided

RESC. 12 men inby travelled by foot out of the mine around the belt entry

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of belt PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 679

Leatherwood No. 1

Report of MIne Fire

Fire discovered in abandoned section by supplymen. Ventilation changes were required and 10 stoppings were built and then water was applied. Linville, R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/19/65 TIME 7:15A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Leatherwood, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Blue Diamond Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Wayne Farmer

CAUSE UNK DETECT by supplymen enroute to soon-to-be reactivated section

EXT. EFF. water applied after stoppings built and ventilation changed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 680

Crescent Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Elect. Mach.) Fire

Fire occurred on a shuttle car about 90' outby the face. Shuttle car power failed and operator got off to check trailing cable. As he approached the car, short occurred. Section foreman disconnected section power. Fire fighting equipment brought up and fire put out shortly. Wills, P., Douglas, S.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/19/65 TIME 10:45P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4300 TPD 146/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Central City, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jess Rowans Foreman - L.Hillyard Saf. Dir. - J.H. Mosgrove

CAUSE a short in the main power conductor DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, CO2 PREV. inadequate electrical inspection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, grease, coal AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS damage to electrical system of the shuttle car PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 681

Pursglove No. 15 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire of undetermined origin occurred at the No. 2 main conveyor belt head. All men withdrawn safely and after 9 hours of direct fighting, the entire mine was sealed, completed 11:20 P.M. the same day. One hundred fourteen days later it was opened again. Heating found 3/4 which could not be cooled. Fire area isolated again. On 3/9 several explosions knocked out seals & the mine was sealed again. Marshalek, J., MESA Morgantown, 12 pp.

DATE 10/22/65 TIME 3:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 7500 TPD 261/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pursglove, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - V.H. Ream Foreman - Jesse Davis

CAUSE UNK DETECT various workers smelled smoke at about the same time

EXT. EFF. water from line, extinguishers and rock dust all tried unsuccessfully; mine then sealed PREV. no recommendations

RESC. all men withdrawn safely

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, timber, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust, seal EFF. No, No, No, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS complete

No. 681-b

Pursglove No. 15 Mine

Interim Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire which occurred 10/22/65 resulted in sealing the entire mine on the surface. Unsealing began 2/14/66. On 3/4/66 an increase in heat was noticed and efforts to cool heated area failed. On 3/9/66 explosion occurred which partially destroyed a concrete seal. Resealing of mine started 3/10/66 and was completed 3/12/66. Marshalek, Joseph, MESA Morgantown, 5 pp.

DATE 10/22/65 TIME 3:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 7500 TPD 261/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pursglove, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - V.H. Ream Foreman - Jesse Davis

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT seals EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 681-c

Pursglove No. 15 Mine

Second Interim Report of Coal Mine Fire

Two chutes were required to approach the sealed area as an inaccessible roof fall blocked passage when 1st was holed through by teams wearing O2 breathing apparatus. Exploratory work revealed best locations for new seals, completed 2/18/67. Thirty-eight seals finished, ventilation was restored and before Withdrawal Order terminated, rehabilitation was complete. Marshalek, J., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 10/22/65 TIME 3:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 210/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pursglove, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - V.H. Ream Foreman - Jesse Davis Saf. Dir. - Wilbur T. Simon

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 681-d

Pursglove No. 15 Mine

Third Interim Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurring 10/22/65 resulted in sealing the entire mine on the surface. Unsealing began 2/14/66. On 3/4/66 increase in heat and carbon monoxide detected. Efforts to cool heated area failed and 2 fan shafts resealed. On 3/9/66 explosion occurred destroying seal atop one shaft and entire mine resealed 3/10/66. After 90 days one portion of mine rehabilitated. Director annulled explosion Order & revised fire Order. Recovery of 2nd portion completed 3/6/67. Permanent fire seals were built. Order revised 4/10/67 to permit production. Marshalek, Joseph, MESA Morgantown, 7 pp.

DATE 10/22/65 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 185/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pursglove, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - V.H. Ream Foreman - Jesse Davis Saf. Dir. - Wilbur T. Simon

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT seals EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 681-e

Pursglove No. 15 Mine

Fourth Interim Report of Coal Mine Fire

This report covers activities on fire of 10/22/65 occurring after 4/10/67. Permanent seals advanced to origin of the fire. Samples from sealed fire area are being collected and analyzed and seals are being examined. Work is in progress on rehabilitating recovered areas and further recovery work not contemplated in immediate future. Marshalek, Joseph, Shaffer, Carl J., MESA Morgantown, 9 pp.

DATE 10/22/65 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 5500 TPD 187/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pursglove, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - V.H. Ream Foreman - Jesse Davis Saf. Dir. - Wilbur T. Simon

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 682

Sterling No. 10

Mine Fire

Fire occurred about 800' inby the main portals. Recovery of equipment was in progress as owner was bankrupt. Fire was restricted to about 30' of belt entry and was put out with water. Vittiton, DeJack, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/25/65 TIME 8:45A DUR. 22 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Freeport

HT. 38 in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Nicktown, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Sterling Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - probably a lightning occurrence DETECT by recovery crew entering mine

EXT. EFF. water applied PREV. power left on all the time

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS. None

No. 683

Guyan No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on the cable reel of a cutting machine at the face. The fire was fought direct with water, rock dust and extinguishers readily available by the 10-man crew. Gay, T.W., Childers, M.S., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/1/65 TIME 9:30P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 66 in. SIZE 5800 TPD 205/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Amherstdale, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Guyan Division, Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Luther Preston Saf. Dir. - C.E. Linkous

CAUSE overheated cable on reel suffered breakdown of insulation DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers applied until water hooked up PREV. cable should be pulled off reel in use

RESC. men in other sections were withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease dust, coal, rubber AGENT water, CO2 rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to electrical system, cable, cable reel, a pump motor & hydraulic hoses PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 684

No. 1 Mine

Report of Cable Fire on Shuttle Car

Fire occurred about 100' outby the face when cable was entangled in drive chain, breaking insulation. Crew left and told 1st shift crew of the fire as it was quitting time. Water and rock dust were brought up and the fire was fought directly. Sample, C.H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 11/2/65 TIME 6:30A DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Coalgood, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Turtle Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE cable became entangled in drive chain damaging the insulation DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied from intake PREV. third shift left it for 1st shift crew to fight and no short circuit protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to shuttle car reel, cable & hoses PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 685

Clyde Mine

Electrical Fire

Fire occurred near the face on a haulage locomotive. The fire was put out shortly with a dry chemical extinguisher after the cut-out switch had been pulled. Breedon, J.D., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/4/6 5 TIME 6:20A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Fredericktown, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.M. Krese

CAUSE electrical fault occurred in the wiring of a 20-ton locomotive DETECT by locomotive operator

EXT. EFF. operator ran to pull cut-out switch and obtained a 20-lb. dry chemical extinguisher PREV. no overcurrent protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL NS AGENT CO2 EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to wiring of the locomotive PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 686

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Crew started in to work and found smoke 1000' inby the shaft portal. Fire was discovered by continuous miner operator during search. Rock dust was used unsuccessfully. Foreman and two others took extinguishers and attempted to get inby the fire, but were overcome by smoke. Mine Rescue team arrived and helped put fire out with rock dust and water. Ross, W.S., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 11/13/65 TIME 7:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM Sewell

HT. 30 in. SIZE 400 TPD 16/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Leivasy, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Dean Coal Company PERS. Foreman - James Dodd

CAUSE UNK - either arcing from a fault in the power circuit or smoking DETECT by continuous miner operator during search for fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust tried; CO2 then tried; Mine Rescue team arrived and fought fire with rock dust and water PREV. no pre-shift exam on day of occurrence

RESC. men who had gone inby were found and removed to surface for O2 and artificial respiration

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS conveyor drive unit, 300' of structure and 600' of belt PROD. LOSS. 2 days

---

No. 687

O'Donnell No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

Fire occurred in haulage area when a shuttle car squeezed its trailing cable against a track rail. Reel had not been taking up properly. Operator ran to disconnect nip and applied water. Estep, R.C., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/16/65 TIME 1:15A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 200/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Four States, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Donald Ford

CAUSE shuttle car ran over cable at track rail DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. water line hooked up and water applied after nip disconnected PREV. reel not kept in repair and too many splices

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, insulation, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cable PROD. LOSS 1 hour

No. 688

Moss No. 3 Portal A

Report of Coal Mine (Elect. Mach.) Fire

Fire occurred on cable reel of shuttle car after it had been used with a locomotive to drag a feeder. Locomotive was used to pull the cable off the reel after nip was removed and dry chemical used to no avail. Aid arrived with gas masks, rock dust, dry chemical and water. West, M.L., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/18/65 TIME 6:45A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 8-12' SIZE 5600 TPD 197/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jim Hutchinson Saf. Dir. - T.K. Southerland

CAUSE short in trailing cable from poor splice or overheating DETECT immediate by crew

EXT. EFF. dry chemical was used first with little effect; cable was then pulled off (it burst into flames); fire put out with rock dust and water PREV. no short circuit protection

RESC. all men inby withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, grease AGENT water, rock dust, powder EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cable reel PROD. LOSS. 2 hours

No. 689

Parkway Mine

Mine Fire (Memo & letter of intent to close the mine)

New fire discovered in robbed area on third level east. All men withdrawn. Mine will be closed. Rachunis, W., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 11/18/65 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Valley View, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Parkway Anthracite, Inc. PERS. Foreman - George Cheruka

CAUSE UNK DETECT by foreman on regular check

EXT. EFF. None PREV. None

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT None EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS complete

No. 690

Fliger Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Smoke was discovered about 70' inby the portal during an examination to clear reopening this mine. The fire was in an inaccessible abandoned area and evidently started spontaneously when neighboring strip mine operation broke through draining the fire area of water. The mine was sealed with earth. Callahan, J.T., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 11/22/65 TIME 10:10A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. 44 in. SIZE 2/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Adamsville, Muskingum, Ohio OWN. James Lantz Coal PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT by owner's assistant and deputy inspector beginning examination

EXT. EFF. mine was sealed permanently PREV. inadequate firefighting equipment; no self-rescuers

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob, sulphur, coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS some track, small pump, and some power cable PROD. LOSS. total

---

No. 691

Graves Gap Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cable) Fire

Fire occurred on a cutting machine reel due to a short circuit in the cable. Rock dust and extinguishers were readily available and the fire was put out in about 2 hours. Amburgey, Ira, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/30/65 TIME 1:15P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Windrock

HT. 30 in. SIZE 800 TPD 25/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Briceville, Anderson, Tennessee OWN. Tennessee Auger Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Smith Williams Foreman - E. Vandergriff

CAUSE short developed as cutter being moved to new face - temporary splice not well insulated DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, extinguishers PREV. non-flammable hydraulic fluid not used

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutting machine - 200' of cable, hydraulic hoses and wiring PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 692

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Belt had been extended prior to occurrence and was running somewhat loosely. Foreman decided to check drive while chain conveyor was repaired and discovered flames and smoke. He notified surface and fought fire with a fire extinguisher and rock dust until more arrived. Poole, J.W., Lester, C.E., Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 12/3/65 TIME 11:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 30 in. SIZE 450 TPD 17/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Leivasy, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Dean Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - James Dodd

CAUSE frictional heat in a drive roller caused by loose belt DETECT by foreman making routine exam

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers PREV. belt not fire-resistant

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust CO2 EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS conveyor drive unit and some belt PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 693

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Man-trip proceeded underground without pre-shift examination and smoke was detected 1000' inby. Fire was found in belt entry and crew attempted to put it out with rock dust unsuccessfully. Foreman with two others headed off fire inby but were overcome with smoke. Outside help arrived, stopping opened, line erected to fire and rock dust and water applied. Ross, W.S., HSAC Denver.

DATE 12/13/65 TIME 7:00A DUR. 21 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM Sewell

HT. 30 in. SIZE 400 TPD 16/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Leivasy, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Dean Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - James Dodd

CAUSE heat from fault in power circuit or smoking DETECT by man-trip arriving for work

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied, CO2 tried, then stopping opened and line erected, rock dust applied until waterline and pump installed PREV. non-fire resistant belts; smoking permitted; over-current protection set too high; no pre-shift exam

RESC. 3 unconscious men brought to surface, revived, and taken to hospital

IG. electrical or smoking FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, rock dust CO2 EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No Yes,

EQUIP. LOSS drive unit, belt and 300' of structure PROD. LOSS NS

No. 694

Pardee Mine

Mining Machine Fire

The 10 R.U. mining machine used here ran over its own trailing cable (having 2 inadequately insulated splices), causing an arc which ignited leaking oil and spread to the electrical system of the truck. It was extinguished promptly. Authorities were still notified and miners evacuated during extinguishment. Betchey, G.M., MESA Norton, 4 pp.

DATE 12/17/65 TIME 11:15P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 39-56 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 115/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Pardee, Wise, Virginia OWN. Sunrise Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Vernon Howard

CAUSE rubber-tired machine ran over its own trailing cable (arc), some oil spillage ignited & spread DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire was extinguished promptly with rock dust PREV. ample water and rock dust;

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL oil, loader AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. loader

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 695

Nemacolin Mine

Final Report of Coal Mine (Locomotive) Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit occurred in trolley pole cable as a result of damage to the insulation by rubbing of cables against frame of the locomotive. Fire extinguished by dry chemical extinguishers. Locomotive operator received severe burns and died 12/30/65. A second locomotive operator retreated to fresh air. Shannon, J.B., Krek, R.I., MESA Pittsburgh, 8 pp.

DATE 12/28/65 TIME 1:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.J. Lindstrom Foreman - John Paris

CAUSE fault occurring in power conductors connected to the current collector on the trolley pole DETECT noticed immediately by locomotive operator (who died) and another locomotive operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers PREV. trolley pole cable had defective insulation; lack of protective hose conduit for the cables

RESC. one man died who was severely burned when his clothing caught fire by electric arc in cab of his locomotive; 2nd man was forced to leave injured man and retreat to fresh air as the smoke became more dense

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, trolley pole, locomotive AGENT powder EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cab of locomotive - excess of $4,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 696

Ireland Mine

Small Fire of Electrical Origin

Electrical fault caused a fire on the deck of a 27-ton locomotive on the main east haulageway. Rock dust and extinguishers were used to extinguish the fire shortly. One hundred men inby were instructed to use self-rescuers and escape through return as power was cut. Eakins, J.S., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/11/66 TIME 10:40A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 6700 TPD 265/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Hanna Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Louis Jesalosky

CAUSE two 4/0 cable connections became loose generating heat and resultant fault DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. 2 extinguishers and several bags of rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. all men withdrawn through return

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. utility vehicle

EQUIP. LOSS damage to locomotive electrical system PROD. LOSS. 2 hours

---

No. 697

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt) Fire

Nonfunctioning of slippage control for right belt drive resulted in continued discharge of coal from this belt after main belt was stopped. Accumulation of coal at discharge point caused fouling and heating and burning of the belt at the head roller. No flame was found upon discovery, only smoldering coals which were extinguished with a fire extinguisher. Fanok, Peter N., MESA Morgantown, 3 pp.

DATE 1/28/66 TIME 2:00P DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Bakerstown

HT. 54-60 in. SIZE 2854 TPD 139/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bayard, Grant, W. Virginia OWN. Alpine Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Randall Skiles

CAUSE friction DETECT discovered by tractor operator who saw smoke

EXT. EFF. fire extinguisher PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. friction FUEL coal, belt AGENT extinguisher EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS confined to belt at head roller PROD. LOSS NS

No. 698

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on a shuttle car near the face when a trailing cable shorted. While going through conveyor chute, cable was squeezed between the rib and car. Operator removed nip and repaired splice on car. When he replaced nip and returned, he found fire. Cable reel cover was stuck so car was towed from rib before fire could be put out. Kretoski, S.R., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/14/66 TIME 10:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 305/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.D. Sauters Foreman - A. Fillipovich

CAUSE short in poorly insulated place on trailing cable DETECT upon return of operator after connecting shuttle car nip

EXT. EFF. CO2, rock dust, water PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, CO2 rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel & 75-100' of cable PROD. LOSS. 1 hr.

No. 699

Colver Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Two men on way to roof bolt discovered smoke in belt entry. While attempting to escape they came upon fire. They applied rock dust, but belt separated and fire on outby end was put out. They went for more rock dust and then saw that fire was travelling inby out of control. Ventilation was changed and water finally directed on fire consistently. Foam used and material loaded out. Demkowicz, W.M., Benosky, W.S., MESA Monroeville, 9 pp.

DATE 2/17/66 TIME 12:20A DUR. 11 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 213/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Colver, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - William P. Smith Foreman - Walter Angert

CAUSE overheated roller DETECT by men enroute to roof bolting place

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied unsuccessfully, water directed on fire until sump ran out, line connected and more water applied, foam machine used, material loaded out PREV. non fire resistant belt; insufficient water lines

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, rock dust foam EFF. Yes, No, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 215' of structure and belting and timbers PROD. LOSS until 2/28/66

No. 700

O'Donnell No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Drive) Fire

Beltman greased bearings and started belt as usual at start of shift. At about 7:00 P.M. he started noticing smoke and trouble with belt. Fire started about 8:30 and was quickly extinguished with 1 sack of rock dust, water, and dry chemical. Belt was aligned. Dobis, J.J., McMaster, C.D., MESA Morgantown, 3 pp.

DATE 2/23/66 TIME 8:30P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 200/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Four States, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE 30" belt rubbing against metal framework DETECT immediate by beltman

EXT. EFF. rock dust put the fire out, the water and dry chemical were applied as a precaution PREV. belts should be kept aligned

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL oil, grease AGENT water, powder rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS little PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 701

Itmann No. 1

Machinery (Shuttle Car) Fire

While shuttle car was being moved by locomotive, frame contacted energized trolley wire and arcing ignited belt on car used for insulation and some hydraulic hose. Fire-fighting equipment was immediately available and after power was disconnected, fire was put out. Spangler, C.T., 2 pp.

DATE 2/26/66 TIME 9:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Itmann, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Itmann Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE frame of shuttle car contacted energized trolley wire creating arc & igniting belt DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers readily available PREV. shuttle car covered with belt to prevent occurrences like this, but hole had worn

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some damage to shuttle car PROD. LOSS little

No. 702

Colver Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Borehole Cable) Fire

Second shift crew noticed power dim at 4:25 P.M. on their way to work stations. Fire was discovered shortly at borehole near haulageway. Power had to be removed from a 1400' outby substation due to heavy smoke and arcing. Water line hooked up and fire put out. Devett, W.R., Mayhugh, G., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/13/66 TIME 4:45P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 213/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Colver, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Company PERS. Foreman - Walter Angert

CAUSE short in the borehole DETECT by shift crew arriving for work

EXT. EFF. water line hooked up PREV. NS

RESC. other men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, switches, casing AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS wooden lagging, 6 18" section of power cables, 2 switches, 8' of bottom end of borehole casing PROD. LOSS. ½ shift

---

No. 703

Leatherwood Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred near the face on a cutting machine when a fault occurred at a splice in the trailing cable. Operator attempted to pull cable from the reel, then ran to remove nip, but fuse had blown. Foreman and assistant arrived with gas masks and fought fire with CO2 and rock dust. Linville, R., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/10/66 TIME 2:45P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Leatherwood

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2950 TPD 162/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Leatherwood, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Blue Diamond Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.K. Cornett Foreman - Wayne Farmer

CAUSE short in trailing cable splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. men using gas masks applied CO2 and rock dust PREV. temporary splices should be better; better rock dusting suggested

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, oil, grease AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS 100' of trailing cable, hydraulic hose and cable reel PROD. LOSS ½ shift

No. 704

Mars No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Trailing Cable) Fire

A short circuit occurred in the trailing cable reel of a cutting machine as it was making a side cut near the face. Arcing produced heavy smoking from the fire-resistant cable. As soon as the nip was removed, the fire diminished and it was put out with dry chemicals and water. Hobbs, W.S., Estep, R.C., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 3/17/66 TIME 10:00P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 80 in. SIZE 3100 TPD 130/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wilsonburg, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in trailing cable splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nip removed from fire-resistant cable diminishing flame, then CO2 and water applied PREV. splices should be examined; automatic circuit breakers instead of fuses would be better protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of cable PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 705

Scott Darby Mine

Report of Mine Fire

A fire occurred along the inby rib of a crosscut when a small roof fall dislodged uninsulated power cable and it shorted with the return cable. The arcing ignited loose coal and the rib. Two men nearby applied rock dust and then went to surface for help. Dry chemical and water was applied until midnight. Sample, C.H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 3/24/66 TIME 6:00P DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE uninsulated energized feeder cable dislodged by fall of roof contacted the return cable DETECT shortly after fire started, 2 men were nearby and saw it

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied by men nearby, then help was obtained and water and dry chemical applied PREV. no circuit protection and cables should be installed better

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of feeder cable PROD. LOSS None

No. 706

Vesta No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Opening and closing circuit breakers at substation alerted officials to possible problem. They were notified of derailment below. Section power was disconnected. Waterline had been broken and as miner approached valve, he encountered smoke. He travelled under smoke to circuit breaker structure and found fire. Fire extinguishers were used unsuccessfully. Water line was laid due to inoperative hydrant and fire put out. Breedon, J.D., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/30/66 TIME 11:20P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 67 in. SIZE 2700 TPD 181 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Vestaburg, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Martin Ulicne Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair Mgr. - Adam Bronakoski

CAUSE undetermined circuit breaker failure DETECT by miner enroute to shut water off

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers were tried but fire rekindled, water line was laid due to inoperative hydrant PREV. hydrants should be tested

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS circuit breaker, switches and connecting cables - $3,000 PROD. LOSS. 1 shift or more

---

No. 707

Moss No. 3 Mine Portal D

Mine Fire (Frictional)

Fire discovered at head drive in main belt entry. A large rock blocked the chute and resultant spillage stalled the main belt. Repairman found fire and put it out shortly with water. Ross, R.G., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/5/66 TIME 6:30P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 10-24' SIZE 6100 TPD 228/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE stalled belt in friction with drive DETECT by repairman checking stoppage

EXT. EFF. repairman found and put fire out with water PREV. slippage control switch left in disrepair

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 708

Keystone No. 1 Mine

Investigation of Cable Smoke Inhalation

A short in power cables to a 75 hp pump sent smoke upon crew extending belt tailpiece. They made their way to the surface and were variously treated. One admitted to a hospital, one treated and released, one sent home, and one returned to work. All back at work 5/4/66. Harris, W.F., Michael, W.B., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/2/66 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 3 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Keystone, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Jack Bowling Saf. Dir. - L. Shrewsbury

CAUSE short in pump power cables DETECT by affected men

EXT. EFF. None PREV. power conductors should be separated

RESC. men made their way out

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT self-extinguish EQUIP. pump

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 709

O'Donnell No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Conveyor) Fire

Fire occurred when overheated belt conveyor roller due to defective bearing created sufficient heat to burn a hole in the conveyor belt. Rock dust and water were used to extinguish fire and cool the hot roller. Componation, Paul J., MESA Morgantown, 3 pp.

DATE 5/4/66 TIME 1:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 200/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Four States, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE overheating of belt conveyor roller due to defective bearing DETECT shuttle car operator discovered fire while checking equipment

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. no recommendations

RESC. NS

IG. overheated belt conveyor roller FUEL belt, rubber AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to portions of the belt PROD. LOSS operations resumed after roller replaced and conveyor belt repaired

No. 710

No. 31 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car Cable) Fire

Fire started in a crosscut when a short occurred on the reel cable of a shuttle car. Operator parked car and notified men at the face; mechanic disconnected feeder. Hose laid and water was used to put the fire out. Devett, W.R., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/20/66 TIME 2:50P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 3700 TPD 441/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Nanty Glo, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - G. Wallwork Foreman - D. Oldham Saf. Dir. - J. Zamboni

CAUSE short on reel cable of shuttle car DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut, water hose laid and water applied PREV. ground-current trip coils should be used on face equipment

RESC. men inby notified and escaped

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel, hyd. reel motor, hoses, two tires, sheaves, spooler, power cables and 265' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 711

No. 21 Mine

Minor Mine Fire

Foremen notified of smoke in shaft; found and extinguished the fire at a regulator. Dona, B.J., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 5/28/66 TIME 8:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 10,500 TPD 230 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Sesser, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Old Ben Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Isham Jones Saf. Dir. - D. Frailey

CAUSE short circuit in trolley wire across overcast rails ignited wooden regulator DETECT surface employee observed smoke out of shaft

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. regulator

EQUIP. LOSS regulator PROD. LOSS NS

No. 712

Nemacolin Mine

Coal Mine (Power Control Switch) Fire

Fire occurred at a power control switch at the head of a section. Locomotive operator approaching section with empty trip noticed smoke and flames. He notified dispatcher and took locomotive extinguisher and put fire out. Rudolph, E.M., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 6/24/66 TIME 7:40A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont.

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - G. Cerjanec

CAUSE blade and jaw switch had not completely engaged; load caused arcing DETECT by locomotive operator approaching section

EXT. EFF. operator applied dry chemical PREV. NS

RESC. men inby warned by foreman

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, plastic AGENT powder EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to switch PROD. LOSS. None

No. 713

Newhall No. 6

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on shuttle car reel between shifts and was discovered by arriving electricians. They notified foreman who withdrew all men to the surface to organize fire-fighting. All returned and assisted in fire-fighting. Singleton, J.I., Michael, W.B., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/19/66 TIME 12:01A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 48/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Newhall, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Pocahontas Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - C.W. McDonald Foreman - J.E. Barnett Saf. Dir. - A. Maynard

CAUSE short in a temporary splice DETECT by two maintenance men arriving in section

EXT. EFF. men withdrew to surface, obtained fire-fighting equipment and returned to put out the fire PREV. nip not removed at end of previous shift

RESC. all men left the mine, organized fire fighting and returned

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable, reel, hydraulic hoses and a tire PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 714

Forge Slope

Final Report of Coal Mine Fire

Outside foreman told welder to repair gate lock on screen cover of air shaft. He put plate beneath work and wetted timbers below when done. Area was checked from 1 side several times. Truck driver drove by shaft when ball of fire shot up. Other fan pulled smoke into the mine and 34 men suffered from inhalation on their way out. Fire companies pumped water, but due to roof falls, shaft was finally slushed. Wilson, H.F., Menta, E., Ward, T.J., HSAC Denver, 19 pp.

DATE 7/21/66 TIME 11:30A DUR. 4 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 34 SEAM Red Ash & Ross

HT. 5 & 7½' SIZE 2500 TPD 325/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Newport Township, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Nan Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ray Haas Foreman - Douglas Tippins

CAUSE (believed) sparks from acetylene torch ignited timbers & plank lines at top of air shaft DETECT discovered by truck driver

EXT. EFF. water, shaft then slushed PREV. welder should not have worked alone; area should have been wetted before & after cutting; crew did not all carry self-rescuers

RESC. airway was slushed down to 4th crosscut between repair of stoppings and batteries

IG. (believed) sparks FUEL NS AGENT water, shaft slushed EQUIP. NS

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. 5 days

No. 715

Orient No. 3

Report on Coal Mine Spontaneous GOB Fire & Sealing Operations

Face foreman discovered smoke issuing from gob area and got all men out of the mine. Sealing equipment was organized and area was sealed by 7/27. CO2 (liquid) was then injected and normal operations resumed 7/28. One man hurt from falling sealing equipment. Kopps, A.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/24/66 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 11,000 TPD 413/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Waltonville, Jefferson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - H.L. Schulz Foreman - G. Swanson Saf. Dir. - P. Budzak

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by face foreman on routine weekly exam of old unsealed works

EXT. EFF. area was sealed & liquid CO2 injected PREV. adequate except unworked areas should be sealed

RESC. most men removed and some organized sealing operations

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seal, liquid CO2 EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 4 days

No. 716

Dawson Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred in the last open crosscut when a shuttle car pinched a continuous miner trailing cable against the rib. Men retreated immediately. Two others were unaccounted for for some time delaying anticipated sealing which was finally completed (at the drift openings) 7/28/66. Marshalek, J., McMaster, C.D., MESA Morgantown, 10 pp.

DATE 7/28/66 TIME 6:05A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 107/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Dawmont, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Galloway Land Co. PERS. Supt. - Baxter W. Ellison Foreman - James L. Athey, Sr.

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable caused by shuttle car pinching it against rib DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire quickly got out of hand while management waited for word of two trapped miners; mine sealed PREV. trailing cables unprotected; no automatic circuit breakers; equipment dirty with combustibles

RESC. two trapped men made their way 3000' along a drainway in up to 5' of mud and water. Crew could not reach where they had been due to smoke

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease, coal, dust, rubber AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. complete

No. 716-b

Dawson Mine

Final Report of Reopening Sealed Fire Area

Fire which occurred 7/28/66 resulted in sealing of the mine on the surface. Unsealing and recovery operations started on 12/12/66. Flames were seen issuing from between one fall and a coal rib and was extinguished. Loading of fallen material started 12/16/66 and work started to rehabilitate the mine. Withdrawal Order was annulled on 2/21/67. Componation, Paul J., MESA Morgantown, 4 pp.

DATE 7/28/66 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 2132 TPD 69/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dawmont, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Galloway Land Co. PERS. Supt. - Baxter W. Ellison

CAUSE metal frame of shuttle car pinched trailing cable of continuous miner against coal rib creating short circuit and arcing DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. NS

RESC. Men evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL rubber and other combustible materials AGENT sealing EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS Withdrawal Order annulled 2/21/67

No. 717

Alexander Mine

Trailing Cable Fire

As shuttle car was about loaded, the power went off and cable fire was seen under reel cover. Nip was removed and fire went out as cable was fire-resistant. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/1/66 TIME 12:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 3100 TPD 169/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - D.R. Haake

CAUSE short in temporary splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. power removed PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 250' of cable PROD. LOSS. None

No. 718

Crown Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Superintendent noticed smoke issuing from worked out section. He withdrew all miners. Six concrete seals erected by 8:00 A.M. on 8/10/66. Eighteen tons of CO2 injected. Dona, B.J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/9/66 TIME 10:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 84 in. SIZE 9600 TPD 411/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Farmersville, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - Bernard Burke Saf. Dir. - Paul Budzak

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by superintendent on inspection

EXT. EFF. area sealed; CO2 (liquid) injected PREV. No recommendations

RESC. N/A - all men withdrawn except sealing help

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seal, liquid CO2 EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 719

Valley Camp No. 3

Fire of Electrical Origin

Fire occurred on a cutting machine at the face. The trailing cable was crushed, shorted, blew apart and ignited hydraulic hose while mechanic went to pull nip. Mechanic applied dry chemical extinguisher. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/10/66 TIME 7:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 63 in. SIZE 6200 TPD 235/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H.L. Littlehales Saf. Dir. - Ronald E. Bell

CAUSE trailing cable crushed under cutter and short occurred DETECT by mechanic returning from nip to repair cable

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguisher used after nip pulled PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS several lengths of hydraulic hose and cable PROD. LOSS. None

---

No. 720

Consol No. 9 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire occurred on continuous miner inby a crosscut near the face, when the power wire into the contactor box short circuited. All men except fire fighters were withdrawn and after direct fighting for 5 hours, the area was sealed, completed 8/16/66. Dobis, J.J., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 8/15/66 TIME 1:00P DUR. 1 day DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 8700 TPD 239/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Farmington, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - L.H. Riggs

CAUSE short occurred near the contactor box DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. circuit breaker opened automatically. Water had been shut off for repairs; several fire extinguishers failed; rock dust not effective; area sealed PREV. No recommendations

RESC. all men except fire fighters withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil, insulation, rubber, coal hyd. fluid, AGENT rock dust, powder, seals EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS continuous miner and other face equipment PROD. LOSS 5 days

No. 720-b

Consol No. 9 Mine

Final Report of Reopening Sealed Fire Area

Fire which occurred 8/15/66 resulted in sealing of mine. Unsealing and recovery work started 3/18/67. No evidence of fire or heated materials were found and entire sealed area was reopened and ventilated. The Closure Order was annulled 5/16/67. Marshalek, Joseph, McMaster, C.D., MESA Morgantown, 7 pp.

DATE 8/15/66 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 9500 TPD 268/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Farmington, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Mountaineer Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Foster Turner Foreman - Fay Casseday Saf. Dir. - Jesse G. Bowers

CAUSE electric arc of short circuit in trolley cable connection box on continuous miner DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. fire resistant fluids not used; workmen not trained in fire fighting operations and its equipment; grounding conductors should be well insulated

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL coal, oil, combustible materials AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. production resumed 8/20/66 except inby sealed fire area

---

No. 721

Banning No. 4 Mine

Fire

Fire occurred at intersection of two crosscuts when a roof fell and dislodged the positive power conductor dropping it near the negative conductor (both uninsulated). The arcing ignited a fallen crossbar and some wild coal. Assistant foreman noticed power drop and found the fire. Power was cut off and water applied. Zavora, H., HSAC Denver.

DATE 8/21/66 TIME 6:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. West Newton, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof fall dislodged positive power conductor dropping it near the negative conductor creating arcing DETECT by assistant foreman investigating power drop

EXT. EFF. power cut, water applied PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS No extensive damage PROD. LOSS None

No. 722

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred at the face on a cutter when a short occurred in the lead tree leading to the cutting motor igniting combustibles and spreading to the hydraulic system. Fire was put out with CO2 and rock dust and men were sent home. Day shift arrived to move machine and when line brattice was removed, fire rekindled. Rock dust and dry chemical used. Harris, O.W., 4 pp.

DATE 8/23/66 TIME 11:00P DUR. 9 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 50 in. SIZE 400 TPD 21/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Robinson Creek, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Esco Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Henry Bailey Foreman - Langley Miller

CAUSE short in power leads resulting from the insulation being pinched by maneuvering DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. line brattice erected and CO2 and rock dust applied; fire rekindled and put out with dry chemicals and rock dust PREV. no frame ground protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, hyd. fluid, grease, oil AGENT rock dust, CO2 powder EFF. Yes, Yes No, EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electric and hydraulic systems and 2 tires PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 723

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered by foreman when he encountered smoke 250' outby the face. He returned to surface to notify officials and after an unsuccessful attempt to fight the fire direct, the area was sealed with 3 seals, completed 11:30 P.M. that same day. Linville, R., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/2/66 TIME 6:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 5A

HT. 54 in. SIZE 250 TPD 31/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wilstacy, Breathitt, Kentucky OWN. Spicewood Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Henry McKinley Foreman - Otis Wilder

CAUSE burning powder in one or more shot holes (opinion) DETECT by foreman on pre-shift

EXT. EFF. fire inaccessible, so area sealed PREV. smoking was practiced

RESC. N/A

IG. explosives FUEL coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS until 11/28/66

No. 724

Red Tail No. 2 Mine

Report of Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

A mining machine ran over its trailing cable while tramming to a new face. Helper ran to disconnect nip and then warned others. He yelled warning to victims who evidently did not appreciate the immediacy of his request that they leave the mine. Smoke built up rapidly and after repeated rescue attempts, the mine was sealed. Fumich, A.J., Barr, R.E., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 12 pp.

DATE 9/14/66 TIME 10:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 3 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 52 in. SIZE 600 TPD 30/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Bethesda, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Morgan Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Foreman - Harold Harris

CAUSE trailing cable run over and short circuited DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. direct fighting was impossible, mine was sealed after hope for men was lost PREV. no self-rescuers

RESC. rescue teams explored through normal openings then through auger holes, but could not get close to the scene

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 725

Jane Ann No. 11

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire originated at the face when a short developed in the power tree to the contactor compartment. Operator shut off power and covered burning cable with gloved hands and retreated. Nip was then removed. Rock dusting machine brought up and pump installed. Fire was put out by 9/23/66. Gaspersich, S., Lester, C.E., Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 9/20/66 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Cedar Grove

HT. 46 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 54/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Garnette, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Princess Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Douglas Jones Foreman - Randolph Gill Saf. Dir. - W.G. Altizer

CAUSE arcing occurred in several splices in tree of leads DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dusting and water spraying PREV. no frame grounding

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, grease, oil, hyd. fluid, dust, coal AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic components and rubber tires PROD. LOSS until 9/23/66

No. 726

Quinwood No. 7

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred near the face on a shuttle car when the trailing cable became fouled in the drive wheels. Dry chemical, rock dust and water were applied for about 3 hours to put the fire out, after the nip had been removed and ventilation increased. Ross, W.S., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/20/66 TIME 7:20A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 50 in. SIZE 800 TPD 67/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Leivasy, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Imperial Smokeless Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A.P. Littleton Foreman - J.R. Nesselrotte

CAUSE short in ruptured trailing cable; cable had fouled in drive wheels DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. several attempts made to fight fire direct, then ventilation increased, water pump hooked up and fire put out PREV. insufficient care in anchoring cable

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal hyd. fluid, grease, oi. AGENT water, powder rock dust EFF. Yes No, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic components and tires of shuttle car PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 727

Guyan No. 5

Report of Mine Fire (Mining Machine)

Fire occurred in electrical circuit of a mining machine at the face. It was put out quickly with CO2 and rock dust. Calvert, R., 2 pp.

DATE 9/23/66 TIME 9:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Logan County, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Virgil Harless Saf. Dir. - F.M. Cooper

CAUSE short created at breakdown of insulation at a splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 and rock dust PREV. splices should be checked often

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, oil AGENT rock dust CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel PROD. LOSS until 1:00 P.M.

No. 728

Hampton No. 3

Report of Investigation of a Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on a shuttle car loading coal when cable on the reel short circuited igniting oil and coal dust. Power was removed and the fire was put out quickly with rock dust and water. Lester, C.E., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/30/66 TIME 9:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.N. Sparks
Saf. Dir. - R.G. Dickens

CAUSE cable on reel short circuited DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water applied PREV. overcurrent device set improperly

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, dust AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to shuttle car PROD. LOSS. little

No. 729

Jane Ann No. 11

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred on a cutter at the face. Operator and utility man began pulling cable off the reel. Section foreman removed nip. Fire was still not out so CO2 and Karboloy was applied in dense smoke. Hydraulic hose ruptured and major fire fighting effort then required. Water pipe connected to pumps and fire put out by 2:30 A.M. on 10/4/66. Gay, T.W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/3/66 TIME 6:30P DUR. 8 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Cedar Grove

HT. 46 in. SIZE 1700 TPD
54/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - Ola Gross
Foreman - Randolph Gill
Saf. Dir. - W.G. Alitzer

CAUSE short in trailing cable at temporary splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. cable pulled off reel, nip removed; CO2 and Karboloy applied, then water applied PREV. temporary splices could be better; no overload protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid, oi., dust AGENT rock dust, CO2 powder, Karboloy EQUIP. cutter
EFF. Yes No
No No

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic components of cutter PROD. LOSS in one section until 10/4/66; in another until 10/6/66

No. 730

Shannopin Mine

Final Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred at the face during normal mining operations when a short circuit caused arcing which ignited the cable on the reel. Shuttle car operator ran to remove power at trolley switch. Section foreman took extinguisher and inhaled smoke. Operator also tried to put fire out with extinguisher but was advised not to go back. Help arrived with self-rescuers and extinguishers. Rudolph, E.M., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 10/13/66 TIME 1:45A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 5 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 90 in. SIZE 7654 TPD 456 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Bobtown, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - James Wilson Foreman - Frank T. Wozniak Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE electrical fault in trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. extinguishers applied until self-rescuers arrived to aid the men in dense smoke PREV. adequate

RESC. 5 injured escaped unassisted: 1 treated in hospital - all returned following day

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, cloth AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS 40' of line brattice, brattice boards & wooden timber legs & 90' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. 1 day

---

No. 731

Harwick Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

CO was detected in return airway by superintendent during one of frequent checks since fire was discovered on adjacent property. Affected area was sealed after exploration. Turner, E., Holcomb, J.W., Barrett, R.E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/19/66 TIME 8:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Freeport

HT. 84 in. SIZE 1358 TPD 67/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Harwick, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Duquesne Light Co. PERS. Supt. - George E. Stacey

CAUSE neighboring fire products (CO) seeped into mine DETECT during one of frequent checks by superintendent

EXT. EFF. area sealed to prevent more CO from entering PREV. adequate

RESC. all men withdrawn from affected area

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 22 days

No. 732

Moss No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Elect. Mach.) Fire

Fire broke out on front-end of locomotive frightening operators who bailed out. Belt foreman became aware of situation and extinguished the fire. West, M.L., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 10/26/66 TIME 7:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Tiller

HT. 30-60 in. SIZE 8 sections 61/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Henry Kiser Foreman - Delmar Broyles

CAUSE short circuiting of bare power lead against front armature casing on locomotive DETECT by locomotive operators and belt foreman

EXT. EFF. dry chemical PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, locomotive AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS damage to front end of locomotive PROD. LOSS. little

---

No. 733

Pepper No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred outby the first crosscut on a cutting machine when a short developed in a splice in the trailing cable as the operator was enroute to remove the nip at shifts end. Smoke and heat prevented but the most token of efforts to put the fire out. A water line and pump was set up and the fire was fought until out 11/16/66.

DATE 11/15/66 TIME 3:30P DUR. 14 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 76 in. SIZE 140 TPD 13/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Brownton, Barbour, W. Virginia OWN. Marra Brothers Coal Co. PERS. President - Louis Marra

CAUSE short in defective temporary splice DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical and rock dust tried unsuccessfully; then water line set up and with rock dust fire put out PREV. splices should be better made

RESC. all men except fire fighters removed

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease, rubber, coal, dust, hyd. fluid AGENT water, powder rock dust EFF. Yes, No, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cutter PROD. LOSS 2 shifts

No. 734

No. 1 Mine

Report of Fatal Machinery Accident & Subsequent Loading Machine Fire

Loader operator was crushed between loader and rib unseen. Tramming motors continued to run and overload short circuit occurred. Smoke was noticed coming out of fan openings and after finding and freeing the victim's body, line brattice was extended to the fire and fire department assisted in extinguishing the fire. Dorazio, M., Marshalek, J., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 12/2/66 TIME 9:30A DUR. 3½ hrs. DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Redstone

HT. 52 in. SIZE 40 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Maidsville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Curtis Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.F. McGlone

CAUSE fouled tramming motors continued to operate causing an overload short circuit DETECT by laborer seeing smoke emitting from fan

EXT. EFF. line brattice extended to within 10' of fire and fire dept. hose brought up. Water applied and fire put out PREV. overload protection not maintained

RESC. laborer took shuttle car to bump loader and free the body of the victim

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS loader PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 735

Powhatan No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Rectifier) Fire

Fire occurred at the rectifier substation after a roof fall dislodged trolley wire and feeder into contact with rail. Violent arcing resulted when the circuit breaker opened. All men were on their way out of the mine due to a shift change. Fire was confined to rectifier and circuit breaker and was put out with rock dust and dry chemical. Barr, R.E., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/28/66 TIME 3:35P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 8200 TPD 380/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Powhatan Point, Belmont, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - F.A. Ramsey Saf. Dir. - L.R. Flor

CAUSE a roof fall dislodged trolley wire and feeder contacting them with rail and circuit breaker opening resulted in violent arcing DETECT by section foreman inspecting for shift change

EXT. EFF. ventilation changed and rock dust and dry chemical were applied PREV. inadequate circuit breaker

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL plastic, coil AGENT rock dust powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. rectifier substation

EQUIP. LOSS substation destroyed PROD. LOSS None

No. 736

No. 2 Mine

Loading Machine Fire

Fire occurred at the face when the tree of leads suffered a short circuit after being squeezed between the loader and rib. Some rubber belting on top of the motor was ignited but the fire was put out shortly with rock dust. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/3/67 TIME 3:00P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 48 in. SIZE 100 TPD 4/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. Big Six Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in tree of leads DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. 2 bags of rock dust applied PREV. no short circuit protection and no frame grounding

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT rock dust EQUIP. loader

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 737

Crossroads Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Loading Machine) Fire

Trailing cable of loader was crushed between the strain clamp and rib. Arcing ignited the coal rib and dust and oil. Nip was removed and an attempt to extend brattice to the fire failed. After arrival of officials, an exploratory trip revealed that the fire had gone out. Kretoski, S.R., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 1/4/67 TIME 2:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. 40 in. SIZE 400 TPD 26/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Gnadenhutten, Tuscarawas, Ohio OWN. Crossroads Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - F.J. Chitti

CAUSE short in crushed trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nip removed PREV. adequate; but equipment needs to be cleaner & better care of trailing cables indicated

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, plastic, oil AGENT burnt out EQUIP. loader

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tram-control valve, rubber jackets of hyd. hose, electric wiring insulation, rubber belt tram motor covering & controls PROD. LOSS NS

No. 738

Fies Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred in working cutting machine that had been steadily busy. Crew left section and then the mine. Crew equipped with gas masks fought fire from midnight until 3:00 A.M. Beck, B., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 1/11/67 TIME 10:00P DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. 72 in. SIZE 5200 TPD 254/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Lindsey Cobb Foreman - Union Uzzle Saf. Dir. - Raymond Ashby

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable splice on reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. crew fought fire direct using gas masks PREV. temporary splices not good; cable should not be left on reel when operating to avoid heat build-up

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, insulation, rubber, dust AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter electrical & hydraulic systems and tires PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 739

Dean Jones #2

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A massive rooffall sometime between 1/14 and 1/16/67 apparently caused a short circuit in the energized mining machine cable which ignited available combustible material. This is assumed because the mine was flooded 2/3/67 after it became obvious the fall blocked passage to the fire. The 400 amp fuse at the rectifier failing to blow and the cable energized were factors. Cochran, Robert L., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 1/14/67 TIME NS DUR. 2 wks. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 27 in. SIZE 35 TPD 3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Robbins Chapel, Lee, Virginia OWN. Dean Jones Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Fred Dotson

CAUSE roof fall caused short circuit in energized mining machine DETECT at start of shift former lessee discovered smoke emitting from #2 left

EXT. EFF. attempts were made to reach fire via alternative, i.e., abandoned passageways but failed PREV. inadequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. loader

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS total

No. 740

Oriole Mine

Report of Coal Mine (power-feeder cables) Fire

Locomotive operator encountered smoke and notified night foreman. Power feeders in a borehole had short circuited, broken in two and fell into the mine still energized. Madisonville fire company assisted in putting the fire out. Feedback condition was biggest block to quick extinguishment. Craft, W.M., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/20/67 TIME 9:00P DUR. 2⅛ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. 70 in. SIZE 4300 TPD 188/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Bell & Zoller Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - O.D. Courtney

CAUSE chafing effected by load broke through insulation causing a short circuit DETECT locomotive operator encountered smoke

EXT. EFF. fire co. applied chemicals and water from top of borehole while water and rock dust were applied to cables below PREV. cable should have been grommetted to prevent chafing

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, water, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS 500' of cable PROD. LOSS. ½ shift

No. 741

Turner Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire occurred at the face when cable on the reel of a cutter burst into flames; as smoking cable was being pulled off 2 men attempted to put the fire out with rock dust. After 5½ hours of attempts at direct methods, it was decided to seal the area, completed 1/24/67. Harvey, J.R., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 1/23/67 TIME 3:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 5

HT. 52 in. SIZE 800 TPD 31/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Marion, Williamson, Illinois OWN. Blue Bird Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Harry Hess Mgr. - Hallie Brooks

CAUSE (consensus) short in overheated cable on reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemicals and rock dust attempted and area finally sealed PREV. improper nip fuse; cable should be unwound when in use

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, insulation, dust AGENT rock dust, powder, seals EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS UNK PROD. LOSS until 2/7/67

No. 742

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Cutter bar used to sweep cuttings away at the face when trailing cable on reel started burning. Crew exhausted a CO2 extinguisher and removed the nip. Two more CO2 extinguishers and rock dust applied unsuccessfully. Fire area sealed. Spangler, C.T., Michael, W.B., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 2/7/67 TIME 6:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 36 in. SIZE 500 TPD 15/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Premier, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Lawless Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in overheated trailing cable on reel DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. crew attempted direct fight; area finally sealed PREV. no circuit breakers; equipment not clean; faulty electrical work

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease insulation, dust AGENT rock dust, CO2, seals EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. until 2/13/67

No. 743

Conemaugh Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Borehole Cable) Fire

Motorman discovered fire at the borehole. He notified other motorman who alerted crew and took 15-lb. dry chemical extinguisher to the scene. He put out floor fire and tried unsuccessfully to force water up the borehole. Water and rock dust poured from top. Mayhugh, G., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/8/67 TIME 11:30A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 54-65 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 54/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Smokeless, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Joseph Mulvihill

CAUSE short circuiting of power cables in the borehole DETECT by motorman

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied to bottom fire; rock dust & water applied from top for borehole fire PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS 6 power cables in borehole PROD. LOSS NS

No. 744

No. 28 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Belt Fire

Three cars of new belt were parked near the air-shaft headings and a short time later they were mysteriously on fire. Dense smoke endangered lives; 6 men barricaded themselves in (some without self-rescuers) while others followed foreman through smoke. One man hospitalized for inhalation. Calvert, R.G., Chikos, P., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 2/8/67 TIME NS DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Eagle

HT. 45 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 193/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Verdunville, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. National Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Alex Mafney Foreman - Clifford Frye Saf. Dir. - C.E. Linkous

CAUSE UNK DETECT by mechanic reaching air-shaft headings

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. 6 men barricaded themselves in after several others in the section followed the foreman through smoke to fresh air

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS new conveyor belt in 3 cars; some belt conveyor on the air-shaft headings section PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 745

No. L-82 Mine

Cutting Machine Fire

Fire occurred at the face on a cutting machine when a short circuit developed at a splice of new cable to a small section of old cable on the reel. Fire was quickly put out with rock dust. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 2/10/67 TIME 1:30P DUR. 1/10 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Elkhorn

HT. 48 in. SIZE 300 TPD 12/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elkhorn City, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Stonecoal Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable on reel at a splice of two kinds of cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. fire put out with rock dust PREV. no short circuit protection or frame grounding

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS 25' of cable PROD. LOSS None

No. 746

No. 1 Mine

Mine Fire

Foreman and crew left surface at 6:20 A.M. As they crossed belt to power control station, smoke was smelled. They found smoldering fire in a small amount of coal dust in an offset on the left rib. Fire covered with rock dust and chemical extinguishers applied. Material outloaded. Stinnette, C.E., MESA Pikeville, 7 pp.

DATE 2/15/67 TIME 6:30A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 52-60 in. SIZE 300 TPD 17/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hartley, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Elkhorn Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - P. Akers

CAUSE UNK - suspect spark from maintenance shift welding DETECT at beginning of day shift

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers, material outloaded PREV. adequate; but smoking was permitted

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL dust AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. little

No. 747

Van No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on the cable reel of a cutting machine at the face. Operator and shot firer pulled trailing cable; it broke and they then began extending brattice. Fan shut off and then restarted because smoke became dense. Crew fought fire with extinguishers and rock dust until fire co. arrived (pump in mine failed) when line was laid, water applied and fire put out. DeWeese, R.C., Lester, C.E., MESA Mt. Hope, 6 pp.

DATE 2/15/67 TIME 7:40A DUR. 16½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Coalburg

HT. 44-50 in. SIZE 3500 TPD 122/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Van, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Youghiogheny & Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - James Kilgore Foreman - Paul Sparkman

CAUSE overheating caused breakdown of insulation in temporary splice of trailing cable resulting in short circuit DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. nip removed; brattice extended; crew applied rock dust & extinguishers until fire co. arrived with water PREV. no overload protection; cables should be connected to collector rings; no frame grounding; equipment dirty; firefighting equipment not maintained

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, dust, hyd. fluid, rubber AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electrical & hydraulic components and left rear tire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 748

Powhatan No. 3

Report of Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Foreman discovered smoke issuing from a roof fall which had dislodged and buried a trolley feeder. Power was disconnected and water from a continuous miner hose was used to extinguish the fire. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/26/67 TIME 6:00A DUR. 5/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 8600 TPD 386/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dilles Bottom, Belmont, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Robert E. Murray

CAUSE short circuit in trolley wire dislodged by a roof fall DETECT smoke discovered issuing from roof fall by foreman on routine exam

EXT. EFF. water from continuous miner hose PREV. circuit breaker set too low

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 749

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Repairman cut and welded new guards on belt drive on 2/25/67. Upon returning the following morning, fire was discovered in this work area. Dense smoke prevented adequate fighting. Ventilation was changed to no avail. It was decided to seal the mine, accomplished 12 midnight 2/27/67. Harris, O.W., MESA Norton, 10 pp.

DATE 2/26/67 TIME 7:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 52 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 89/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Lovely, Martin, Kentucky OWN. Wolf Creek Collieries PERS. Foreman - Lester Sluss President - Herbert Cline

CAUSE cutting metal with a torch underground (probable) DETECT repairman returning to work area

EXT. EFF. due to site of fire, ventilation changes did not make fire fighting possible and area was sealed PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. latent weld heat FUEL rubber, timber, coal, dust AGENT sealing EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 750

Somerset Mine

Report of Investigation on Sealing to Control Spontaneous Fire

Two workmen detected haze and odor emitting from unsealed end of worked out No. 1 section. The area was sealed, and 800,000 gallons of water were injected. Bowling, V.H., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/28/67 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM B and C

HT. 20-25' & 5-9' SIZE 3400 TPD 145/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Somerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - R.M. vonStorch Foreman - V. Piccioni Saf. Dir. - P. Butler

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by workmen in the area

EXT. EFF. area sealed and water injected PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL NS AGENT water, seals EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 751

Jane Ann No. 9 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on a cutting machine at the face. Operator had noticed smoke during the day, but was told to continue cutting. When fire burst out, operator rolled to ground to extinguish fire on his person. Shot fireman assisted him with his gloves. Operator suffered minor burns and continued to fight the fire which consisted of making ventilation changes and applying water. Calvert, R.G., Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/9/67 TIME 3:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Powellton

HT. 32 in. SIZE 200 TPD 14/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Garnette, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Princess Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Ola Grose Foreman - Walter Griffith Saf. Dir. - W.G. Altizer

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice in cable leading to cutting machine armature DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. ventilation changes made, water line laid & water applied continuously until 3/12 PREV. defective wiring not replaced nor frame grounded; equipment should be kept cleaner

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease, clothing, dust AGENT water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS until 3/13/67

No. 752

Somerset Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Spontaneous Combustion) & Sealing Operations

Fire bosses detected smoke in return and found there must be a fire in old workings. Area was sealed off by 4/5 10:45 P.M. Bowling, V.H., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/5/67 TIME 12:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM B and C

HT. 20-25' & 5-9' SIZE 3400 TPD 128/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Somerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - A.M. Morrison Foreman - V. Piccioni Saf. Dir. - E.C. Olsen

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT smoke detected by 2 fire bosses

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. abandoned areas which cannot be ventilated should be sealed

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seal EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until 4/6/67

No. 753

Little Dog Mine

Report on Spontaneous Coal Mine GOB Fire

Smoke discovered in inaccessible old workings by a mine examiner. Fire was evidently small but could not be reached. Three seals erected by 4/11/67 at 3:00 P.M. Summary, J.R., HSAC Denver.

DATE 4/6/67 TIME 5:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 80 in. SIZE 2270 TPD 125/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Gillespie, Macoupin, Illinois OWN. Little Dog Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.V. Beck, Jr. Mgr. - P.C. Henderson

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by mine examiner during pre-shift

EXT. EFF. sealing of area PREV. abandoned workings should be sealed

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seal EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS until 4/11/67

No. 754

Powhatan No. 1 Mine

Locomotive Fire

Fire broke out on a locomotive when a short in the area of the contactors occurred. Operator removed trolley pole from the wire and applied dry chemical extinguisher. Williams, F.A., Callahan, J.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/7/67 TIME 1:35P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 8100 TPD 374/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Powhatan Point, Belmont, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Farrell Ramsay Saf. Dir. - Lawrence Flor

CAUSE short circuit in contactor compartment DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. operator removed trolley pole and applied 20-lb. dry chemical extinguisher PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT powder EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to contactors of locomotive PROD. LOSS. None

---

No. 755

Saginaw No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Mine engineers came across arcing and power switches were opened. One went to the fire and summoned men inby who helped him put the fire out with rock duster and water from a nearby line. Williams, F.A., Fumich, A.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 4/8/67 TIME 11:30A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 52-58 in. SIZE 3815 TPD 161/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. St. Clairsville, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Oglebay Norton Co. PERS. Asst. to Mgr. - J. Diosi

CAUSE roof fall caused positive feeder to short on belt structure DETECT by 2 mining engineers doing survey work

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. circuit breaker set too high

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to No. 2 belt drive and some belt PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 756

Blair Fork Mine

Report of Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Pumpmen arrived in this section on a Sunday check and found dense smoke. They deenergized the power circuit and returned to the surface. Help arrived, ventilation changes made, and fire fought with rock dust and CO2, but it rekindled. Water line was laid and fire put out by the following afternoon. Rhea, J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/23/67 TIME 10:30A DUR. 28½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Leatherwood

HT. 48-78 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 178/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Tilford, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Blair Fork Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Karu Ison Foreman - Walter Williamson

CAUSE roof fall dislodged energized uninsulated power feeder and contacted it with return feeder DETECT by 2 pumpmen making routine checks

EXT. EFF. rock dust and CO2 applied - suppressed fire, but it rekindled. Water line laid and fire put out PREV. power circuits should be deenergized when mine is idle

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust AGENT rock dust, CO2 EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. until 4/25/67

No. 757

No. 10 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Fire occurred at the face when the cutting motor on the machine began to arc and ignited combustibles on the machine. Operator activated machine fire system and disconnected power. He notified officials who organized fire fighting. All dry chemical extinguishers available were emptied while water line was laid. Fire put out that afternoon. Jarvis, H.A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/10/67 TIME 8:15A DUR. 6 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 34 in. SIZE 700 TPD 40/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hyden, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Finley Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Willie Begley Foreman - Hance Sibert

CAUSE cutting motor fault - previous difficulty had been encountered DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. machine fire extinguishing system put on, all dry chemical extinguishers emptied and water from line applied PREV. no short circuit protection; equipment not kept clean

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, dust, rubber AGENT water, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS cutter a total loss PROD. LOSS NS

No. 758

No. 1 Mine

Mine Fire (Memo)

Foreman and crew entered mine at 6:20 A.M. and started fan and substation. They went to clean up loose coal,repair rollers and other work along the belt when they encountered trace of smoke. Authorities notified and came and put out fire with rock dust and water. Additional rock dust applied. Stinnette, C.D., MESA Pikeville, 2 pp.

DATE 5/16/67 TIME 6:20A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 52-60 in. SIZE 300 TPD 15/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hartley, Price, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Elkhorn Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - Philmore Ackers

CAUSE bottom metal belt roller had fouled due to accumulations of dust and coal DETECT at beginning of day shift

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL coal, dust AGENT water, rock dust, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 759

Geneva Mine

Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Mainline motorman saw smoke issuing from fan exhaust portal. He notified night foreman and proceeded to scene where he found the fire at a battery charging station. Others arrived and dry chemicals and rock dust were applied. Grillas, E.J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/17/67 TIME 6:30P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Foreman - James Tobey

CAUSE multi-breaker box shorted out for unknown reason DETECT by motorman on surface

EXT. EFF. dry chemical and rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS damage to wiring PROD. LOSS ½ hr.

No. 760

No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Cutting machine cut through old abandoned auger hole which was on fire. Equipment was moved and men withdrawn. After officials arrived and exploration determined extent of fire, area was sealed by 6/15/67. Management had known of fire in auger hole, which was not on their map. Watson, C.F., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/8/67 TIME 2:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Winifrede

HT. 60 in. SIZE 150 TPD 5/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hatfield, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Southern Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Clyde Wilson

CAUSE NS DETECT immediately upon breaking through

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. up-to-date map imperative and boreholes should be drilled when approaching inaccessible abandoned areas

RESC. N/A

IG. already in progress FUEL coal AGENT seal EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. until 6/16/67

No. 761

No. LD3 Mine

Cutting Machine Fire

Fire started in or around main pump motor of a cutting machine at the face. It went out shortly. Casey, Clyde W., 2 pp.

DATE 6/15/67 TIME 10:45A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 1

HT. 48 in. SIZE 250 TPD 6/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Elkhorn City, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Lick Mountain Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE started in or around main pump motor for unknown reason DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. self-extinguishing PREV. 400 amp. fuse did not blow; circuit breaker did not trip; machine not frame grounded

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT self-extinguished EQUIP. cutter

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS burned tire, hoses & wiring PROD. LOSS NS

No. 762

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A roof fall dislodged trolley feeders onto track and wooden lagging and fallen coal were ignited. Several crewmen applied dry chemical until Nemacolin fire dept. arrived with water and hose. Young, G.D., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 6/26/67 TIME 11:55A DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 5047 TPD 249 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.J. Lindstrom Foreman - G.J. Cerjanic

CAUSE roof fall dislodged trolley feeders onto track DETECT safety engineer discovered fire

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied until fire co. arrived with water PREV. overcurrent setting too high

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water, powder EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS small section of track rail and wiring PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 763

Sunnyhill Underground No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Belt) Fire

Conveyors stopped at 9:35 P.M. Utility man was sent to surface to locate the trouble and found fire at the belt drive. He informed those below and called fire dept. He disconnected power to shut fan off. Workmen fought the fire with rock dust, water, and a fire extinguisher until fire dept. arrived. Reardon, J.C., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/30/67 TIME 9:35P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6

HT. 54 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 68/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. New Lexington, Perry, Ohio OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Howard Kidd Foreman - L.P. Clontz

CAUSE belt stalled due to coal spillage; slippage control failed DETECT by utility man checking belt stoppage

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust and extinguisher applied until fire dept. arrived PREV. slippage control switches should be checked frequently & conveyor should be maintained to prevent spillage build-up

RESC. NS

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS damage to drive unit and loss of 40' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 764

Peacock Mine

Report on Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Mine idle since 6/29. Pump operated continuously - last inspected 7/1. Power entered mine through borehole. Wires substituted for fuses in switchbox at bottom of borehole 600' outby the pump. Foreman, superintendent and motorman discovered smoke and traced it to fall of rock. Buckets of water applied (unsuccessful). Pump brought up. Two hours later material outloaded. Fire put out by 5:00 P.M. Craft, W.M., MESA Vincennes, 3 pp.

DATE 7/5/67 TIME 6:30A DUR. 12 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 11

HT. NS in. SIZE 150 TPD 10 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. St. Charles, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Beard Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Melvin Beard Foreman - John Huffman

CAUSE short in 220v cable leading to pump from fall of rock DETECT by superintendent and foreman and motorman upon arrival

EXT. EFF. water applied in buckets, pump brought up, material outloaded as water applied directly PREV. good

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal insulation AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS cable PROD. LOSS. None

No. 765

No. 9 Mine

Belt Fire

Harold Pierce, beltman, discovered the belt afire at the main belt drive roller. The power was immediately disconnected and water applied to the fire. It was extinguished at 3:25 P.M. Kopp, A.J., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 7/21/67 TIME 3:15P DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. West Frankfort, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Old Ben Coal Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - D. Frailey

CAUSE belt stopped operating but drive roller continued and fire resulted DETECT beltman discovered fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. None - men already in transit to the surface

IG. friction FUEL belt, coal, rubber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 12' of belting, and 1/3 of the rubber compound PROD. LOSS None

No. 766

Spartan Mine

Report on Coal Mine (Power-Feeder Cables) Fire

Mine examiners and night foreman simultaneously discovered smoke in 5 south section. They then discovered the fire two crosscuts inby the belt tailpiece. They notified workmen, removed them to safety, but retained them to fight fire with rock dust and water. Summary, J.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/24/67 TIME 4:20A DUR. 10½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 76 in. SIZE 3700 TPD 126/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Sparta, Randolph, Illinois OWN. Bell & Zoller Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - C.L. South

CAUSE roof fall caused positive feeder to contact steel compressed air pipeline DETECT by mine examiner and night foreman on patrol

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. power circuits not in use should be deenergized

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 15' of power cables and a short section of compressed airline PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 767

Saxsewell No. 8 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Electrician heard power conductors arcing and called for help. Main power shut off (fan included) and then section power disconnected so ventilation could be restored. Two men removed for smoke inhalation. Water was applied to the small fire found. Casteel, F.T., Lester, C.E., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 7/27/67 TIME 9:20A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Sewell

HT. 32 in. SIZE 1500 TPD 61/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Leivasy, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Gauley Coal & Coke Co. PERS. Supt. - Frank Davis

CAUSE loose splice resulted in phase-to-phase fault in section power circuit DETECT by electrician in the course of his duties

EXT. EFF. water applied after power shut off and ventilation shorted at the fire PREV. poor splicing techniques

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 10' of cable and 20' of insulation was burned off high-voltage power conductors PROD. LOSS NS

No. 768

Moss No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Belt feeder shaft overheated igniting coal and grease/dust mixture. This ruptured an air line which caused a large ball of flame, heard throughout the mine. Fifteen minutes later the line was shut off, and by changing ventilation, fire fighting progressed. MESA Norton, 13 pp.

DATE 8/2/67 TIME 6:30A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Tiller

HT. 30-89 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 320/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Clinchfield, Russell, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H. Kiser Foreman - W. Couch Saf. Dir. - J. Fleming

CAUSE pump drive shaft covered with coal dust ignited same DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. aided by Chemox and gas masks, a rescue team was able to extinguish the fire with water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL hyd. fluid, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt feeder

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 769

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Haulage crew noticed dimming of lights and then power went off. Mechanic went to find trouble and found smoke. He returned and warned section foreman. He and some of crew escaped while others who became separated in the smoke arrived at the fire and put it out with rock dust and water from their lunch buckets. Calvert, R.G., Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 8/19/67 TIME 5:30P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 49/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Chafin Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ben Adkins Foreman - Earnest Mooney

CAUSE energized d.c. power conductors buried in roof fall & circuit breakers did not open DETECT by mechanic checking power outtage

EXT. EFF. escaping crew found fire and put it out with rock dust and water PREV. unused circuits should be deenergized; better sectionalizing of breakers would have helped; positive & negative feeders should be separated

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, timber AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS small section of belt conveyor and power cables PROD. LOSS NS

No. 770

Colver Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Foreman was notified of belt stoppage and found fire at the carloading station. He disengaged power. He informed dispatcher and told him to warn men inby because he could not reach the phone. He also called for firefighting equipment. Extinguishers were applied until water lines were hooked up. Devett, W.R., Mayhugh, G., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/21/67 TIME 10:45A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 220 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Colver, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Walter Angert

CAUSE ignition of spilled oil as a result of arcing at the mine car wheels after faulty feed line hangers clamped to rail roof supports energized the out-of-car monitor control to which it was attached DETECT by foreman checking belt stoppage

EXT. EFF. air shorted, extinguisher applied and water hose hooked up PREV. spilled oil a hazard & defective hangars should be replaced

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, powder EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS car spotter hydraulic unit PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 771

Darby # 1A

Memorandum

A fire was discovered 2:00 P.M. 9/4/67 in an abandoned surface opening that intersected this working mine, about 150 ft. inby the surface. MESA Norton.

DATE 9/4/67 TIME 2:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 38 in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. St. Charles, Lee, Virginia OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - Fred Loving Foreman - Boyd Stidham

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 772

No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on cable reel of a shuttle car near the face. Operator shouted for workmen to remove nip. Smoke prevented immediate fire fighting. Superintendent and foreman arrived and directed erection of checks and line canvas and then fire was fought with rock dust and CO2. Filipek, J.J., Croyle, R.G., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/6/67 TIME 6:45P DUR. 4¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2036 TPD 152/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Superior, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Cannelton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Barosky Foreman - Earl Tucker Saf. Dir. - Earl Quesenberry

CAUSE fault between conductors at undetermined location DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 and rock dust applied; water applied to cool car PREV. temporary splices poor; cable not pulled off reel during operation; equipment not clean

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT water, rock dust CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS damage to shuttle car PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 773

Moss No. 2 Mine

Mine Fire (Memo)

A sudden eruption of flame (like a cable blowing) forced a crew away from shuttle car, and belt feeder. Respiratory protection was brought up and the fire was fought. Ross, R.G., Clemons, B.W., MESA Norton, 1 pp.

DATE 9/13/67 TIME 9:30 DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Clinchfield, Russell, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. respiratory protection required PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. shuttle car & belt feeder

EQUIP. LOSS damage to feeder and trailing cables PROD. LOSS NS

No. 774

Robena Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Acetylene Gas Cylinder) Fire

Cylinder fire occurred below the underground rotary dump on the feeder floor at the slope bottom. Valve was leaking and airborne sparks evidently ignited the gas. One man tried to smother the flames with his gloves but fuse plugs ruptured and flame-up occurred. Water was sprayed until fire burnt out. Breedon, J.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/23/67 TIME 4:20A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 78 in. SIZE 19,189 TPD 1,187/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Greensboro & Carmichaels, Greene County, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE leaking gas cylinder ignited by airborne sparks DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. smothering with gloves tried; flame-up occurred and water sprayed until fire burnt out PREV. cylinders should be tested frequently

RESC. N/A

IG. sparks FUEL gas AGENT water, burnt out EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS negligible PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 775

No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Fire occurred in inactive section where only a pump remained. Pumpmen happened on smoke and found the fire. They went to cutout switch and pulled it and then went to surface to notify officials. Firefighting began at 2:00 P.M. when water was pumped on the floor to get under the roof fall where fire was smoldering. Greenlee, D.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/24/67 TIME 11:30A DUR. 8 3/4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 3

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2700 TPD 171/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Colson, Letcher, Kentucky OWN. Southeast Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - William T. Cahoon Foreman - Chester Cureton

CAUSE roof fall dislodged positive feeder into contact with negative feeder DETECT by pumpmen on repair duty

EXT. EFF. power cut off and water flooded down mine floor under the fall PREV. overload protection too high

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS 4' of feeder wire PROD. LOSS none

No. 776

Kopperstown No. 2

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Section foreman saw dust and found roof fall at 17 right switch. He notified shift foreman during which time two more roof falls occurred, and fire was seen. Section foreman opened disconnecting switch and foreman opened switches which deenergized affected trolley feeders. Temporary seals were erected on each side of fall and water was applied by workmen wearing all-service gas masks. Harris, W.F., Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 9/28/67 TIME 11:40P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cambell Creek

HT. 66 in. SIZE 6964 TPD 411/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Kopperstown, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - R.W. Thomar Foreman - High Blackburn Saf. Dir. - Chester Webb

CAUSE roof fall dislodged feeder wires into contact with steel crossbar in contact with rail DETECT section foreman informing foreman of fall(s) saw fire start

EXT. EFF. power cut off, temporary seals erected and fire fought with water PREV. sectionalizing breakers needed

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. until 10/2/67

No. 777

No. 31 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on a cutting machine while undercutting a pillar. Hydraulic hoses were immediately ruptured, engulfing the machine in flames. Nip was removed by section foreman, men were removed from face. Officials were notified and using gas masks, rock dust was applied until water line laid and fire department arrived when water was used. Smith, F., Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 9/29/67 TIME 8:30P DUR. 43 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 27/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Taylorville, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Damon Browning Foreman - Homer Fannin

CAUSE short circuit in power tree for cutting motor DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied by men wearing gas masks until water lines laid and fire department arrived PREV. defective circuit breakers; mining equipment greasy

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 778

MacAlpin No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Explosives) Fire

Fire occurred 340' inby the slope bottom when inexperienced laborer pulling explosives and supply car with tractor led same into contact with feeder wires. Arcing ignited cardboard containers. Disconnecting switches were pulled. Fire doors at bottom were opened shorting air to main fan slope. Workmen extinguished the fire with CO2 and water. Allamon, T., Weekly, J.E., Somers, J.J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/5/67 TIME 5:45P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 37 in. SIZE 1877 TPD 186/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. MacAlpin, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - David Sizemore Foreman - C.J. Meadows Saf. Dir. - William Parker

CAUSE rubber tired steel car carrying explosives contacted positive and negative feeder wires DETECT immediate by laborer

EXT. EFF. CO2 and water applied PREV. wrong containers for explosives (cardboard); inexperienced workmen need instruction; power feeders should be separated

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical and explosives FUEL explosives, cardboard AGENT water, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS 2 cases of explosives PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 779

Sporn Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on the cable reel of a cutting machine at the face. Helper ran to circuit breaker while operator began pulling cable off the reel. Line brattice was erected and fire was fought direct. DeWeese, R.C., Lester, C.E., Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/18/67 TIME 7:15A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 800 TPD 65/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Graham Station, Mason, W. Virginia OWN. Air Reduction Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Roy Simmons Foreman - John Saunder

CAUSE fault between conductors on reel cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. line brattice erected and rock dust, water, and CO2 applied PREV. equipment not kept clean; grounding circuit not continuous through trailing cable

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, oil AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS ½ shift

No. 780

Valley Camp No. 3

Small Fire of Electrical Origin

Fire occurred on cutting machine near the face when a damaged spot exposed the positive conductor to the grounded frame. This opened the control circuit preventing a more serious fire. Operator disconnected 3/4 water hose to the machine and put the fire out. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 10/19/67 TIME 10:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv.

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H.L. Littlehales Saf. Dir. - John W. Reagan

CAUSE damaged spot on machine exposed the positive conductor to grounded frame DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. operator disconnected water hose to machine and applied water after power had been cut PREV. cables should be inspected for damage

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cable, 2 hydraulic hoses and a hole burnt in the reel PROD. LOSS. little

---

No. 781

Stanaford No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire initiated by a short circuit in main power tree leads between junction box and cutting motor of cutting machine, igniting oil and coal dust on machine. Trailing cable nip was disconnected from power source and rock dust, fire extinguishers and water used intermittently until fire extinguished. Ryan, Fred H., Collier, Jerry W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/25/67 TIME 6:40P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Beckley

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1300 TPD 123/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stanaford, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. The New River Co. PERS. Supt. - John Berry Foreman - Howard Brown Saf. Dir. - R.E. Short

CAUSE short circuit in main power tree leads between junction box and cutting motor DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers, water PREV. combustible materials on machine; nonflammable fluids not used; regular inspection should be made of power leads to cutting motor

RESC. men evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS limited to cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 782

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Wooden lagging over steel beam roof supports ignited when a trolley wire and feeder cable switch was opened under heavy load and arced across the main contacts. A section of trolley wire and feeder cable was detached from hangars when roof fall occurred and a locomotive and mine cars came in contact with sagging power conductors. Fire quickly extinguished. Reid, Richard H., Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/30/67 TIME 7:50A DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4850 TPD 244 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - W.R. Hanish Foreman - G.J. Cerjanic

CAUSE section insulator switch for trolley wire and feeder cable was opened under heavy load and arcing continued between the switch contacts; inadequate short circuit protection contributed

DETECT observed by a brakeman

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguisher

PREV. inadequate short circuit protection; defects in electrical power switches; broken & missing track bonds should be replaced

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT powder EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS switch and lagging PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 783

Bird No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was started by overheated belt roller occurring while no one was in the area and the belt not running. Fire extinguished with water. Although it was a smoldering fire when found, it had been a much more intense fire before discovery. McCarty, Jr., J.B., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 11/5/67 TIME 8:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. NS in. SIZE 2000 TPD 171 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Riverside, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bird Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.L. Yanzetich Foreman - Paul Boysza Saf. Dir. - G.C. Steel

CAUSE overheated belt roller ignited coal dust and conveyor belt

DETECT smoke and fire detected by mechanics

EXT. EFF. water

PREV. accumulations of coal dust around conveyor rollers

RESC. no evacuation

IG. overheated belt roller FUEL dust, belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 150' of conveyor belt; 50' of belt control cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 784

Stott No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred when motor leads of cutting machine short circuited against the frame of the machine, igniting oil soaked loose coal. Check curtain and line brattice installed, fire approached and extinguished with rock dust and fire extinguishers. Devett, W.R., Nelson, R.G., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 11/10/67 TIME 3:00P DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 38 in. SIZE 1250 TPD 53/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Penfield, Clearfield, Pennsylvania OWN. Lady Jane Collieries, Inc. PERS. Foreman - N. Wetzel

CAUSE short circuiting of damaged lead for the cutting motor to the frame of machine DETECT cutting machine operator saw electric arc

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. cutting motor lead damaged due to repeated flexing & abrasion; combustible material accumulated on machine; fire-resistant hyd. fluid not used

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL coal, oil AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS pump motor, hydraulic control valves; hydraulic hoses; 4 tires & electric wiring PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 785

Robena Mine (Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Report of Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Power cable on mine floor had eroded from either chemical or electrolytic reaction. Power conductor burned apart and arc ignited loose coal. The power circuit was deenergized and fire was extinguished quickly with fire extinguishers. Water then applied to the area. Young, Gerald D., Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 12/19/67 TIME 5:45A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 78 in. SIZE 19,189 TPD 1,187 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Greensboro & Carmichaels, Greene County, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Michael Mihallik

CAUSE negative power cable was eroded and power conductor burned apart causing arc DETECT shuttle car operator discovered fire

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water PREV. power cable considerably eroded

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, extinguishers, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS short length of power cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 786

Camp Branch Mine No. 1

Improper Use of Compressed 02

Maintenance employee, on repair of shuttle car contactor case, used 02 to blow accumulated dust off of components. Oil, grease or dust near regulator combusted, flaming up in employee's face. Tisdale, J.E., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 1/18/68 TIME 9:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Carrie, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT employee made his way to man-station

EXT. EFF. dry chemical put out fire; masks required PREV. adequate; however, employee told he could use 02 to blow dust

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL clothing, rags AGENT powder EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 787

Dixiana Mine

Report of Fatal Coal Mine Suffocation (Cable Fire) Accident

Fire was caused by a poorly insulated feeder cable from the positive feeder cable wire to the circuit breaker box which short circuited. One man entered the smoke in an attempt to deenergize the power circuit (without respiratory protection) and died of suffocation. Fire went out as soon as the power feeder cable burned far enough away from return feeder wire to prevent arcing. Harris, G.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 1/25/68 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Taggart

HT. 54-84 in. SIZE 2340 TPD 140/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Norton, Wise, Virginia OWN. Coal Processing Corp. PERS. Supt. - Elmer Burgess Foreman - Troy Harlow

CAUSE short circuit developed between negative ground feeder wire & a single conductor cable DETECT observed by 2 repair men

EXT. EFF. fire burned itself out PREV. cables supplying power to circuit breaker or distribution boxes should be well insulated; workmen should be trained in procedures to follow in event of a fire

RESC. No evacuation - one man died from suffocation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT burned out EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 2' of machine cable and 18" of the power feeder cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 788

Mine No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit in trailing cable for a cutting machine ignited insulation on the cable. Fire fought direct - rock dust and chemical fire extinguishers. The cable fault was presumably of high resistance which did not actuate the circuit protective device. Hill, B.E., Sorrel, Hudson, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/26/68 TIME 7:15P DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 550 TPD 34 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Nortonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. South Hopkins Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Lewis Chaney Foreman - Clarence Ferguson

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT cutting machine operator observed fire

EXT. EFF. rock dust, chemical fire extinguishers PREV. trailing cables should be inspected frequently

RESC. No evacuation - all workmen (14) assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel & pump motor of machine; 400' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 789

Osage No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire was discovered on parked, unattended shuttle car. Trailing cables of the car were connected to power source, but cause of fire could not be determined. Dry chemical extinguishers ineffective as men did not know how to operate them. Water hose was connected but hose was too short to reach the fire. Fire could not be controlled and the area was sealed. Marshalek, J., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 1/27/68 TIME 6:00A DUR. 9½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 10,500 TPD 300/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Cassville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - M.M. O'Brien Saf. Dir. - W.T. Simo-

CAUSE UNK DETECT working crew detected odor of smoke

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers, water, sealing PREV. no recommendations

RESC. men were evacuated from the mine

IG. UNK FUEL shuttle car AGENT water, rock dust, powder, seals EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. No, No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS 4 days

No. 790

Putnam Mine

Report of Fire in Rock Slope

Fire discovered in wood cribbing material installed over steel arches. Fire kindled spontaneously in a wooden bar encased in urethane foam. Foam was being used to plug a cavity over the arches at the entrance to the slope. About 12 feet of foam was removed and water applied to fire and extinguished. Croyle, G.W., Lester, C.E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/5/68 TIME 7:00P DUR. 8 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Leon, Mason, W. Virginia OWN. Union Carbide Corp. PERS. Foreman - H.R. Howard

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT smoke detected by fire boss

EXT. EFF. water PREV. thickness of the foam layer formed on a single pass should not exceed 4"; length of roof covered with foam should not exceed 30'

RESC. 5 men were evacuated

IG. spontaneous FUEL wooden bar AGENT water EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS foam and wood cribs PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 791

Lady Dunn No. 105 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred as a result of the trailing cable being run over with a roof-bolter, causing short circuit in the trailing cable and igniting combustible materials. Power source removed; ventilation was changed and fire fought with rock dust, fire extinguishers, and water until it was put out. DeWeese, R.C., Lester, C.E., Vallina, J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 2/7/68 TIME 8:00P DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas & Powellton

HT. 32-54 in. SIZE 3600 TPD 219/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cannelton, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Cannelton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - N.G. Clonch Foreman - Earl Hicks Saf. Dir. - Alvin Grounds

CAUSE short circuit when roof bolting machine ran over trailing cable DETECT observed by roof bolter

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers, water PREV. combustible materials on machine; fire resistant hyd. fluids not used; trailing cable placed where it could be run over

RESC. No evacuation - 57 men in mine; 11 were on section where fire occurred & assisted with fire fighting operations

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil, rubber AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to roof bolting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 792

Ireland Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire caused by overheating of air compressor as a result of excessive accumulation of dirt on the intercooler and cooling fins of the compression cylinders. Power was cut and fire fought with water until extinguished. Williams, Fred A., Symons, W.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/12/68 TIME 10:15P DUR. 2¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 9800 TPD 378/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Ohio Valley Division Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - E.P. Johnson Foreman - Norbert Becker Saf. Dir. - Julius C. Olzer

CAUSE overheating of air compressor DETECT roof bolter discovered fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. accumulation of dirt was on air compressor

RESC. men were evacuated from the mine

IG. overheating of air compressor FUEL air compressor AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. air compressor

EQUIP. LOSS confined to compressor PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 793

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire started when a fault occurred between the conductors of trailing cable wound on the reel and arc ignited combustible materials. The trailing cable contained many poorly made temporary splices. Fifty feet of the burning cable was pulled from the reel; line brattice erected to remove smoke, and fire extinguished with fire extinguishers, rock dust, and water. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/15/68 TIME 10:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 50 in. SIZE 300 TPD 11/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hartley, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Elkhorn Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - Roy Flemming Co-owner - Paul Patton

CAUSE high resistant short circuit in trailing cable caused by poorly made temporary splice DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. trailing cable contained many poorly made temporary splices; accumulations of oil & coal dust on machine; fire resistant hyd. fluids were not used

RESC. No evacuation - 16 men in mine assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, dust AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine which included pump motor, hyd. control valves, hyd. hoses, electric wiring and 1 tire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 794

No. 9 Mine

Mine Fire & Permanent Abandonment

Mine ceased production on 2/14/68 but a fire occurred and recovery operations stopped by a closure Order, revised 4/3/68 to permit recovery. Mine was sealed by 5/22/68 and is inaccessible. Schrecengost, H.A., MESA Vincennes, 1 pp.

DATE 3/1/68 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. NS OWN. Old Ben Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealing accomplished PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. NS FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. N/A

No. 795

Second Fork Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire started when a fault occurred between the conductors of the trailing cables wound on the reel and arc ignited combustible materials. Power was cut and 200' of burning cable pulled from the reel. Line brattice was erected and fire fought with fire extinguishers and water. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/4/68 TIME 4:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pond Creek

HT. 48-56 in. SIZE 2100 TPD 114/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Biggs, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentland Elkhorn Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Raymond Ramey Foreman - Gail Perkins

CAUSE high resistant short circuit at a temporary splice developed in the trailing cable DETECT observed by cutting machine operator and cutting machine helper

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers and water PREV. combustible materials on machine; fire resistant hyd. fluids not used; temporary splices should be strong & well insulated

RESC. No evacuation - 10 men in section assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil AGENT water, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine cable reel; pump motor; hoses, and 200' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 796

No. 37 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire started when a fault occurred between the conductors of trailing cable of continuous miner and arc ignited fallen roof coal, then spread to the coal on both sides of the entry. Surface employee had disconnected power from the mine and fire extinguished by continuous application of water. Mine superintendent received first degree burns. Poole, J.W., Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/5/68 TIME 2:15P DUR. 7 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Sewell

HT. 28 in. SIZE 125 TPD 7/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rupert, Greenbrier, W. Virginia OWN. Leckie Smokeless Coal Company PERS. Supt. - Virl Kyle Foreman - W.E. Belcher

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT discovered by mine foreman while trying to locate loss of power

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. trailing cables should have adequate automatic circuit breakers; splices should be well insulated & strong; underground power circuit should have adequate automatic circuit breaker

RESC. 4 men in mine who helped fight fire - no evacuation - mine superintendent received 1st degree burns to his hands, hip & leg

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS negligible PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 797

Orient Mine No. 3

Report on Coal Mine Spontaneous GOB Fire

Fire was discovered by foreman on a regular routine examination. Sealing operations were begun and liquified carbon dioxide induced into sealed area. Normal operations resumed 3/7/68 except the sealed fire area. Mine fire Order annulled on 5/31/68. Summary, J.R., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 3/6/68 TIME 10:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 12,500 TPD 437/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Waltonville, Jefferson, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - Milford Harrell

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT by a face foreman on routine examination

EXT. EFF. sealing and liquified carbon dioxide PREV. adequate

RESC. 85 men underground were immediately withdrawn to the surface

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT sealing carbon dioxide EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS 24 hrs.

No. 798

Jane No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Fire occurred as result of phase to phase fault between adjacent laps of trailing cable on reel of a mining machine. Line brattice erected and water directed on fire until extinguished. Hutchens, James E., Krek, Ralph I., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/21/68 TIME 7:20A DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Freeport

HT. 58 in. SIZE 6500 TPD 176/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Elderton, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Company PERS. Supt. - Andrew Haggerty Foreman - John Kotula Saf. Dir. - E.J. Onuscheck

CAUSE phase to phase fault between adjoining wraps of cable on reel of mining machine DETECT mining machine operator observed fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. circuit protective device did not open immediately; combustible materials on machine; fire resistant fluids not used

RESC. No evacuation - 50 men in mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, combustible materials AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS confined to mining machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 799

Simpson Creek Mine No. 3

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit in belt sequence control switch rendered it inoperative and resulted in piling of coal and subsequent ignition by frictional heat of combustible materials. Fire extinguished by direct attack. Melville, W.R., Phillips, J.P., MESA Morgantown, 5 pp.

DATE 4/4/68 TIME 2:05P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 350 TPD 26/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Meadowbrook, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. McCandlish Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Albert Lechiara Foreman - Louis Marra

CAUSE short circuit in belt sequence control switch DETECT roof bolter & foreman discovered fire when checking on reason for belt stoppage

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. conveyor belt not fire resistant

RESC. No evacuation - men assisted in fighting fire until Closure Order issued 4/4/68

IG. electrical & friction FUEL belt, coal AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 15' of belt PROD. LOSS Withdrawal Order annulled 4/8/68

No. 800

No. 10 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when mining machine ran over trailing cable of a loading machine and arc ignited combustible materials. Line curtain erected and power removed from trailing cable. Fire fought direct and extinguished with fire extinguishers, rock dust, and water. Jarvis, H.A., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 4/8/68 TIME 10:30P DUR. 11 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 32 in. SIZE 800 TPD 46/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Hyden, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Finley Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Willie Begley

CAUSE short circuit when mining machine ran over trailing cable for loading machine DETECT observed by mining machine operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. combustible materials on machine; fire resistant hyd. fluids not used; trailing cable placed where it could be run over

RESC. men evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil, hyd. hoses, rubber AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes Yes EQUIP. mining machine

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine extensively damaged PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 801

MacGregor No. 7 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire started when trailing cable on reel of cutting machine short circuited at a temporary splice and ignited combustible materials. Power was disconnected. Line curtains erected towards the fire and fire fought with fire extinguishers until under control. Water then used to extinguish fire and to cool down the area. Hatfield, Thomas H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 4/16/68 TIME 9:30P DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Winifrede

HT. 47 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 56/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Yolyn, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Amherst Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Charles McKenzie

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable temporary splice DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. carbon dioxide fire extinguishers, water PREV. combustible materials on machine; trailing cable splices should be well insulated

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, AGENT water, carbon dioxide EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS 150' of cable, electrical and hydraulic components and a tire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 802

Little Dog Mine

Report of Coal Mine (GOB) Fire

State mine inspector on routine examination discovered a light smoke or haze with characteristic odor of a gob fire coming out of No. 1 west seal off main south panel. Replastering old leaking seals and erecting 9 additional seals were done to close the fire area. Summary, J.R., MESA Vincennes, 3 pp.

DATE 4/21/68 TIME 5:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 2200 TPD 132/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Gillespie, MaCoupin, Illinois OWN. Fla. Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.V. Beck, Jr.

CAUSE spontaneous combustion resulting from ineffective seals - incipient fire DETECT on regular routine inspection by State mine inspector

EXT. EFF. replastering and resealing PREV. adequate

RESC. men underground were withdrawn from the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seals EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. while sealing in progress only - 27 shifts

---

No. 803

No. 10 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when speed reducer became overheated and ruptured because of bearing failure allowing the lubricant to escape from the speed reducer and ignite combustible materials. Fire fought direct and extinguished with water. After extinguishment the men were removed safely from the barricaded area. Allamon, Thomas, Lester, C.E., Weekly, John E., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/4/68 TIME 6:45P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1900 TPD 160/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Tams, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Slab Fork Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Don Wise
Foreman - H.G. Shrewsbury
Saf. Dir. - Elmer Banker

CAUSE failure of a ball bearing in speed reducer DETECT smoke observed by boom operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. combustible materials on belt conveyor drive; speed reducers that leak or overheat should be changed

RESC. 56 men were in the mine - all were evacuated except 12 men who barricaded themselves inby the fire area

IG. friction FUEL grease, wood, coal, belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 50' of conveyor belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 804

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was started by a short circuit in a power circuit when roof material dislodged and fell on the cable. The arc ignited bone coal and coal rib in the area. The power wires were cut and a water line installed to the fire area, extinguishing the flames. Jones, Fred, MESA Barbourville, 4 pp.

DATE 5/12/68 TIME 12:15P DUR. 7 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Stearns No. 2

HT. 54 in. SIZE 700 TPD 52/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Mt. Victory, Pulaski, Kentucky OWN. Cumberland River Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - Ralph Gregory

CAUSE short circuit in a power circuit DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate

RESC. all persons debarred from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 805

Bunker Hill Mine

Minor Mine Fire

Power for "tugger" hoist turned off at end of shift and light bulb kept over motor for dryness was turned on. Fire discovered shortly thereafter. Adjoining mine and men on return side warned and fire put out with chemical extinguishers and water by 10:30 P.M. McGuire, L.H., MESA Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/13/68 TIME 6:15P DUR. 4¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Kellogg, Shoshone, Idaho OWN. Bunker Hill Company PERS. Saf. Dir. - Wallace Kenyon

CAUSE (opinion) light bulb used to keep hoist motor dry shorted DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water and chemical extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL NS AGENT water, CO2 EQUIP. motor

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS charred block and burnt lagging post PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 806

Lundale No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Locomotive) Fire

Fire occurred on parked, unattended locomotive when the power wires to the pump motor contactor short circuited and ignited combustible materials. Trolley pole was not removed from trolley wire when locomotive was parked. Fire extinguished with dry chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust and water. One man became ill from smoke inhalation. Lester, Cecil E., Hatfield, Tennis H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/24/68 TIME 12:30P DUR. 40 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 66 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 159/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Lundale, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Amherst Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Aubra Chaney Foreman - Elester Hurley

CAUSE short circuit in power wires to the pump motor contactor DETECT smoke encountered by lead motorman and trail motorman

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. trolley pole not removed from trolley wire when locomotive was parked; overload protection not provided

RESC. All men were evacuated - one man (trail motorman) suffered from smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, hoses AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to one unit of the tandem locomotive PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 807

Fies Mine

Trailing Cable Fire

Fire occurred when heat did not dissipate from unreeled portion of cables on cable reel causing short circuiting of the cables at a splice. Power disconnected and fire promptly extinguished with direct application of water. Laird, James R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 6/11/68 TIME 10:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable splice DETECT cutting machine operator discovered fire

EXT. EFF. water PREV. trailing cables with splices that heat or spark under load should not be used

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. hoses AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cables and hydraulic hoses PROD. LOSS NS

No. 808

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire originated on cutting machine when a fault occurred in the trailing cable on the reel and ignited combustible materials. Power nip removed and trailing cable was severed with an ax. Fire was extinguished with water. Morelli, L.M., Collier, Jerry W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 6/12/68 TIME 9:15A DUR. 27 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 46 in. SIZE 1700 TPD 116/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wyco, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Amigo Smokeless Coal Company PERS. Supt. - J.E. Calvert Foreman - Carl Morgan

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable on the reel DETECT cutting machine operator noticed flame

EXT. EFF. CO2, water PREV. combustible materials on machine; fault not cleared by circuit breaker; fire resistant hyd. fluids not used

RESC. men evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL oil, dust AGENT water, CO2 EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cutting machine PROD. LOSS. 3 days

No. 809

Consol No. 9 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Air Compressor) Fire

Fire occurred on air compressor when it became overheated due to accumulations of coal dust and oil on the intercooler and cooling fins on the cylinder walls. Ignition of oil vapors within the air reservoir and rupture of a rubber tire contributed. Power nip removed and fire extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers and water. Phillips, J.P., McManus, M.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 6/24/68 TIME 2:45A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 10,000 TPD 322/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Farmington, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Mountaineer Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Albert Takacs

CAUSE overheating of air compressor DETECT flames & smoke observed by 2 workmen

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. combustible materials accumulated on air compressor

RESC. all men were evacuated

IG. overheating of air compressor FUEL oil, dust, rubber AGENT water, powder EQUIP. air compressor

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to air compressor PROD. LOSS NS

No. 810

Republic Mine

Mine Fire

Mine was idle and shop foreman during daily patrol discovered fire. He disconnected power and applied water putting the fire out. Harris, O.W., MESA Pikeville.

DATE 6/30/68 TIME 2:00P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Regina, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Republic Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Guy Ratliff Shop Foreman - Elmer Hester

CAUSE rock fall brought trolley wire in contact with track rail and a wooden header block DETECT during daily patrol by shop foreman

EXT. EFF. power deenergized; water applied; fallen material cleaned up PREV. adequate

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. none

No. 811

Harlan Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Fire occurred inside metal case of storage battery on a tractor when a short circuit occurred between the insulated battery cable and battery post of opposite polarity. The fire (electrical arc) was extinguished immediately upon removal of power from the battery charger. Sample, C.H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 7/16/68 TIME 5:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Coalgood, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Nabob Coal Company PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit between insulated battery cable and battery post of opposite polarity DETECT fire boss noticed fire

EXT. EFF. removal of power from battery charger PREV. insulated battery cables showing signs of insulation failure should be replaced

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL battery post AGENT power removed EQUIP. tractor

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minor damage to battery post PROD. LOSS NS

No. 812

Pyro Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when trailing cable short circuited at a temporary splice on reel of a shuttle car. Fire extinguished in 30 minutes by water. Craft, William M., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/20/68 TIME 3:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 4000 TPD 112 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Sullivan, Union, Kentucky OWN. Pyro Mining Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - G. Polley

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable at temporary splice on the reel DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. splices in trailing cables should be reinsulated as needed

RESC. No evacuation - 16 men in mine assisted in fighting fire operations

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 2 tires, hydraulic pump motor, 500' of trailing cable & cable reel PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 813

No. 21 Mine

Report on Coal Mine (GOB) Fire

Fire of spontaneous combustion origin discovered. An attempt to load out the heated material was made with no success. Sealing procedures then began and liquified carbon dioxide induced into the sealed area through a borehole. On 8/5/68, work resumed except inby the sealed fire area. Summary, J.R., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 7/24/68 TIME 6:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 105 in. SIZE 10,000 TPD 241/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Sesser, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Old Ben Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Isham Jones Saf. Dir. - Dennis Frailey

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT smoke encountered in front bleeder entry by a mine examiner

EXT. EFF. loading out the heated material unsuccessful; sealing & liquified carbon dioxide induced through borehole PREV. NS

RESC. all men underground were withdrawn from the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seals EQUIP. none

carbon dioxide

EFF. Yes

Yes

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS 12 days

No. 814

Powhatan No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred in shuttle car by short circuit that occurred when conductors contacted each other within poorly insulated temporary splice in trailing cable. Investigation as to location of fire not started until about 10 minutes after discovery. Fire extinguished with rock dust and water. Two men suffered from smoke inhalation (did not wear respiratory protection). Barr, Richard E., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/19/68 TIME 3:25P DUR. 50 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 60 in. SIZE 9000 TPD 386/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Powhatan Point, Belmont, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Samuel Warbel Saf. Dir. - Lawrence Flor

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice of trailing cable DETECT fire observed by 5 workmen

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water, rock dust PREV. source of smoke was not immediately determined; temporary splices should be made strong and be well insulated

RESC. 150 men underground were completing their shift and preparing to leave mine - section foreman and shuttle car operator suffered from smoke inhalation & received medical attention

IG. electrical FUEL hoses, insulation AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes, No EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel and 300' of cable PROD. LOSS afternoon crews permitted to resume work

---

No. 815

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire started when dislodged steel beams roof support contacted power feeder cables and a water pipe. Wooden lagging over dislodged steel beam roof support ignited by arcing which continued until steel beam burned clear of the pipe. Fire extinguished quickly. Krek, R.I., MESA Pittsburgh, 5 pp.

DATE 8/20/68 TIME 12:10A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 5952 TPD 258 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.R. Ryland Foreman - G.J. Cerjanic

CAUSE dislodged steel beam roof supports contacted power feeder cables and a grounded steel water discharge line creating arcing DETECT discovered by maintenance workers who were going to restore fallen roof supports

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. power circuits beneath beams not deenergized; flow of fault current insufficient to actuate circuit protective device

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL wooden lagging AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS section of steel pipeline; end of one beam PROD. LOSS NS

No. 816

Sewell No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Operator heard arcing on cutter as he parked near last open crosscut this section and when he checked, cable blew, generating dense smoke. He yelled for shuttle car operator to pull the nip. Section crew applied CO2 and rock dust but heat drove them back. Check curtain installed while officials notified. More rock dust and CO2 applied until pump hooked up. Water put the fire out. Casteel, T.T., Perry, C., Collier, J.W., MESA Mt. Hope, 7 pp.

DATE 9/3/68 TIME 10:00P DUR. 9 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 40-72 in. SIZE 3200 TPD 208/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Marybill, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Pittston Company PERS. Supt. - Guy Enicks

CAUSE fault in temporary splice of trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. CO2 and rock dust applied; pump hooked up and water used successfully PREV. poor splicing; overcurrent set too high; equipment dirty; poor choice of trailing cable; no frame grounding

RESC. all other men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, dust, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, CO2, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to machine and cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 817

Somerset Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire boss discovered fire odor in east return. With other fire boss, he discovered smoke in unworked section. They closed regulator, then superintendent called and asked for regulator to be opened, and Chemox to be brought to 5 west "B" seam if needed. Stoppings were repaired and hose connected. Fire fought direct until 11:10 A.M. 9/3/68. Material then outloaded. Ratliff, I.J., MESA Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/3/68 TIME 2:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM "B"

HT. 20-25' SIZE 3700 TPD 154/2 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Somerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - A.M. Morrison Foreman - V. Piccioni Saf. Dir. - Paul Butler

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by fire boss during inspection

EXT. EFF. ventilation changes made; 2 stoppings repaired, water line installed and fire fought directly; material was outloaded PREV. adequate

RESC. all men except firefighters removed

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS 2/3 day

No. 818

Peter Creek Mine

Mine Fire (Cutting Machine)

Fire occurred on cutting machine when the tree of leads to the cutting motor short circuited against frame of the machine igniting grease and oil. Fire extinguished with dry chemical extinguisher and rock dust. Hydraulic hoses were seared but did not erupt. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/19/68 TIME 8:30P DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pond Creek

HT. 54 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 63/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Phelps, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentland Elkhorn Coal Corp. PERS. Saf. Dir. - W. Meadows

CAUSE short circuit in tree of leads to cutting motor DETECT flame observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust PREV. accumulation of oil and grease on machine; equipment not frame grounded effectively; nonflammable fluid not used

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic system of machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 819

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on shuttle car when short circuit developed in trailing cable when the shuttle car was placed under the loading boom on a loading machine. Line curtain erected and fire extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust and water. Hager, Dennis R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/25/68 TIME 7:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Harlan

HT. 32-38 in. SIZE 250 TPD 31/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Liggett, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Golden Glow Coals, Inc. PERS. Foreman - Paul Asher

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT observed by shuttle car operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. accumulation of coal dust on shuttle car; trailing cables should have adequate short circuit protection

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS 25' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 820

No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire of undetermined origin was discovered in mine by company president. No attempt to attack the fire direct was made because intense heat and smoke made the fire area inaccessible. Sealing of the drift openings was started and completed the same day, 9/26/68. Pigott, Harry T., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/26/68 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 78 in. SIZE 300 TPD 12/1 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Peel Tree, Barbour, W. Virginia OWN. Kent Coal Company PERS. Foreman - Omar Suder President - Harold Mearns

CAUSE UNK DETECT by company president on routine examination

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. no recommendations made

RESC. mine was idle

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT sealing EQUIP. NS

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 821

Cadogan No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Substation was located in idle section subject to heaving. Superintendent arrived and turned on motor generator. Power failure occurred shortly and generator was shut down. Smoke was discovered the following day. Water was pumped into the borehole near substation. Line canvas extended and fire found. Water line was hooked up and water directed on the fire. Benosky, W.S., Baltiski, W.J., Krek, R.I., MESA Monroeville, 8 pp.

DATE 10/15/68 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 54/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cadogan, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Allegheny River Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Burl Snyder Foreman - Burl Snyder

CAUSE fault occurred in positive & negative feeders as result of heaving; contactors possibly bridged by extraneous metal DETECT by superintendent checking previous day power failure

EXT. EFF. water applied through borehole and then directly on fire PREV. wiring should be inspected before energizing; installations should be moved from unstable areas

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, dust AGENT water EQUIP. substation

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to substation PROD. LOSS until 10/18/68

No. 822

No. 7 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire started when a fault occurred between the conductors of the trailing cable wound on the reel and arc ignited combustible materials. There were many temporary splices in the cable. Burning cable was pulled from the reel, line brattice erected and fire fought direct with and extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, and water. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/22/68 TIME 3:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 54 in. SIZE 800 TPD 22/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Robinson Creek, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Utilities Esco Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - W. Stapleton Foreman - V. Bowling

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable temporary splice DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. combustible materials on machine; temporary splices and cable reels should be well insulated

RESC. No evacuation - 13 men in mine assisted in fighting the fire

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel, pump motor, hoses and 200' of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 823

No. 1 (Block 5, No. 4 Island) Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire started when a coal rib fell and dislodged a hanger supporting the power wire which fell and contacted unused metal side boards; arc ignited loose coal and coal dust. Exhaust fan was installed near fire area; several adjacent openings to surface were closed; brattice cloth stoppings erected and fire extinguished with water. Blankenship, J.C., Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 11/4/68 TIME 11:20P DUR. 16 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2 SEAM No. 5 Block

HT. 48 in. SIZE 900 TPD 35/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Sharples, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Boone County Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Chester Evans

CAUSE electric arcing from a high resistance ground fault in the power distribution system DETECT smoke encountered by belt maintenance man

EXT. EFF. water PREV. trolley feeder wire installations should be well protected; scrap metal was discarded near energized power circuit

RESC. NS - 2 mine officials received treatment for smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS negligible PROD. LOSS 9 days

No. 824

Boon Mine

Report of Coal Mine Shaft Fire

Fire was discovered near the surface on the wooden curtain wall in the hoisting shaft. Repairs were being made on the curtain wall with a torch and apparently hot material fell on the curtain wall. The fire was extinguished promptly by Chandler Volunteer Fire Department. Koucher, D.W., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 11/5/68 TIME 8:15A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Indiana No. 5

HT. 72 in. SIZE 110 TPD 11/1 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Chandler, Warrick, Indiana OWN. Boon Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - O. Eifler

CAUSE hot slag fell on wooden curtain wall DETECT surface employees discovered fire near the surface

EXT. EFF. volunteer fire department PREV. NS

RESC. 11 men underground escaped without incident

IG. hot slag FUEL wood AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 825

Dekoven Mine No. 9

Report on Coal Mine Conveyor Belt Fire

Fire discovered along the conveyor belt entry. Water and rock dust applied directly to fire and area unsuccessfully and area subsequently sealed. The mine fire Order was revised on 1/24/69 to cover only the sealed area, complete recovery not until 3/10/69. Craft, William M., MESA Pikeville, 6 pp.

DATE 11/5/68 TIME 7:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 60 in. SIZE 5500 TPD 250 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Dekoven, Union, Kentucky OWN. Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - A. Williams Foreman - P.D. Gregory Saf. Dir. - L. Risley

CAUSE friction between conveyor belt and a stuck idler roller DETECT discovered by superintendent

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. men recalled to surface

IG. friction FUEL coal, dust, belt AGENT water, rock dust, seals EFF. No, No, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS short section of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 826

Vesta No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when energized trolley wire dislodged by roof fall contacted a track rail and arcing ignited fallen roof material and coal. Power was cut off and fire extinguished. Zavora, Henry, Krek, R.I., MESA Pittsburgh, 6 pp.

DATE 11/26/68 TIME 4:45P DUR. 25 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 70 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 163/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Vestaburg, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - Martin Ulicne Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE roof fall caused energized trolley wire to contact one of the track rails creating arc DETECT locomotive operator came upon blazing fire - crew encountered light smoke

EXT. EFF. brattice cloth erected; rock dust, water PREV. NS

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL coal, fallen roof material AGENT water, cloth, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS Not extensive PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 827

Hernshaw No. 1 Lynco Colliery

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire started when short circuit occurred at temporary splice in trailing cable on cutting machine. Short circuit fault not cleared by the protection provided and fire spread quickly. Fire could not be extinguished promptly due to small movement of air at the machine. Check curtains and line brattice installed and fire extinguished with rock dust and water. Tennant, V.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/4/68 TIME 8:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hernshaw

HT. 46 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 72/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Lynco, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Pocahontas Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - Fred Cook Foreman - V. Travis

CAUSE short circuit at temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT observed by section foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. combustible materials on machine; short circuit fault not cleared by protection provided

RESC. 3 crews were in mine - one remained to fight the fire, one was evacuated, and one continued normal activities

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS limited to cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 828

Green Valley No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Electric power was left on in mine and on trailing cables over week-end. It is believed a small piece of sharp roof fell and ruptured the energized trailing cable of a loading machine, igniting coal. Attempts to control and extinguish the fire were unsuccessful and the operators decided to seal the mine. Reopening of mine was on 1/16/69 and Order annulled on 1/29/69. Bowling, V.H., Venters, M.L., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/9/68 TIME 7:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Green Valley

HT. 72 in. SIZE 50 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cedaredge, Delta, Colorado OWN. D. Gail Brooks and Mack Paterson - Operators PERS. NS

CAUSE sharp roof edge fell and ruptured energized trailing cable DETECT fireboss discovered smoke

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. electric power left on when mine was idle; coal accumulated along chain conveyor panlines; trailing cable nips not removed when mine was idle

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. loader

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. Withdrawal Order annulled 1/29/69

No. 829

Powhatan No. 3 Mine

Coal Mine Fire

Fall of roof dislodged trolley wire which contacted return feeder cable causing arc which ignited insulation and nearby high power cable. Mine was evacuated and fire was extinguished after power cut off and portable extinguisher and water applied to area. Eakins, J.S., MESA St. Clairsville.

DATE 12/11/68 TIME 5:00A DUR. 1.5 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 9000 TPD 380/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dilles Bottom, Belmont, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - W.R. Luke Foreman - W. Corbett Saf. Dir. - F. Hanasky

CAUSE fall of roof dislodged trolley wire which contacted return feeder cable causing arc and igniting insulation and high voltage cable nearby DETECT nearby workers noted sound of fall and arc

EXT. EFF. cut power at breaker; applied 20-lb. portable extinguisher; water applied by buckets PREV. electrical protection system adequate; fire control equipment adequate

RESC. mine evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder EQUIP. trolley wire

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minimal PROD. LOSS NS

No. 830

No. 8-B Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit occurred at temporary splice in power cable to belt feeder and arcing ignited escaping hydraulic oil from ruptured hoses and other combustible materials. After fire extinguished, 3 men found dead, overcome by smoke and fumes. Calvert, R.G., Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 12/12/68 TIME 8:20P DUR. 1¼ hr. DEATHS 3 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Chilton

HT. 54 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 71/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Saunders, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Buffalo Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Claude Lockhart Foreman - Willie Baker

CAUSE short circuit at poorly insulated temporary splice near hydraulic valve on belt feeder power cable DETECT explosion and fire observed by shuttle car operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers PREV. nonflammable fluids not used; self-rescuers not carried by employees; poorly insulated splice was resting against a hydraulic valve

RESC. men evacuated except 3 who were overcome with smoke and fumes and found dead

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, coal, dust, wooden crib, belt, hoses AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS belt conveyor feeder PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 831

Cambria Slope Mine 33

Underground Locomotive Fire

Fire occurred on a locomotive when the controller blew up. Fire extinguished within minutes by using rock dust. Eight men were exposed to smoke and only one received medical attention. Devett, W.R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/16/68 TIME 9:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Ebensburg, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault in controller - exact cause not determined due to damage to controller DETECT observed by motorman

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. locomotives should have magnetic controllers

RESC. No evacuation - 8 men exposed to smoke, only 1 treated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. hoses, valve AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS controller, power cables, hydraulic lines, and hydraulic control valves PROD. LOSS NS

No. 832

Tom Reed Mine

Mine Fire

Pipe company employees removing pump when it stuck in the shaft. Upon cutting it with a torch, they caused a fire in the shaft. Freezing temperatures prevented fire department from putting fire out. Company is undecided upon course of action as mine is filling with water anyway. Morgan, E.A., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/19/68 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Oatman, Mohave, Arizona OWN. Americana Investment Co. PERS. Res. Mgr. - J.C. Brandenburg

CAUSE cutting torch sparks DETECT by pipe company crew

EXT. EFF. fire department couldn't keep lines from freezing PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. sparks FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. NS

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. complete previous to fire

No. 833

Keystone No. 3-B Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Fire resulted from defective bearing in bottom roller of belt structure which ignited coal and coal dust. Fire fought direct with rock dust and dry chemical extinguishers and fire extinguished in 20 minutes. Ryan, Fred H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/4/69 TIME 3:30A DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 6

HT. 42 in. SIZE 960 TPD 80/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Herndon, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - J. Kodak Foreman - L. Whitaker Saf. Dir. - J. Smith

CAUSE defective bearing in bottom roller of belt structure DETECT smoke observed by mine foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. defective rollers should be replaced promptly

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. heated bearing FUEL coal, dust AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS small section of conveyor belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 834

East Gulf Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire initiated by short circuit in trailing cable on the reel of a cutting machine. Cable contained no temporary splices. Power was removed from the section and fire extinguished with CO2 and water. Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 1/14/69 TIME 12:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 38 in. SIZE 2800 TPD 181/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Eastgulf, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - D. Ray Decker Foreman - J. Blankenship

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable on cable reel DETECT observed by cutting machine operator - as they were blasting the face a loud "popping" noise was heard

EXT. EFF. CO2, water PREV. frames of mobile electric equipment should be grounded

RESC. 88 men in mine - no evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT CO2, water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable reel PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 835

Humphrey No. 7 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when locomotive trolley pole and steel pod on a rock duster contacted sagging trolley feeder wires which were detached from hangers by a roof fall. Arc ignited rubber rock dusting hose. The dry chemical extinguisher was improperly used and fire contained with foam and water. One man hospitalized due to smoke exposure. McMaster, C.D., Marshalek, Joseph, HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 1/28/69 TIME 6:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 90 in. SIZE 14,500 TPD 450/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Maidsville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Mark Sansone Saf. Dir. - W.T. Simon

CAUSE locomotive trolley pole and steel pod on a rock duster contacted sagging trolley feeder wires DETECT observed by 2 rock dusters

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguisher (which failed to operate due to lack of knowledge in its operation); foam and water PREV. fire resistant hoses not used; personnel not trained in use of fire fighting equipment

RESC. 139 men underground were evacuated - one man hospitalized

IG. electrical FUEL rubber AGENT water, powder, foam EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 2 locomotives; 3 rock dusting units; 1000 ft. of rock dusting hose PROD. LOSS Withdrawal Order annulled 2/13/69

No. 836

Geneva Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred when urethane foam was applied to cinder block and wood stopping ignited spontaneously. Fire extinguished by dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, and water. Freeman, J., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/10/69 TIME 4:45P DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 14' SIZE 4000 TPD 184/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Horse Canyon, Emery, Utah OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Joe Harvey Foreman - James Tobey

CAUSE spontaneous ignition in urethane foam DETECT mine foreman detected black smoke

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. permanent stoppings should be of incombustible materials; thickness of foam layer on a single pass should not exceed 4 inches

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. spontaneous FUEL urethane foam, timber, coal, wood AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. foam spray gun

EQUIP. LOSS confined to stopping and foam machine spray gun PROD. LOSS. about 5 hours

---

No. 837

New Idria Mine

Underground Mine Fire

Fire broke out in mine near collar of internal shaft. Mine was sealed promptly. After air analysis showed extinguishment 3/18, the seal was opened and fire was out. Poland, H.E., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 2/11/69 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Idria, San Benito, California OWN. New Idria Mining and Chemical Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. mine sealed PREV. NS

RESC. seal broken 3/18 and fire was out

IG. NS FUEL timber, coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS 1 month

No. 838

Shoemaker Mine

Small Fire

Fire was caused when universal coupling broke on roof bolter pump and ruptured a connection on the variable volume pump. Sparks ignited oil vapors issuing from the hydraulic system. Circuit breaker was disconnected and small flame extinguished with a few applications of a fire extinguisher. Roof bolter operator was burned slightly on right side of his face. Eakins, John S., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/11/69 TIME NS DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 2900 TPD 210/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Benwood, Mars hall, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Craig Raber

CAUSE ruptured connection on the variable volume pump creating sparks and igniting oil vapors DETECT observed by roof bolter operator

EXT. EFF. circuit breaker disconnected and fire extinguisher PREV. guard should be provided that will contain the universal coupling in its rotation

RESC. no evacuation - 65 men underground - roof bolter burned slightly

IG. electrical FUEL oil vapors AGENT extinguisher EQUIP. roof bolter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS Negligible PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 839

Segco No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on shuttle car when short circuit developed in the trailing cable spool on the reel igniting the insulation and rupturing the hydraulic hose. Water and rock dust were applied and fire completely extinguished promptly. Blanton, Sr., H.E., Farris, J.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 2/14/69 TIME 8:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Montevallo

HT. 64 in. SIZE 4723 TPD 193/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Brantleyville, Shelby, Alabama OWN. Southern Electric Generating Company PERS. Supt. - D.A. Penny Foreman - A.R. Tingle

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT shuttle car operator noticed smoke

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. fire resistant hydraulic fluids not used

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS reel and hydraulic system of the reel and 130' of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 840

Robena No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire occurred when steel roof support channel and an energized trolley wire, dislodged by a roof fall, came in contact and arcing ignited roof coal. The section circuit breaker did not open. Fire was extinguished by water. Shannon, J.B., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 3/1/69 TIME 4:30A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 78 in. SIZE 15,560 TPD 1,133/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Greensboro and Carmichaels, Greene County, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.W. Boyle

CAUSE electric arcing between energized trolley wire and steel roof channel DETECT assistant mine foreman smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. operation of circuit protective devices should be tested regularly to assure proper functioning

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS severed trolley wire PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 841

Open Fork No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Operator lost power, deenergized cable, checked car and took man trip to surface for next shift. Midnight - 8:00 A.M. shift came on, energized equipment and when getting shuttle car encountered black smoke. Foreman and operator put self rescuers on and found fire. Fire was put out with rock dust and dry chemical extinguishers. Stinnette, C.E., Franks, R.W., MESA Norton, 9 pp.

DATE 3/18/69 TIME 11:40P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Banner

HT. 48-96 in. SIZE 2850 TPD 138/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dante, Russell, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Virgil Howard Foreman - Ernest Arney Saf. Dir. - J.W. Fleming

CAUSE fault between conductors of shuttle car trailing cable DETECT upon energizing shuttle car

EXT. EFF. once found, using self rescuers, fire was extinguished with rock dust and chemical extinguishers PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 842

No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on mining machine when short circuit occurred in trailing cable on the cable reel and arc ignited tire and hydraulic hoses. Fire fought direct and extinguished with water. Sample, Charles H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/19/69 TIME 8:30A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Darby

HT. 38 in. SIZE 200 TPD 14/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Coalgood, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Puckett Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Harold Brown

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable on reel DETECT workmen encountered smoke on way to loading point

EXT. EFF. water PREV. trailing cables should have suitable short circuit protection & should be disconnected from power source at end of every shift

RESC. Men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, hose AGENT water EQUIP. mining machine

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS mining machine damaged extensively PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 843

No. 33-37 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Locomotive resistor used as a heater was source of ignition and arcing occurred after breakdown of insulation by overheating. Power circuit was deenergized and fire extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers and water. Gaspersich, Sylvester, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/30/69 TIME 9:45A DUR. 1¾ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 5

HT. 40 in. SIZE 1850 TPD 80/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. McDowell County, W. Virginia OWN. Bishop Coal Company PERS. Foreman - John F. Meade
Saf. Dir. - Archie McGraw

CAUSE UNK - believed that a locomotive resistor used as a heater was source of ignition after becoming overheated DETECT section foreman encountered dense smoke while on patrol

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. power circuit was not de-energized prior to idle shift; lack of suitable overload protection; nonflammable fluids not used

RESC. Section foreman only person in mine

IG. overheating of locomotive resistor FUEL insulation, hyd. fluids, coal, belt, wooden boards AGENT water, powder EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS components of hydraulic car spotter and a portion of conveyor belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 844

Soldier Canyon Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Jumper Cable) Fire

Fire occurred about 1000' outby the working faces. Upon entering 2 east section, sprayer discovered smoke. Co-owner, approaching from outby, disconnected jumper cable. One employee left scene looking for the fire without self rescuer but was found o.k. Co-owner found rock dust and extinguished the fire. Bazo, William, Grillos, E.J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 4/1/69 TIME NS DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Rock Canyon

HT. 6½-10' SIZE 450 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Wellington, Carbon, Utah OWN. Premium Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE idle jumper cable left energized DETECT by sprayer travelling dip haulageway

EXT. EFF. co-owner disconnected cable and applied rock dust PREV. sufficient supplies; cable left energized when idle; splices not well insulated

RESC. men donned self rescuers and searched for man looking for fire. He was found unharmed.

IG. electrical FUEL coal, insulation AGENT rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cable PROD. LOSS. little

No. 845

Moss No. 3 Portal D

A fire occurred on a roof drilling machine, believed to be caused by a short circuiting trailing cable. The fire was extinguished 1 hr. after it was discovered. West, M.L., MESA Norton, 7 pp.

DATE 4/14/69 TIME 4:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 120-240 in. SIZE 6500 TPD 278/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Loader Operator - Allen Yates

CAUSE short circuited trailing cable DETECT smoke encountered as new shift entered the area

EXT. EFF. power cut off; by wearing self-rescuers the fire was found; rock dust & dry powder applied PREV. suitable equipment

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, coal, roof drill AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. roof drill

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 846

Robinson Run No. 95 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Acetylene Gas Cylinder) Fire

Fire caused when acetylene gas ignited by airborne sparks while bit lugs were being cut from a continuous miner. The fire was extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers, water, and rock dust. McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 4/28/69 TIME 1:30A DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72-92 in. SIZE 7000 TPD 226/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Lumberport, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Mountaineer Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - James Gemondo

CAUSE airborne sparks from metal burning operations ignited escaping acetylene gas DETECT mechanic heard a noise, then saw the flame

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water, dry chemical extinguishers PREV. torch and gages not examined for leaks before burning operations begun

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL gas AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS hose, gages and acetylene tank PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 847

Siltix Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire in transformer station initiated by electrical fault in the high voltage system and arc ignited combustible materials in area. Several faults were prevalent over the system causing the ground wire used to frame ground the transformers to open. Fire was extinguished with chemical extinguishers, rock dust, and water. Allamon, Thomas, Collier, Jerry W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/1/69 TIME 5:00A DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 124/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Mount Hope, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. New River Company PERS. Supt. - Howard Brown

CAUSE fault in high voltage system at underground transformer substation DETECT fire discovered by chief electrician

EXT. EFF. water, chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. combustible materials accumulated in substation; faults in high voltage system should be found & cleared before system is re-energized

RESC. 20 men in mine - 10 were evacuated, the rest helped fight the fire

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS 3 transformers, switches & power cables PROD. LOSS NS

No. 848

No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire initiated at temporary splice in trailing cable on reel of cutting machine when one of two power conductors parted while drawing a high current and arc ignited combustible materials. Fire was extinguished with fire extinguishers and rock dust. Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 5/7/69 TIME 2:05P DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1400 TPD 79/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Snap Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - James Blevins Foreman - John Peduzzi

CAUSE power conductor in trailing cable parting at a temporary splice on the reel when tension was applied while drawing high current DETECT noticed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. trailing cables that are damaged should be replaced; fire resistant hyd. fluids not used; temporary splices should be well insulated

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil, hose AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cutting machine PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 849

Fies Mine

Trailing Cable & Cutting Machine Fire

Temporary splice in the cable leading to the collector rings on cutting machine short circuited. Fire was extinguished by direct application of water. Laird, James R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 5/8/69 TIME 11:10A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE defective cable splice DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. special care should be used in splicing of the cable leading to the collector rings

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS limited damage to cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 850

Fies Mine

Report on Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Fire occurred as a result of a fault in power cable to the trolley phone and arc ignited combustible materials. Power was disconnected and water applied to fire until extinguished. Craft, William M., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 5/24/69 TIME 3:30P DUR. 9 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 6200 TPD 281 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Union Uzzle Foreman - James Wilson

CAUSE fault in power cable to the trolley phone DETECT smoke encountered by a pumpman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. power circuits underground should be deenergized on idle days; power circuits should be protected against an overload

RESC. 3 men were in mine and were evacuated to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS power wires, hydraulic hoses, wooden cribbing PROD. LOSS. approximately 1 day

---

No. 851

Montour 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire started when trolley wire cutout switch was closed while trolley wire under fallen roof material was in contact with track rail or cutout switch was closed when fall occurred. Fire fought direct and extinguished with continuous application of water. Krek, Ralph I., Turner, Everett, Pabrizinsky, John W., MESA Pittsburgh, 8 pp.

DATE 5/26/69 TIME 10:00A DUR. 29½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 10,000 TPD 335/3 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Lawrence, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Gaylord Whirlow Foreman - Teddy Ofiara Saf. Dir. - Joseph Taylor

CAUSE trolley wire dislodged by roof fall contacted a rail DETECT heavy smoke encountered by general assistant mine foreman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. trolley wires should be disconnected in inactive sections; circuit protective device did not actuate

RESC. men evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 852

No. 4 Mine

Loading Machine Trailing Cable Fire

Smoke observed by tractor operator who reported it to the foreman. Foreman evacuated mine. Fire was caused by bad temporary splice in loading machine trailing cable. Fire extinguished when foreman turned off mine electrical system. Wheeler, Jr., H.P., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 6/3/69 TIME 2:20P DUR. 0.5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Widow Kennedy

HT. 30 in. SIZE 200 TPD 9 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Vansant, Buchanan, Virginia OWN. Anchor Red Ash Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Henry Chambers

CAUSE faulty temporary splices, fuse too large DETECT observation of smoke by tractor operator

EXT. EFF. turned off mine power supply PREV. inadequate fuse; poor temporary splices

RESC. men evacuated without incident

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT power cut off EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 853

Clifftop No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire started when arcing ignited plastic pipe. Arcing resulted when grounded power circuit of direct current power system sought a parallel path around high resistance rail joints through steel pipe and abandoned track rails. Fire extinguished with water and rock dust. Blankenship, Jr., James C., Lester, Cecil E., HSAC Denver, 8 pp.

DATE 6/19/69 TIME 11:45A DUR. 2 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 38 in. SIZE 322 TPD 30/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Russellville, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - J.E. Calvert Foreman - Harry D. Marie

CAUSE prolonged electric arcing DETECT observed by electrician

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. highly flammable plastic products should not be used underground; both rails of main track line should be bonded or welded at every joint

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL timber, belt, plastic pipe, insulation, cribs AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS plastic pipe, 25' of power cable, conveyor belt, wooden timbers and cribs PROD. LOSS one day

No. 854

Guyan No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Locomotive) Fire

Locomotive caught fire pulling empty trip when power wires arced. Operator tried to pull pole from trolley wire but had to evacuate when arcing began in the controller compartment. He went around locomotive, but could not reach pole due to rib clearance. Trip pulled back and pole removed. Tail locomotive extinguisher used and dispatcher sent repairmen with 3 more. Hatfield, T.H., MESA Mt. Hope, 6 pp.

DATE 6/25/69 TIME 8:00P DUR. 1/3 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 60 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 254/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Kelly, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Alex Matney Saf. Dir. - F.M. Cooper

CAUSE insulation on wire connecting locomotives worn by use and fault occurred or wire was squeezed in a curve DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied after trolley pole removed PREV. wiring should be protected from wear of insulation; no short circuit protection; more cutout switches needed; no self rescuers

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL conduit, timber, insulation, rubber AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS damage to electrical system of locomotive PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 855

Itmann No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire resulted when shuttle car contacted energized trolley wire while it was being moved. Short circuit caused arcing that ignited combustible materials. Lack of vertical clearance and short circuit protection for trolley system contributed. Fire was extinguished with rock dust. Collier, J.W., Vallina, J.O., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/6/69 TIME 5:30A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 3

HT. 52 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 300/3 Emp. METH. Cont. and Conv.

LOC. Itmann, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Itmann Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Charles Smallwood

CAUSE short circuit when shuttle car came in contact with energized trolley wire DETECT observed by foreman

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. adequate vertical clearance should be available when moving equipment; lack of short circuit protection

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, insulation AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS tire and power tree on shuttle car and 2' of cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 856

Compass No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire initiated when electrical arcing ignited combustible materials. Arcing caused when a roof fall dislodged a metal overcast onto the power wires. Power was deenergized and fire extinguished with rock dust, fire extinguishers, and water. Phillips, John Paul, HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/7/69 TIME 11:30P DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 164/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Dola, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - William Post Foreman - Alva Hamond

CAUSE electrical arcing when roof fall dislodged a metal overcast onto the power wires DETECT a resident smelled smoke and informed company officials

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. ground fault protection for electric circuits and to equipment should be provided

RESC. No evacuation - only 2 men in mine in another section

IG. electrical FUEL timber, belt AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 25' of belt conveyor, power wires and wooden timbers PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 857

Geneva Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Motorman heard rib "pop" and jumped to safety as roof fell dislodging trolley wire into contact with rail. He threw trolley switch and warned others. Wireman opened disconnect switch while CO2, rock dust and water were obtained. Rock dust contained the fire, and water put it out. Bazo, W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 7/14/69 TIME 12:20P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 14' SIZE 4200 TPD 191/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Horse Canyon, Emery, Utah OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Joe Harvey Foreman - Alden Swasey Saf. Dir. - James Cassano

CAUSE arcing resulted when trolley feeder contacted rail as a result of roof fall - circuit breaker did not function DETECT motorman heard roof "pop"

EXT. EFF. trolley switch pulled to no avail;primary disconnect switch pulled; CO2 and rock dust applied until water available PREV. disconnect switches should be outby each working section and roof needs better support

RESC. N/A - men warned and got outby immediately

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, CO2 rock dust EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS little

No. 858

No. 27 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on shuttle car when short circuit occurred between the conductors of trailing cable wound on the reel and arc ignited combustible materials. Power was disconnected and some cable pulled from the reel. Fire extinguished with rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers and water. Hatfield, Tennis H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 7/24/69 TIME 1:35P DUR. 35 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 48 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 173/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Scarlet, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Henry Skibo Foreman - Cole Blair

CAUSE short circuit between the conductors of the trailing cable wound on the reel DETECT shuttle car operator noticed heat emitting from reel compartment of the shuttle car

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. nonflammable hyd. fluids not used;defective circuit breakers should be repaired

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, oil, hoses AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS confined to reel compartment PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 859

Ireland Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred along No. 3 entry during maintenance shift when improperly secured hydraulic control valve on a continuous miner contacted energized trolley wire. Hydraulic oil spillage ignited engulfing the machine in flame. Cutout switch pulled and extinguishers and rock dust tried. Water brought up and fire practically extinguished by 1:30 P.M. Materials outloaded. Barr, R.E., Williams, F.A., Davis, R.T., MESA Morgantown.

DATE 7/26/69 TIME 11:05A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 11,700 TPD 620/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - M. Matkovich Foreman - N.L. Becker Saf. Dir. - W. Barack

CAUSE hydraulic control valve uncovered and forced into contact with trolley wire DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. faulty extinguisher and rock dust tried; water doused the fire area for 24 hrs. PREV. insufficient caution in moving equipment; fire extinguisher not maintained; power should be deenergized when equipment moved

RESC. all men not fighting the fire removed

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, insulation, hyd. fluid, coal, dust AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS damage to or loss of continuous miner PROD. LOSS None - mine idle

No. 860

Itmann No. 3 Mine

Report of Investigation of a Coal Mine (Power-Cable) Fire

Fire occurred when single conductor insulated cables used as a jumper in the negative trolley circuit of the direct current system became overloaded due to short circuit on the system. Deenergization of the circuit immediately extinguished the fire. Collier, Jerry W., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/28/69 TIME 2:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Itmann, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Itmann Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Clyde Byrd Foreman - Eugene Graham

CAUSE single conductor cables became overheated due to short circuit on system of direct current system DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. deenergization of circuit resulted in immediate extinguishment of fire PREV. trolley and trolley feeder wires should be provided with cutout switches; underground power wires and cables need adequate current carrying capacity

RESC. 57 men in mine were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT deenerization of circuit EFF. Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS none PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 861

No. I-1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire was started by a discarded cigarette into the gob area. It was extinguished with water and rock dust. Burgess, W.R., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 7/28/69 TIME 6:30A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 3 Elkhorn

HT. 32-72 in. SIZE 150 TPD 13/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Ligon, Floyd, Kentucky OWN. Ligon Preparation Co. PERS. Supt. - W.E. Hall Foreman - Glenn Pack

CAUSE discarded cigarette DETECT discovered by foreman while making preshift examination

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust PREV. smoking was permitted in the mine

RESC. No men working underground at time of occurrence

IG. cigarette FUEL gob AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. none

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 862

No. 1 Mine

Mine Fire (Cutting Machine)

Fire occurred when one of the tree of leads to cutting motor became short circuited against the frame of the cutting machine. Arc ignited oil on top side of machine. Power source was disconnected and fire immediately extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers. Harris, O.W., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/1/69 TIME 11:30A DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Warfield

HT. 54 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 34/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Lovely, Martin, Kentucky OWN. Peter Cave Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in tree of leads to cutting motor DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers PREV. frame of electric equipment should be grounded effectively; accumulation of oil on machine; nonflammable fluid not used

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL oil AGENT powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS electrical wiring to cutting motor and one hydraulic hose PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 863

Smith Gap Mine

Leads to pump motor on roof bolter shorted to pump and ignited insulation. The circuit breaker tripped but fire continued. Water was applied to extinguish fire. Clemons, B.W., Stinnette, C.E., MESA Norton, 5 pp.

DATE 8/6/69 TIME 6:50A DUR. 0.75 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Banner

HT. 80 in. SIZE 2250 TPD 66/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Fred Johnson Foreman - Loyal Linkous Saf. Dir. - James Fleming

CAUSE leads to pump motor short circuited to pump - ignited insulation and hydraulic hoses DETECT flames observed by bolter operator

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust and dry chemicals applied immediately after breaker tripped unsuccessfully; water later applied successfully PREV. wiring not protected from physical damage; circuit breakers too large; overload relays on machine improperly set

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 864

Sewell No. 1 Mine

Report of Investigation of Coal Mine (Power Cable) Fire

High voltage cable fire occurred as a result of electrical fault in the system. Several splices in the cable revealed they were poorly made. System was reenergized by reclosing the circuit breaker and since the grounding circuit was not continuous, the cable fault became of a phase to phase nature causing severe arcing. Disconnecting fuse did open and fire was extinguished. Collier, Jerry W., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 8/8/69 TIME 8:20A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Marybill, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Sewell Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE electrical fault in high voltage system DETECT section crew saw severe arcing in cable

EXT. EFF. disconnecting fuse opened when fire occurred PREV. high voltage cable splices poorly made; high voltage cable fault not located & cleared before system was reenergized

RESC. No evacuation - 70 men in mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT fuse opened EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 75' of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 865

East Diamond Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire resulted when roof fall dislodged energized trolley wire causing high resistance electrical fault between the trolley wire and wooden crossbars and rails of the track. Crossbars were ignited. Trolley wire was energized inadvertently. Fire extinguished with dry chemicals and water. Roberts, F.E., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/18/69 TIME 9:00A DUR. 6½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 60 in. SIZE 6500 TPD 286 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Austin Trammel Foreman - Otho Alexander

CAUSE roof fall dislodged energized trolley wire causing electrical fault DETECT dense smoke encountered by federal coal mine inspector, fire boss & safety committeeman on regular inspection

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. power circuits underground should be deenergized when not in use; roofs should be supported adequately

RESC. men were evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL wooden crossbars AGENT water, powder EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 866

Colver Mine

Mine Fire

Fire occurred when trailing cable short circuited to the conveyor frame and ignited the rubber belt. Fire was promptly extinguished by water. Devett, W.R., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/19/69 TIME 11:50A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Colver, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable DETECT observed by beltman

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. no recommendations made

RESC. no evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL rubber belt AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minor damage to cables and belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 867

Robinson Mine

Report of Coal Mine Conveyor Belt Fire

Fire started when conveyor belting was ignited at an overheated bottom roller. Overheating of the roller was a result of improper design that did not allow adequate clearance between the end of the moving rollers and its hangers. Fire extinguished with water. Benoksy, W.S., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 8/25/69 TIME 5:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 66 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 122 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Robinson, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Florence Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Michael Rocker Foreman - E. Yankuskie

CAUSE overheating of a bottom roller DETECT acting assistant foreman encountered dense smoke

EXT. EFF. water PREV. improper design of bottom roller - suitable hangers were installed for the bottom rollers & no recommendations were made

RESC. Men were evacuated from the mine

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 10' of belt and a bottom roller PROD. LOSS NS

No. 868

Lady Dunn No. 105 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when pump motor stalled or failed to start and the increased current overheated the motor windings and motor cable to the extent that combustible materials were ignited. Fire extinguished with fire extinguishers and water. DeWeese, R.C., Lester, Cecil, HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 9/10/69 TIME 9:00P DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas & Powellton

HT. 32-54 in. SIZE 2400 TPD 162/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Cannelton, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Cannelton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - N.G. Clonch Foreman - Edward Keffer Saf. Dir. - Alvin Grounds

CAUSE pump motor stalled & increased current overheated motor windings & motor cable igniting combustible materials DETECT by boom operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water PREV. electric equipment should be grounded effectively; company officials did not immediately go to the scene;

RESC. men were evacuated from the mine

IG. friction FUEL coal, hoses, insulation, wires AGENT water extinguishers EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. pump motor

EQUIP. LOSS pump motor, wires, cables and hydraulic hoses PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 869

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Series of Belt Conveyor Fires

A piece of rock had lodged at the discharge point causing coal to pile up and stall the belt drive causing friction between stalled belt and belt conveyor drive rollers causing the fire. Flame not visible, only smoke; and was extinguished with water. Hatfield, Tennis H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/10/69 TIME 2:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 4300 TPD 203/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.D. McDonald Saf. Dir. - Paul Meek

CAUSE friction between stalled conveyor belt and belt conveyor drive rollers DETECT shuttle car operator smelled something burning and alerted others

EXT. EFF. water PREV. worn belting needed replacing; take up devices not installed in each belt; worn & stuck rollers not replaced or repaired

RESC. no evacuation

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 870

Loveridge Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Gas emitting from feeders at the face was ignited by frictional sparks created by cutting of continuous miner while mining in an area containing numerous pyritic intrusions. Attempts to control and extinguish the fire by direct means were unsuccessful and fire area was sealed. One man was treated for smoke inhalation. McManus, M.W., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 9/23/69 TIME 4:45A DUR. 7¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 12,500 TPD 434/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Fairview, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Mountaineer Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H.K. Franklin Saf. Dir. - Eugene Lieving

CAUSE UNK DETECT loading machine operator observed flames

EXT. EFF. water, dry chemical extinguishers, foam, rock dust and sealing PREV. no recommendations made until mine reopened

RESC. 116 men in the mine were evacuated - 2 men exposed to smoke inhalation and one was taken to the hospital, treated and released

IG. friction FUEL gas AGENT water, powder, rock dust, foam, seals EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. No, No, No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS UNK PROD. LOSS. 5 days

No. 871

Moss No. 3 Mine

Conveyor belt roller fouled with large rock that fell off of conveyor. Resultant friction caused smoldering fire which was extinguished with water. 5 pp.

DATE 8/23/69 TIME 11:45A DUR. 0.50 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 180 in. SIZE 5700 TPD 283/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Douglas Harris Foreman - Frank Phillips

CAUSE rock fell off of conveyor belt and fouled roller; resultant friction caused smoldering fire DETECT foreman noticed smoke coming out of belt portal

EXT. EFF. 20-lb. fire extinguisher ineffective; water effective PREV. too large a rock loaded on belt; insufficient rock dust in belt way; fire resistant belts used

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, powder EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 872

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Series of Belt Conveyor Fires

Conveyor belt stalled and belt continued to run creating small amount of smoke. Coal spillage caused belt to stall and slip switch did not open the control circuit. Switch failed to operate due to dirt and oil. Apparently no flames visible, only smoke observed. Hatfield, Tennis H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/24/69 TIME 3:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 4300 TPD 203/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.D. McDonald Saf. Dir. - Paul Meek

CAUSE friction between stalled conveyor belt and belt conveyor drive rollers DETECT smoke encountered by section crew

EXT. EFF. only small amount of smoke was noted - apparently burned itself out PREV. worn belting needed replacing; take up devices needed to be installed in each belt; worn & stuck rollers not replaced or repaired; slip switch didn't operate

RESC. No evaucation

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT burned out EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 873

No. 1 Mine

Investigation of Electrical Distribution Box Fire

Fire occurred as a result of a breakdown of insulation inside the distribution box causing short circuit to occur between the positive circuit and grounded frame of the box. Intensity of flame quickly decreased and fire extinguished with rock dust in 5 minutes. Vallina, J.O., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 9/26/69 TIME 7:15A DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Summersville, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Peerless Eagle Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Wright

CAUSE short circuit between positive circuit and grounded frame of distribution box DETECT observed by shuttle car operator as circuit breaker was energized

EXT. EFF. rock dust PREV. circuit breaker did not trip instaneously; distribution boxes should be frequently inspected

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL distribution box AGENT rock dust EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS power distribution box PROD. LOSS NS

No. 874

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Series of Belt Conveyor Fires

Conveyor belt stalled as a result of coal spillage at belt tailpiece, and belt drive continued operating causing friction causing smoke. Switch slip failed to operate due to dirt accumulated in the switch. Drive motor was stopped and fire/smoke dissipated. Hatfield, Tennis H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/1/69 TIME 10:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 4300 TPD 203/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.D. McDonald Saf. Dir. - Paul Meek

CAUSE conveyor belt stalled and belt drive still operated DETECT smoke detected by section crew

EXT. EFF. drive motor stopped PREV. slip switch didn't operate due to dirt on it; worn belting not replaced; worn and stuck rollers not replaced or repaired

RESC. No evacuation

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT drive motor stopped, EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. mining resumed after new slip switch installed

---

No. 875

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Shuttle Car Fire

Fire occurred when short circuit developed between the conductors of the trailing cable spooled on the reel of shuttle car as it was being trammed and arc ignited combustible materials. Power was removed and fire fought and extinguished with rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers and water. Hatfield, Tennis H., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/3/69 TIME 1:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 46-90 in. SIZE 4300 TPD 203/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.D. McDonald Saf. Dir. - Paul Meek

CAUSE short circuit between conductors of trailing cable DETECT observed by shuttle car operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. fuses used as short circuit protection for trailing cables should be of proper rating; damaged trailing cables should be replaced promptly

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, dust, belt, hoses AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS operations resumed immediately after fire was extinguished

No. 876

No. 19 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on cutting machine when tree of leads from junction box to cutting motor grounded against the right boom swing cylinder and arc ignited combustible materials. Temporary fire seal erected and an opening made in it and foam forced through it. Fire extinguished by the foam and area then cooled down with water. Stinnette, C.E., Franks, R.W., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 10/8/69 TIME 11:00A DUR. 24½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Banner

HT. 40 in. SIZE 250 TPD 22/1 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Banner, Wise, Virginia OWN. Bullion Hollow Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Supt. - W.V. Moore Foreman - J.D. Fannon

CAUSE tree of leads from junction box to cutting motor grounded against the right boom swing cylinder DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguisher, temporary fire seal erected, foam, area cooled with water PREV. combustible materials on machine; electric equipment should be frame grounded effectively

RESC. Men evacuated to the surface

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil, hyd. hoses AGENT water, powder, foam, seal EFF. Yes, No, Yes, Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cutting machine PROD. LOSS. 2 days

No. 877

No. 18-L Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire resulted from bridging a feeder wire cutout switch with a section of trailing cable which was insufficient in size to carry electrical current demands; heat that was generated ignited insulation and conveyor belting. Fire extinguished with rock dust and water. Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 10/9/69 TIME 10:00A DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Cedar Grove

HT. 31 in. SIZE 300 TPD 36/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stirrat, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Bernie Walsh Foreman - S. Petrosky, Jr.

CAUSE trailing cable insulation caught fire due to being insufficient in size to carry current requirements DETECT smoke in air current encountered by utilitymen

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. cutout switch insufficient in size to carry electrical current demands; switch not replaced or repaired when fault occurred

RESC. No evacuation

IG. heat FUEL insulation, belt AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS cutout switch PROD. LOSS operations resumed after fire extinguished

No. 878

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire occurred as a result of electrical arcing at a splice in negative power feeder while drawing a high current. Fire was of electrical arcing only and burned itself out. Heavy smoke was created for a short period of time. Hatfield, T.H., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 10/14/69 TIME 12:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 44 in. SIZE 750 TPD 30/2 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Rita, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Chafin Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ben Adkins Foreman - Ernest Mooney

CAUSE electrical arcing at a splice in negative power feeder while drawing a high current DETECT mechanic and utilityman smelled smoke while repairing a water line

EXT. EFF. burned itself out (electrical arcing only) PREV. splices should be strong with adequate electrical conductivity & splices in power conductors should be kept to a minimum

RESC. Men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL feeder wires AGENT burned out EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS feeder wire PROD. LOSS. approximately 1 hr. 45 minutes

---

No. 879

Robinson Run No. 95 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire resulted when a roof fall caused metal channel used for roof support to contact negative trolley wire and feeder cable causing short circuit. Contributing was absence of automatic circuit breakers between substations. Water extinguished fire quickly. Shay, P.M., Phillips, John Paul, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/28/69 TIME 4:20A DUR. 40 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72-92 in. SIZE 6500 TPD 240/3 Emp. METH. Cont.

LOC. Lumberport, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Mountaineer Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.D. Shockey

CAUSE roof fall caused metal channel to contact negative trolley wire & feeder cable causing a short circuit DETECT locomotive operators discovered smoke emitting from a fall

EXT. EFF. water PREV. automatic circuit breakers should be installed at suitable locations

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL wires AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 25' of waterline PROD. LOSS NS

No. 880

Hampton No. 4 Mine

Power Cable Fire

Fire occurred as a result of electrical fault in the cable conducting alternating-current power to the belt drive motor at the belt conveyor drive power center. Fire burned itself out. Collier, Jerry W., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 10/30/69 TIME 10:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert Grant

CAUSE electrical fault in cable conducting alternating current power to the belt drive motor DETECT smoke encountered by section foreman and his crew

EXT. EFF. fire burned out by itself PREV. underground power wires and cables should have adequate current carrying capacity

RESC. No evacuation - 30 men in mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT burned out EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 6 inches of cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 881

Consol No. 20 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire occurred on main west haulageway and was discovered by pumpman on patrol who encountered smoke. Pumper deenergized section power. Section foreman's vehicle stopped and he and pumper found the fire. Buckets of water were thrown on smoldering material; the only indication of a fire was a little smoke. McManus, M.W., Phillips, J.P., MESA Morgantown, 4 pp.

DATE 11/11/69 TIME 1:50P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3600 TPD 153/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Four States, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.L. Jordan

CAUSE roof fall dislodged steel beams into contact with trolley wire and feeder cable DETECT by pumper and section foreman on patrol

EXT. EFF. a couple buckets of water were thrown on smoldering material PREV. automatic circuit breakers between substations indicated; current capacity of mine circuits should be increased

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 35' of cable, 3 H-beams, 1 trolley-wire guard PROD. LOSS None - mine idle

No. 882

No. 1 Mine

Report on Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire occurred when a jumper cable from the trolley feeder wire lying on the mine floor developed high-resistance fault and ignited a wooden shuttle car ramp. Contents of fire extinguishers, water and rock dust were applied to fire and put it out. Sorrel, Hudson, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/22/69 TIME 10:30A DUR. 6 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 160 TPD, 15 Emp. METH. NS

LOC. Hebbardsville, Henderson, Kentucky OWN. Henderson Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Paul Ritchie

CAUSE fault in a jumper cable DETECT employees on surface making repairs to tipple observed smoke issuing from return air shaft

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. jumper cables should have suitable short circuit protection

RESC. No men in mine when fire discovered

IG. electrical FUEL wooden ramp AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS jumper cable and shuttle car dumping ramp PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 883

Sewell No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire started from short circuit that occurred when shuttle car ran over trailing cable of roof bolter and arc ignited combustible materials. Trailing cables were deenergized and fire fought direct with and extinguished with water. Casteel, Fred T., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/2/69 TIME 2:55A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Sewell

HT. 40-72 in. SIZE 2425 TPD, 222/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Marybill, Nicholas, W. Virginia OWN. Sewell Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Cecil Linger, Saf. Dir. - Homer Gamble

CAUSE short circuit when shuttle car ran over trailing cable of roof bolter DETECT noticed by shuttle car operator

EXT. EFF. water PREV. trailing cable not protected from mobile equipment

RESC. No evacuation - 70 men in mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, wiring, hyd. hoses AGENT water EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to shuttle car PROD. LOSS NS

No. 884

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred when conductors of the tree of leads to cutting motor on cutting machine came in contact at a splice and arc ignited combustible materials. Fire could not be fought direct due to dense smoke, falling roof and danger of detonation of supply of detonators and explosives located near the fire. Fire area was sealed and reopened on 1/7/70. Harris, O.W., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 12/11/69 TIME 5:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Elkhorn No. 2

HT. 52 in. SIZE 500 TPD 18/2 Emp. METH. Scoops

LOC. Raccoon, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Standard Sign and Signal Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - V. Bowling

CAUSE electrical fault occurred in tree of leads leading to the cutting motor DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust, seals PREV. combustible materials on machine; explosives & detonators too close to working faces; splices need to be well insulated; equipment should be frame grounded effectively

RESC. Men were evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil, hyd. hoses AGENT rock dust, powder, seals EQUIP. cutter

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cutting machine PROD. LOSS. Withdrawal Order annulled 1/7/70

No. 885

Stanaford No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred as a result of a short circuit in power conductors at vulcanized splice in trailing cable on reel of cutting machine. Trailing cable removed from power source; circuit breaker on trailing cable did not operate properly. Fire extinguished with fire extinguishers rock dust and water. Hambric, Jr., C.D., Vallina, Jr., J.O., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 12/17/69 TIME 8:00P DUR. 1¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Beckley

HT. 60 in. SIZE 875 TPD 127/3 Emp. METH. Conv.

LOC. Stanaford, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Winding Gulf Coals, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Billy Richmond Foreman - Robert L. Cook

CAUSE short circuit in power conductors at vulcanized splice in trailing cable on the reel DETECT observed by cutting machine operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, water PREV. circuit breaker did not operate properly; fire wall should be installed between cable reel and hydraulic components

RESC. No evacuation - 42 men in mine

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS electrical and hydraulic components of cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 886

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Oil Fire

Oil seepage from roof bolt holes in roof created a film of oil on the mine floor and was ignited by frictional sparks created by cutterhead bits of continuous mining machine striking a rock spar in the floor. Flame confined to small area and extinguished promptly with a fire extinguisher and rock dust. Bazo, William, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 1/2/70 TIME 5:30P DUR. 1-2 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Castlegate "B"

HT. 7-15' SIZE 1300 TPD 52/2 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 41.5 PROD. 3601

LOC. Helper, Carbon, Utah OWN. Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - L. Vuksinick Foreman - A. Skriner, Jr.

CAUSE frictional sparks created by cutting head bits of the continuous miner DETECT observed by continuous miner operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. oil film was on floor

RESC. No evacuation

IG. friction FUEL oil AGENT rock dust, extinguisher EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 887

Algoma No. 12 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Machinery Fire

Fire caused when short circuit occurred at a splice in tree of leads to cutting motor of cutting machine and arc ignited coal dust and oil spillage. Gaspersich, Sylvester, Filipek, Joseph J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/5/70 TIME 11:25P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 12

HT. 60 in. SIZE 800 TPD 34/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 30.5 PROD. 12474

LOC. Algoma, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. United Pocahontas Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - Ralph Hunt Foreman - Robert Anderson

CAUSE short circuit in splice in tree of leads to cutting motor DETECT observed by cutting machine operator and helper

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water, fire extinguishers PREV. combustible materials on machine; circuit breaker box lacked ground trip relay; defective splice had been noted previously but not fixed

RESC. No evacuation - 12 men in mine who helped fight fire

IG. electrical FUEL dust, oil AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS electric wiring, hydraulic components and heat damage to cutting and tramming motors PROD. LOSS NS

No. 888

Geneva Mine

Report of Coal Mine Conveyor Belt Fire

Fire discovered at No. 3 belt drive when mechanical take-up device failed resulting in belt slippage which ignited lagging and spilled coal. Electrician discovered smoke and telephoned foreman. Inspectors, superintendent arrived and began fighting the fire, in an enclosed wood and steel structure. Bishop, J.L., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 1/12/70 TIME 2:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 14' SIZE 3600 TPD 180/2 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 34.9 PROD. 836

LOC. Horse Canyon, Emery, Utah OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Joe Harvey Foreman - Robert Yourston

CAUSE mechanical take up device on belt drive failed resulting in belt slippage which ignited lagging and coal DETECT by electrician passing area

EXT. EFF. rock dust and extinguishers applied initially to no avail; water hose connected and applied PREV. good

RESC. men withdrawn promptly

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS lagging on drive pulley & 10' of belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 889

Shoemaker # 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A fire was discovered inby the main portal of this mine. USBM authorities were only aware of the fire by learning of it at a neighboring mine during a routine inspection. The fire was extinguished by 2/13/70. Stewart, W.R., Ison, W.D., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 1/30/70 TIME NS DUR. 14 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 36-60 in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.9 PROD. 476

LOC. Calvin, Lee, Virginia OWN. Shoemaker Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE trespassers entered unsealed portals and burned insulation off the feeder cables DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. direct application of water (hampered by roof fall) PREV. None

RESC. NS

IG. vandalism FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 890

Lucerne No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire of undetermined origin discovered on top of corrugated Q deck located over coal storage bin at bottom of slope entry in mine. Fire confined to a small area and was extinguished by water in 10 minutes. Smetana, S.J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/31/70 TIME 12:30A DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 24.2
PROD. 6111

LOC. Homer City, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Helvetia Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT smoke detected by assistant foreman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. None

RESC. No evacuation - 53 men underground

IG. UNK FUEL dust AGENT water EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 891

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Explosion, Sealing & Recovery Operations

Fire of undetermined origin discovered when mine was idle. Three attempts to reach the fire area were unsuccessful. Small ignition or explosion occurred and it was decided to erect seals. Exact cause of fire not determined due to extensive roof falls and dangerous roof in the area. Sample, Charles H., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 2/8/70 TIME 2:00P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kellioka

HT. 35 in. SIZE 400 20/2 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 37.7
PROD. 6861

LOC. Evarts, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Lupton Coal Company PERS. Operator - Garfield McLain

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by operator

EXT. EFF. sealing - could not reach fire area to fight by direct means PREV. smoking was permitted; power to intercom system was left on when mine was idle; defective belt rollers

RESC. No men underground when fire was discovered

IG. UNK FUEL belt, other combustible materials AGENT sealing EQUIP. belt
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS one belt conveyor drive unit; one tailpiece; a power center; 500' of belt conveyor PROD. LOSS Mine Fire Order annulled 4/27/70

No. 892

Ireland Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Shuttle Car) Fire

Fire occurred on shuttle car caused by an improperly made splice in the trailing cable which ignited combustible materials. One hundred feet of trailing cable pulled from the reel before it pulled apart. Water used to extinguish fire. Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 2/10/70 TIME 8:55P DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 11,650 TPD 686/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 30.5 PROD. 4805

LOC. Moundsville, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G. Schneider Foreman - J.M. Stock

CAUSE conductors of improperly made cable splice came in contact with each other creating an arc DETECT observed by section foreman & a mechanic

EXT. EFF. water PREV. combustible materials on machine; fire resistant fluid not used;

RESC. No evacuation - 70 men in mine at fire area

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust oil, grease AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car damaged PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 893

Crown Mine

Report on Coal Mine Electrical Fire

Fire initiated by a makeshift resistance heater coming in contact with wooden backwall of a shelter hole. The heater, coupled directly to power source, was left energized and unattended. Fire was extinguished by direct application of water. Sakovich, Mike, HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 2/16/70 TIME 7:30P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 8500 TPD 349 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 39.1 PROD. 2206

LOC. Farmersville, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Freeman Coal Mining Corp. PERS. Supt. - William Burke

CAUSE heater contacting the wooden backwall of shelter hole DETECT smoke detected by a bottom cager while storing loaded supply cars

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire extinguishers, water PREV. heater coupled direct to power source was left energized and unattended; heaters should be used only in fireproof structure

RESC. Men evacuated from the mine

IG. heater FUEL wood, coal AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS wooden backwall of shelter hole PROD. LOSS NS

No. 894

Blacksville No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Urethane Foam) Ignition

Ignition of urethane foam applied on the roof and ribs occurred. Ignition caused by short circuit caused by shuttle car running over a temporary splice in loading machine trailing cable. Power was deenergized and fire extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers and water. Shaffer, Carl J., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 2/25/70 TIME 6:05A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 3400 TPD 175/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 10160

LOC. Blacksville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - D.D. Eyer Foreman - Gene Hare

CAUSE improperly applied urethane foam was ignited from short circuit when shuttle car ran over splice in loading machine trailing cable DETECT observed by shuttle car operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. trailing cable placed where it could be run over; urethane foam should not be applied to roof and ribs in same areas

RESC. Men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, urethane foam AGENT water, powder EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car seats, 50' of insulation and a damaged conduit for shuttle car headlight PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 895

Segco No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Acetylene Gas Cylinder) Fire

Fire caused when burning safety lamp ignited the acetylene gas escaping from the valve of the acetylene cylinder. Electrician received burn on his hand. Fire extinguished quickly with dry chemical extinguishers. Meadows, W.H., Farris, J.D., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/5/70 TIME 3:30A DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Montevallo

HT. 64 in. SIZE 2075 TPD 195/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.5 PROD. 338

LOC. Brantleyville, Shelby, Alabama OWN. Southern Electric Generating Company PERS. Foreman - A.R. Tingle

CAUSE burning safety lamp ignited acetylene gas escaping from valve of acetylene cylinder DETECT immediately observed by electrician operating the acetylene gas cylinder

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers (dry chemical) PREV. flame safety lamp too close to acetylene cylinder; employees should be properly trained and skilled in use of gas cylinder

RESC. No evacuation - electrician received second degree burns on back of right hand

IG. electrical FUEL gas AGENT powder EQUIP. gas cylinder

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS gages, hose, oxygen and acetylene cylinders PROD. LOSS NS

No. 896

Moss No. 3 Mine

Shuttle car broke down and while operator was going to nip station to remove power, excess cable on reel overheated and ignited the cable insulation. An automatic fire suppression failed to operate automatically or manually. Power removed; area evacuated and 3 men returned to extinguish fire with water. O'Bryan, M., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 3/16/70 TIME 7:30A DUR. 1.25 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 180 in. SIZE 5600 TPD 288/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 30.3 PROD. 4134

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - C. Couch

CAUSE excess cable on reel overheated and ignited insulation DETECT operator returned to shuttle car and observed fire

EXT. EFF. operator activated installed fire suppression system which failed to operate; power removed; crew evacuated; 3 men returned and applied water PREV. excess cable on reel; cable was fire resistant; inadequate circuit breaker protection

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 897

No. 31 Mine

Report of Oxyacetylene Fire & Explosion

Fire and explosion originating at the valves on a set of oxygen and acetylene tanks occurred while the valves were being opened. Electrician received burns on hands and face. Explosion occurred and when dust subsided from the explosion, no evidence of fire was found and crew resumed work. Collier, J.W., Sanford, D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/25/70 TIME 9:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Winifrede

HT. 44 in. SIZE 1600 TPD 42/3 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 37.7 PROD. 6386

LOC. Winifrede, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - R. Smith Foreman - J. Allport Saf. Dir. - G. Kincaid

CAUSE UNK DETECT maintenance man saw flame

EXT. EFF. burned itself out PREV. combustible materials on regulators; employees should be well trained in use of working with oxygen & acetylene

RESC. No evacuation - electrician received burns on left hand and face

IG. electrical FUEL oxygen and acetylene tanks AGENT burned out EFF. Yes EQUIP. oxygene and acetylene tanks

EQUIP. LOSS confined to oxyacetylene equipment PROD. LOSS NS

No. 898

Segco No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Electrical Machinery Fire

Fire occurred as a result of a short circuit in temporary splice in cutting machine trailing cable on the reel and some undetected smoldering fire rekindled between the 2nd and 3rd shift. Rock dust immediately extinguished first fire and water used to extinguish fire after it had rekindled. Shoemaker, J.F., Melhorn, H.E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 3/26/70 TIME 12:15A DUR. 1¼ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Montevallo

HT. 64 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 202/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.5 PROD. 338

LOC. Brantleyville, Shelby, Alabama OWN. Southern Electric Generating Co. PERS. Supt. - Paul Busby Foreman - Arnold Tingle

CAUSE short circuit in temporary splice in trailing cable DETECT machine fire discovered by 3rd shift repair crew

EXT. EFF. rock dust, water PREV. fire not completely extinguished & rekindled

RESC. No evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. hoses AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS cutting machine hydraulic hoses, electrical conduit and 8 rounds of trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 899

Robinson Run No. 95 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Fire was discovered in mine; cause could not be determined. Attempts to fight fire direct with water was unsuccessful as waterline separated due to heat or roof fall. Seals were erected during which time 3 explosions occurred which forced everyone to the surface and the entire mine was then sealed on the surface. Fumich, A.J., McManus, M.W., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 4/11/70 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 92 in. SIZE 6500 TPD 240/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 4529

LOC. Lumberport, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Mountaineer Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.D. Shockey Foreman - Tony Gemondo Saf. Dir. - Eugene Lieving

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by locomotive operator

EXT. EFF. water, seals PREV. No recommendations

RESC. men in mine were evacuated

IG. UNK FUEL UNK AGENT water, seals EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. UNK

EQUIP. LOSS UNK PROD. LOSS NS

No. 899-b

Robinson Run No. 95 Mine

Final Report of Coal Mine Fire & Recovery Operations

Mine was recovered in 76 shifts by taking down seals, exploring fire area, re-establishing ventilation to a loading point and loading out fallen material, some of which had to be quenched. Withdrawal Order annulled 10/30/70. Marshalek, J., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 13 pp.

DATE 4/11/70 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 92 in. SIZE NS METH. Cont. VOL.
PROD. 4529

LOC. Lumberport, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.D. Shockey
Foreman - Tony Gemondo
Saf. Dir. - Eugene S. Lieving

CAUSE either dislodged trolley wire contacted locomotive frame, or locomotive controller left in first position and intense resistance heat ignited top coal DETECT discovered by fire boss

EXT. EFF. direct fighting unsuccessful; mine sealed from the surface after several explosions PREV. lack of adequate circuit protection in the d.c. power system; unattended locomotives should be deenergized & left in neutral

RESC. men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust timber, coal, AGENT water, foam, seal liquid nitrogen EQUIP. utility vehicle
EFF. No, Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS locomotive seriously damaged PROD. LOSS. until 10/30/70

No. 900

Olga Mines

Report of Fatal Mine Fire (Smoke) Accident

High resistance fault occurred in connection box on loading machine. Cable was jerked on to open circuit and cable forced from connection box and nips removed. This extinguished the fire but smoke was dense and one man (repairman) died while trying to escape the smoke as he elected to travel out a different route than the others. Gaspersich, Sylvester, Spicer, J.L., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 4/24/70 TIME 12:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 4 Pocahontas

HT. 58 in. SIZE 6300 TPD 258/2 Emp. METH. Cont. and Long. VOL. 35.0
PROD. 12474

LOC. Coalwood, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Olga Coal Mines PERS. Supt. - Homer Hickam
Foreman - W. Marshall
Saf. Dir. - James Parrot

CAUSE high resistance fault in connection box on loading machine DETECT observed by loading machine operator

EXT. EFF. cable pulled from connection box and nips removed PREV. little slack in cable which initiated fault; adequate short circuit protection not on circuit breaker

RESC. Men retreated to fresh air - one elected to travel a different route and died from smoke inhalation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT nips removed EQUIP. loader
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 901

Joanne Mine (New Mine Shaft)

Report of Coal Mine Shaft Sinking Fire

Fire occurred in coalbed after 40 charged boreholes were fired simultaneously. Fire was extinguished by flooding the bottom of the shaft and 10 tons of rock dust also dropped into the shaft. Fanok, P.N., McManus, M.W., MESA Morgantown, 5 pp.

DATE 5/15/70 TIME 3:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 31/3 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 35.0
PROD. 6905

LOC. Rachel, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - J. McNamarra
Foreman - G. McCoy
Saf. Dir. - C.D. Shaffer

CAUSE fired shot or series of shots which were overburdened and/or underburdened ignited gas emitting from feeders DETECT men being lowered into shaft when they encountered smoke

EXT. EFF. water (flooding) and rock dust PREV. ventilating fan was stopped during blasting; examinations for fire should be made after blasting operations

RESC. Men evacuated to the surface

IG. explosives FUEL gas, coal, explosives AGENT water, rock dust EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. approximately 6 days

No. 902

Robena (Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4) Mine

Report of an Investigation of an Electrical Fire

Two men patrolling the mine on an idle day noted electrical flickering, notified surface, deenergized section power and put fire burning under roof fall out with contents of a fire extinguisher. Water was applied to cool the hot material. Noon, J.A., Shannon, J.B., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/23/70 TIME 5:45P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 35.2
PROD. 7474

LOC. Greensboro & Carmichaels, Greene County, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE energized trolley wire dislodged into contact with rail by roof fall DETECT examiner saw lights dim and then go out

EXT. EFF. fire extinguisher put fire out PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, timber, switch AGENT CO2 EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS disconnect switch handle; switch block; guard board PROD. LOSS None

No. 903

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Night foreman discovered fire under roof fall (while making routine examination) in a working section. He organized fire fighting activities and water was soon played on the fire, which was judged out by 8:00 A.M. Reid, R.H., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 5/27/70 TIME 4:00A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6200 TPD 307/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.2 PROD. 7474

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - M.M. Fitzwater, Jr. Foreman - G.J. Cerjanec Saf. Dir. - Alex Kott

CAUSE trolley wire dislodged into contact with rail by roof fall DETECT by night foreman on routine inspection

EXT. EFF. power deenergized and water hooked up PREV. d.c. circuits should be deenergized when not in use; c.b. require lower setting

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 904

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred 70 feet outby the face when a short circuit ignited trailing cable on a shuttle car reel. Operator went to disconnect nip but found circuit breaker open. He returned to car and found fire had spread. He notified others and fire fighting equipment was brought up. The fire was out by 6:30 P.M. Begley, J.P., Greenlee, D.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 5/28/70 TIME 1:45P DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Hazard No. 4

HT. 42-48 in. SIZE 200 TPD 109/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 38.1 PROD. 2851

LOC. Avawam, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Perry County Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Edward Whitaker

CAUSE short circuit in overheated trailing cable DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. overheating cables should be replaced and splices should be adequate for proper conductivity

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS shuttle car reel, trailing cable, rubber tire, hydraulic hoses & pump & wiring PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 905

Jean Mine

Interim Report of Mine Fire & Sealing Operations

Mine had been sealed at portal by 5/30/70. Fire had originated in main south belt conveyor entry. Superintendent found burning material on conveyor. He organized evacuation to the surface. No direct fighting was attempted. Back-up seals were required in the manway and fan entries as originals leaked. Barr, R.E., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/29/70 TIME 2:30P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 52 in. SIZE 325 TPD 12/1 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 41.0 PROD. 5170

LOC. Bethesda, Belmont, Ohio OWN. C-R-N Mining, Inc. PERS. Supt. - T.T. Abbott Foreman - T.T. Abbott

CAUSE UNK DETECT by superintendent during routine examination

EXT. EFF. mine sealed PREV. NS

RESC. all men evacuated out of mine

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. complete

No. 906

Consol No. 20 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred in the main haulageway 4000' inby the shaft when 3 trolley hangers became dislodged and contacted roof drilling machine - arcing ignited hydraulic hose and oil. C.B.'s were opened; shift foreman notified and contents of ABC fire extinguisher and rock dust applied. Fumich, A.J., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 6/6/70 TIME 9:20P DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4900 TPD 193/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 6905

LOC. Four States, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.L. Jordan Foreman - J. Emmell Saf. Dir. - H. Floyd

CAUSE trolley wire fell on roof drilling machine DETECT immediately by roof bolter

EXT. EFF. ABC fire extinguisher and rock dust applied PREV. hangers need to be inspected; rubber should be placed on machine operating under trolley wire

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. bolter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some hydraulic hose PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 907

Shannopin Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Locomotive) Fire

Fault occurred in the vicinity of contactors of the lead locomotive of a freshly coupled trip; trolley shoe fused so that disconnect could not be effected. Operator ran to phone and dispatcher deenergized mine electrical system. Maintenance foreman took contactor cover off and fire was fought with CO2 and rock dust. Water used to cool hot metal. Rudolph, E.M., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 6/12/70 TIME 10:50A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6950 TPD 428/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.2 PROD. 7474

LOC. Bobtown, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Alex Bacho Foreman - Frank Wozniak Saf. Dir. - J.M. Blair

CAUSE fault in locomotive contactor DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. operator tried to break trolley wire from pole unsuccessfully; covers removed after power de-energized and CO2 and rock dust applied PREV. power cable from pole to relay should be conduit-enclosed

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT rock dust, CO2 EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS $10 - 15,000 damage to locomotive PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 908

Vesta No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Smoke was seen coming from the crusher floor at the slope bottom and fire was found by foreman at same. He obtained help and dry chemical and CO2 extinguishers were used along with water from nearby line. Young, G.D., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/27-28/1970 TIME 6:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 268 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.1 PROD. 11231

LOC. Vestaburg, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - D. Pritchard Foreman - M. Hauncher Saf. Dir. - A. Smolara

CAUSE segment of crusher drum came loose and clogged conveyor bin which prevented the crusher mechanism to function; V-belts slipped causing sufficient friction to ignite them DETECT by foreman investigating smoke

EXT. EFF. crew obtained dry chemical extinguishers, CO2 extinguishers and hooked water line up PREV. inspections of crusher needed & automatic water-spray system would help

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, CO2, powder EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS 12 V-belts PROD. LOSS NS

No. 909

No. 9 Mine

Electrical Fire

Shuttle car would not tram up 9-15% grade and operator noticed smoke under 1 wheel unit (each individually driven). Operator instructed to proceed to rectifier and pull the plug. Fire was then put out with water. Collier, J.W., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 8/3/70 TIME 10:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 35.0
PROD. 12474

LOC. Filbert, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Harry Harmon
Saf. Dir. - Jim Vilsek

CAUSE overload in shuttle car trailing cable DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and water applied PREV. magna-trip unit of insufficient size

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water EQUIP. shuttle car
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable and hydraulic components PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 910

No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Conveyor Belt) Fire

Second shift foreman on watch duty because of work stoppage saw smoke coming from air shaft. He notified President who sent other foreman to accompany 1st into the mine. They found active fire at belthead and called fire departments of Kermit and Warfield. Hose extended down the slope and water applied until 8/18. Gay, T.W., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 8/7/70 TIME 11:30P DUR. 11 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Gas

HT. 50 in. SIZE 500 TPD 29/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 36.8
PROD. 2050

LOC. Kermit, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. Kermit Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - John Webb
Foreman - Oscar Harmon

CAUSE UNK DETECT by foreman on night watch

EXT. EFF. line brattice directed air while fire dept. hose extended down slope and water applied PREV. coal accumulations on belt structures; bearings require adequate inspection; too much ventilation along conveyor

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, rope, timber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS conveyor belt and accessories PROD. LOSS until 9/30/70

No. 911

Itmann No. 3

Investigation of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Fire discovered in a pump motor 500' outby a face by section foreman after being alerted of smoke by crew. He removed the fuse nip and put the fire out with rock dust. Five of six face crew treated for smoke inhalation. Cullop, W., Collier, J.W., Blankenship, C., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/10/70 TIME 2:00A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 5 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont. VOL. 30.7
PROD. 9271

LOC. Itmann, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Itmann Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Clyde Byrd
Foreman - Carl Worthington

CAUSE short in shunt field of pump motor DETECT by section foreman told of smoke

EXT. EFF. section foreman pulled fuse nip and applied rock dust PREV. overcurrent protection fuses bridged

RESC. Men inby were exposed and brought to hospital after fire extinguished

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EQUIP. pump motor
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to pump motor wiring PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 912

Leatherwood Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred at the face when a short circuit in the trailing cable on the reel of a cutter occurred. Operator ran to nip and notified section foreman. Crew tried to put fire out with dry chemical and rock dust but smoke became dense. More fire fighting equipment obtained, gas masks used, ventilation changed and water hooked up. Linville, R., Beley, J.P., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/10/70 TIME 6:30P DUR. 12 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Leatherwood

HT. 48-60 in. SIZE 4800 TPD 275/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 38.1
PROD. 2851

LOC. Leatherwood, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Blue Diamond Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Earl Forrest
Saf. Dir. - Fred Maggard

CAUSE short circuit in trailing cable due to overloading caused by a poor splice DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. crew tried dry chemical and rock dust until smoke was too dense; ventilation changed and water applied PREV. wrong fuse and no frame grounding (equipment on order); poor splicing

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. cutter
EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS reel, trailing cable, tire, pump, and hoses and wiring PROD. LOSS until 8/13/70

No. 913

Moss No. 3 Mine Portal "D"

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical Machinery) Fire

Trailing cable reel on cutter overheated and ignited. Crew evacuated area and disconnected power. Men using gas masks returned and extinguished fire with water. Harris, G.W., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 8/26/70 TIME 3:00A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thick Tiller

HT. 120 in. SIZE 4800 TPD 286/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 30.3 PROD. 4134

LOC. Duty, Dickenson, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - W.L. Odum Foreman - Arthur Reid Saf. Dir. - J.W. Fleming

CAUSE too much cable on reel caused cable to overheat and ignite insulation DETECT cutter operator returned to cutter and observed flames from reel

EXT. EFF. power disconnected, men in gas masks returned and extinguished fire with water PREV. excess trailing cable not tied off; circuit breaker improperly maintained

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 914

No. 18 Mine

Investigation of Complaint of a Reported Belt-Conveyor Fire

Fire was discovered on a conveyor belt after section foreman noticed smoke at shuttle car dump point. Some men suffered nausea as there were no self-rescuers available. Adams, C.E., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/27/70 TIME 7:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Peerless

HT. 40 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 122/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 2442

LOC. Mahan, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. Riverton Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE coal lodged in transfer point stopped belt while drive roller continued to turn DETECT section foreman noticed smoke at shuttle car dump point

EXT. EFF. NS (belt shut off) PREV. faulty slippage controls

RESC. NS

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT NS EQUIP. belt

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS NS - mine closed 8/13

No. 915

Robena Mine (Nos. 1, 2, 3, &4)

Report of Investigation of Oxygen Regulator Control Valve Fire

Bonder received burns to his hand when, as he opened regulator, flame erupted igniting hoses. His helper obtained a fire extinguisher and applied contents to the fire. Bonder headed outbound with cylinders on locomotive when fire rekindled. He got some rock dust and put the fire out. Young, G.D., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 9/23/70 TIME NS DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont. VOL. 35.2
PROD. 7474

LOC. Greensboro & Carmichaels, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE when regulator was opened, flames erupted and ignited hoses DETECT immediately observed by bonder

EXT. EFF. fire extinguisher applied; rock dust applied PREV. regulator had been checked and rebuilt 8/13/70

RESC. 6 men inby wore self rescuers and made their way out

IG. explosion FUEL gas, hoses AGENT rock dust, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS regulator PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 916

Rainbow No. 7 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Conveyor Belt Fire

Fire discovered Sunday morning at H-belt drive. Last work had been done in the area 11:00 P.M. Saturday night. Section foreman and crew arriving to complete repairs discovered the blaze and using water and extinguishers, put the fire out in several hours. Gabossi, Tony, HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/27/70 TIME 7:00A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 11

HT. 46 in. SIZE 600 TPD 32/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 42.1
PROD. 88

LOC. Quedy, Sweetwater, Wyoming OWN. Gunn-Quely Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - M. Zakotanic, Jr. Foreman - L. Welch

CAUSE hot slag (during cutting) fell between wooden blocks used to elevate the belt head (opinion) DETECT by repair crew

EXT. EFF. water and extinguisher applied after ventilation changes made using brattice cloth and using self-rescuers PREV. adequate supplies; better fire check after welding indicated

RESC. N/A

IG. slag metal FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, powder EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS one wooden block, belt-covered driver pulley and some belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 917

L.S. Wood Mine

Continuous miner cable ignited after cable was pinched and short with resultant arcing occurred. It was quickly extinguished with rock dust and a fire extinguisher. Moschetti, A.C., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 11/19/70 TIME 1:45P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 23.2
PROD. 744

LOC. Redstone, Pitkin, Colorado OWN. Mid Continent Coal and Coke Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE pinched trailing cable shorted igniting methane feeder DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical and rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, methane AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. continuous miner
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trailing cable PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 918

Castle Gate No. 4

Report of Coal Belt Conveyor Fire

One and a half shuttle cars loaded on 1st shift of Monday when #3 slope belt stopped. Foreman sent crew to clean anticipated spillage, but found none. Mechanic proceeded to east entry cross belt control drive and found fire. He notified crew inby and several others helped put the fire out with rock dust, CO2 and chemical extinguishers. Gabossi, Tonny, MESA Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 12/14/70 TIME 1:30A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Castlegate "C"

HT. 7-13' SIZE 1000 TPD 33/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 42.1
PROD. 3601

LOC. Castle Gate, Carbon, Utah OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Samuel Anthony Foreman - Rubin Bera Saf. Dir. - Rex Jewkes

CAUSE friction between drive pulley and the belt DETECT by mechanic checking for cause of belt slippage

EXT. EFF. rock dust, CO2 and chemical extinguishers PREV. adequate equipment; all belts except this one had slippage control

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber AGENT rock dust, CO2, powder EQUIP. belt
EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS short section of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 919

Kings Mine

Mine Fire

Stopping around inactive belt conveyor was ignited by unknown cause. The remaining officials in the mine extinguished the fire with readily available water. Delaney, R., MESA Vincennes, 8 pp.

DATE 12/17/70 TIME 4:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 41.7
PROD. 907

LOC. Princeton, Gibson, Indiana OWN. Kings Station Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - suspect smoking by worker in vicinity DETECT discovered at box check stopping at shift change

EXT. EFF. water PREV. rock dust inadequate along belt haulage entry

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL brattice cloth AGENT water EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS brattice cloth PROD. LOSS. None

No. 920

No. 10 Wisconsin Steel Coal Mine

Report of Coal Mine Electrical Fire

A short caused substation problems which alerted mine personnel to check mine. The mine was removed from network and substation circuit breaker remained closed. A small fire was discovered in the mine and quickly extinguished with water. MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 12/25/70 TIME 3:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 66 in. SIZE 5500 TPD 125/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.4
PROD. 6861

LOC. Benham, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. International Harvester PERS. Supt. - Berchel Caudill Foreman - K. Dixon

CAUSE arcing caused by an electrical fault in high voltage transmission cable DETECT inspection following network electrical problems

EXT. EFF. hand-carried buckets of water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL wood, cable, insulation, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to trailing cable PROD. LOSS several hours

No. 921

Jones Fork Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Fire occurred along main belt conveyor about 800' inby the portal, discovered by fire boss on pre-shift. Fire fighting crew arrived 10:00 P.M. and the fire was put out with water 30 minutes later. Mine had been idle since 12/23 and production was scheduled for 12 midnight 12/27/70. Begley, J.P., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/27/70 TIME 9:00P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 36.9

PROD. 2166

LOC. Lackey, Knott, Kentucky OWN. Beaver Creek Consolidated Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Saf. Dir. - John Collins

CAUSE (opinion) belt started for 45 minutes on Saturday and possibly defective roller ignited the belt and coal dust on it DETECT by fire boss starting pre-shift

EXT. EFF. water applied PREV. belts should be checked after running unwatched & bearing lubrication inadequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL dust, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS some belt PROD. LOSS. None

No. 922

No. 1 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Fire occurred near the face. Possibly a block of coal on a loaded car caught and pulled the power cable causing a defective connection. Fire crew took about ½ hour to extinguish the fire with dry chemical and rock dust. Redin, J.A., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 2/18/71 TIME 7:45A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv. VOL. 40.2

PROD. 1140

LOC. Hyden, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. H.D. Coal Company PERS. NS

CAUSE (opinion) block of coal caught and pulled power cable causing a faulty connection DETECT by crew arriving for work

EXT. EFF. dry chemical and rock dust PREV. cable should be protected from damage

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT rock dust, powder, EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS power cable insulation; portion of wooden brattice PROD. LOSS duration of fire

No. 923

Itmann No. 4

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred in entry near No. 3 belthead. Repairs to the belthead had taken place the previous day and evidently a piece of slag went through the regulator hole in a stopping and smoldered until igniting coal and was found the following morning by repairmen. Water line hooked up and fire put out. Spicer, J.L., Kaylor, J.E., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 3/23/71 TIME 8:10A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 66 in. SIZE 1500 TPD 103/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. PROD. 9271

LOC. Itmann, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Itmann Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - H. Clark Saf. Dir. - L.C. Snyder

CAUSE (opinion) piece of hot metal propelled through crack in stopping DETECT by repairman noticing glare through hole in stopping

EXT. EFF. water hooked up PREV. dilligent search for fire after cutting required

RESC. men inby withdrawn

IG. slag FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. none

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. ½ shift

No. 924

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered by affected crew after fumes bothered stoper operator. He traveled "O" crosscut to 2 entry and found yellow smoke. A confused effort to locate the fire and get all men out of the section contributed to 2 deaths. Fire fought with water from line, boreholes drilled to try and locate trapped men, and then mine was flooded with water and nitrogen. One killed during fire fighting. O'Rourke, Alex, Cupp, Willis E., Bochna, J.S., MESA Denver, 16 pp.

DATE 3/26/71 TIME 10:20A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 3 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 5846 TPD 263/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 35.2 PROD. 7474

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - M.M. Fitzwater Foreman - George J. Cerjanec Saf. Dir. - Alex Kott

CAUSE end of trolley wire fell and contacted grounding clamp attached to trolley rail DETECT by stoper operator investigating air pressure fluctuations

EXT. EFF. water applied direct but smoke too dense PREV. normal supply of equipment for size of mine

RESC. attempts to locate trapped men failed; boreholes were drilled but no contact received, then mine was flooded for 17 months. Bodies found and mine reopened 2 Oct. 1972

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water nitrogen EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS all but 12 right opened 3 Oct. 1972

No. 925

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Fire at 6 North Loading Point on 15 East

Faulty heaters caught a wooden shanty on fire. There was some confusion as a locomotive controller arced at the same time. A confused evacuation did not help, but mine examiner found the fire and got things somewhat organized. Power was cut, intake air shaft covered, and fire extinguishers, rock dust, and water were applied. Callahan, J.T., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 3/30/71 TIME 12:25A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Middle Kittanning

HT. 78 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 339/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.8 PROD. 3672

LOC. Cadiz, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A. Perry Mason Foreman - Mike Enoch Saf. Dir. - C. Holloway

CAUSE faulty heater in shanty DETECT by man trip operator seeing smoke

EXT. EFF. intake covered and fire extinguishers, rock dust and water applied PREV. electric equipment needs adequate c.b. protection; underground structures need to be fireproof; improperly installed heaters are prohibited

RESC. men were left on their own to escape

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS some power cables, switch boxes and shanty PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 926

Gateway Mine

Fire in Electrical Compartment of Continuous Mining Machine

Fire occurred at the face on a continuous miner. Its power went off, section foreman went to reset breaker and on his way back, crewman yelled for it to be cut off due to fire. Face crew got rock dusting machine and put fire out. Zavora, H., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/2/71 TIME 1:15A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont. VOL. 35.2 PROD. 7474

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Gateway Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE malfunction of the ground fault trip DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. men got rock dusting machine and applied 10-20 bags of rock dust PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT rock dust EFF. Yes EQUIP. continuous miner

EQUIP. LOSS damage to connection box PROD. LOSS little

No. 927

Kenilworth Mine

Report of an Incipient Coal Mine Fire

Production stopped at midnight and everything was shut down. Maintenance shift arrived and discovered fire 300' inby the conveyor drive. Water was used to put the fire out promptly. Bazo, Wm., Dickerson, T.J., MESA Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/13/71 TIME 4:00A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Castle Gate "D"

HT. 9-13' SIZE 2500 TPD 120/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 41.3 PROD. 3601

LOC. Kenilworth, Carbon, Utah OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Edward Simpkins Foreman - Thomas Bendall Saf. Dir. - Rex Jewkes

CAUSE overheated defective belt roller DETECT by maintenance crew smelling smoke

EXT. EFF. water applied directly PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL dust, belt filaments AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 928

Somerset Mine

Report on Incipient Mine Fire

Fire boss discovered smoke and haze near previously sealed area. He found CO to be present and called foreman. Temporary plastic curtains were erected, tests for CO made and water played on the heated area. Seals were erected outby the previous seal. Ward, W.R., Bishop, J.L., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/24-26/1971 TIME 8:30A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM "B-2"

HT. 20-25' SIZE 4000 TPD 187/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 40.3 PROD. 683

LOC. Somerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - John E. Young Foreman - D.L. Draper

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by fire boss during weekly examination

EXT. EFF. water played on area after curtains erected to curtail air flow. Permanent seals erected outby PREV. seals shall be flexible at boundaries due to heaving of seam

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, seals EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS until 8/26/71

No. 929

King Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Locomotive) Fire

Fire occurred on locomotive coming out of the mine. Operator abandoned locomotive and applied air brake which deteriorated soon and locomotive rolled downgrade and wrecked at a generator. Arcing occurred intermittently as trolley wire bounced against pole. Calvert, R.G., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/24/71 TIME 8:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM A, B & Hiawatha

HT. 8-10' SIZE 3000 TPD 132/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 41.8 PROD. 3601

LOC. Hiawatha, Carbon, Utah OWN. U.S. Fuel Company PERS. Foreman - Clarence Wall

CAUSE short(s) in wiring system at undertermined location due to worn insulation DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. operator claimed to use fire extinguisher which fell apart; could not be found. Final extinguishment unspecified PREV. inspection of wiring inadequate

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, grease AGENT powder EFF. No EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to locomotive PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 930

Badger No. 14

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred at the face on a cutting machine as it was being backed from the face. Arcing on the reel ignited insulation, hoses and dust and oil accumulations. Power was deenergized and attempt was made to pull cable from reel. Rock dust was applied, a dry chemical extinguisher malfunctioned, was repaired and water was also applied. Smith, F., McCray, J.E., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 9/30/71 TIME 2:45P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 55-72 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 141/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL 35.0 PROD. 1395

LOC. Phillippi, Barbour, W. Virginia OWN. Badger Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Donald Moran Foreman - Earsel Stemple Saf. Dir. - Francis Skidmore

CAUSE short in splice DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust applied after power cut, dry chemical and water put the fire out PREV. permanent splices need to be vulcanized

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, oil, dust AGENT water, powder, rock dust, EFF. Yes, Yes Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS ½ shift

No. 931

Somerset Mine

Report on Incipient Coal Mine Fire

Fire boss discovered smoke, heat and CO 20' outby a previously sealed area. Plastic curtains were erected to curtail air and permanent seals were built outby the original completed 11/16/71. Matekovic, J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 11/15-16/1971 TIME 1:10P DUR. 19 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM "B-2"

HT. 20-25' SIZE 4000 TPD 179/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 40.3 PROD.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - R.W. Ramey
Foreman - T. Gunderson
Saf. Dir. - L. Miller

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by fire boss on routine inspection

EXT. EFF. sealed PREV. regular patrol must be maintained

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT sealed EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 932

No. 26 Mine

Official Report of Coal Mine Spontaneous GOB Fire

On routine inspection, the mine examiner discovered smoke in the No. 1 bleeder return entry. No attempt was made to fight the fire directly and the area was sealed. A borehole was drilled from the surface and liquified carbon dioxide pumped through it to the sealed area. Sakovich, Mike, Krisfaluzy, Mike, Wolfe, Mike, MESA Vincennes, 5 pp.

DATE 2/13/72 TIME 1:30P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 96 in. SIZE 8660 TPD 337/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 34.4 PROD. 6482

LOC. Sesser, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Old Ben Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - James Chady
Saf. Dir. - Dennis Frailey

CAUSE spontaneous heating DETECT routine examination by mine examiner

EXT. EFF. sealing and liquified carbon dioxide PREV. adequate

RESC. 14 men withdrawn from the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 933

Robinson Run No. 95

Report of Fire

A fire occurred on one side of the new shaft when hot metal from cutting operations ignited brattice cloth and methane being liberated from the face. Brattice cloth was extinguished promptly, feeders were self-extinguishing and local fire department pumped some water into the shaft. Marshalek, J., Lawless, M.J., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 3/7/73 TIME 9:30A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 35.0
PROD. 3206

LOC. Lumberport, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE hot metal from cutting ignited brattice DETECT by fire boss on watch

EXT. EFF. brattice fire smothered, feeders went out and water pumped into shaft by fire dept. PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. hot sparks FUEL brattice cloth, methane AGENT water EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None - some brattice cloth PROD. LOSS. None

No. 934

Saginaw No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Roof bolts on a roof bolter in transit contacted trolley wire. Operator tried to deenergize machine and activate fire suppression system, but received shock. He pulled cut out switch and went for help and equipment. Fire extinguishers and rock dust were applied, check curtains were erected and waterline hooked up to extinguish fire. Kretoski, S.R., Williams, F.A., HSAC Denver, 9 pp.

DATE 3/8/72 TIME 5:30P DUR. 13 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 55 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 186/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 41.0
PROD. 7134

LOC. St. Clairsville, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Oglebay-Norton Co. PERS. Supt. - John Diosi, Jr.
Foreman - William Burghy
Saf. Dir. - Keith Pfoor

CAUSE roof bolts shorted trolley wire to frame of bolter DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. extinguishers and rock dust applied, waterline hooked up and water applied PREV. machines moving under trolley wire should be provided with non-conductive guarding

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal, oil, grease AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. bolter
EFF. Yes No, No

EQUIP. LOSS damage to bolter PROD. LOSS NS

No. 935

Somerset Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Smoke was detected in a fan return. Fire was discovered 4000' inby the portal and firefighting operations were unsuccessful so the area was sealed 16 hours after discovery. A large fire started due to urethane foam heating at the seals and the entire mine was sealed 5/8/71. Bishop, J.L., Matekovic, J., Malensek, R.L., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 4/11/72 TIME 4:00A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM "B-2"

HT. 20-25' SIZE 4000 TPD 188/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 40.3 PROD. 846

LOC. Somerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - R.W. Ramey Foreman - T. Gunderson Saf. Dir. - L. Miller

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT odor smelled, smoke seen emanating from fan return & fire found upon search

EXT. EFF. water applied as possible; area sealed, seals caught fire and entire mine sealed PREV. mined out areas should be monitored better or sealed when mined out

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 935-b

Somerset Mine

Report of Recovery Following Mine Fire

Bureau of Mines in D.C. approved a plan to re-enter this mine in order to flood the fire area. Entry proposed in seven steps beginning at Elk creek portal 7/6/72. An airlock was erected outby main haulage seal and fresh air base established. In this manner, taking gas measurements all the way, ventilation was re-established. Bulkheads built and fire area flooded. Bishop, J.L., Biondich, M., Malensek, R.L., Matekovich, J., Ward, W.R., MESA Denver, 27 pp.

DATE 4/11/72 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM "B-2"

HT. 20-25' SIZE 800 TPD 30/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 40.3 PROD. 846

LOC. Somerset, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - R.W. Ramey Saf. Dir. - Lloyd Miller

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by 3rd shift foreman checking odor of fire

EXT. EFF. area flooded PREV. ample quantities of materials; 3 rescue teams trained

RESC. N/S

IG. spontaneous FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, foam, seal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS until 3/22/73

No. 936

No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Mining Machine) Fire

Fire occurred on cutting machine near the face when as operator was backing cutter out of the face, the power tree "blew". Operator went around to get fire extinguisher but smoke drove him back. Officials notified, men accounted for, and ventilation changed. Disorganized fire-fighting assisted by Bureau of Mines personnel. Margocee, P.E., Mullins, K.A., HSAC Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 5/5/72 TIME 11:00A DUR. 9 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cedar Grove

HT. 44 in. SIZE 400 TPD 24/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 36.3 PROD. 7620

LOC. Emmett, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Wildwood Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - George Cook Foreman - Columbus Hatfield Saf. Dir. - Columbus Hatfield

CAUSE fault in cutting motor DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust, extinguishers and water poorly applied; Bureau of Mines personnel, etc. assisted with water application PREV. equipment not clean; firefighting training poor

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, rubber, dust, hyd. fluid, coal AGENT water, powder rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 937

Owens Branch Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

A fire occurred on a roof-bolting machine when a protruding wire on a hydraulic hose contacted an energized trolley wire and the resultant arc ignited the hose and hydraulic oil in the machine. The fire was fought with rock dust and fire extinguishers direct and extinguished. Sample, C.H., Greenlee, D.W., O'Roark, C., MESA Barbourville, 7 pp.

DATE 5/6/72 TIME 12:00P DUR. 18 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Leatherwood

HT. 48-60 in. SIZE 500 TPD 27/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 38.1 PROD. 2540

LOC. Slemp, Perry, Kentucky OWN. Blue Diamond Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Richard Carter Foreman - Pearl Campbell

CAUSE wire on hydraulic hose on roof bolting machine contacted energized trolley wire causing arc DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust PREV. adequate

RESC. One man transported to surface by stretcher; remaining men escaped unassisted

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, hose, roof bolter AGENT rock dust, extinguishers EFF. Yes Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS roof bolting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 938

Blacksville No. 1 Mine

Preliminary Report of Major Coal Mine Fire Disaster & Sealing Operations

Fire occurred when a mining machine came in contact with an energized trolley and/or trolley feeder wires. All men escaped except 9 who remain entombed in the mine. Direct attacks to extinguish the fire were unsuccessful and after an explosion near the fire, all employees fighting the fire were withdrawn. The entire mine was sealed on the surface. Cook, J.O., Micheal, J.D., Marshalek, J., Componation, P.J., MESA Hazard, 26 pp.

DATE 7/22/72 TIME 7:30P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 9 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 60-72 in. SIZE 4700 TPD 302/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 10572

LOC. Blacksville, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.O. Minor Foreman - H. LIddle Saf. Dir. - J. Donaldson

CAUSE mining machine came in contact with an energized trolley and/or trolley feeder wires DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water, foam, sealing PREV. no guarding of moving equipment; poor inspection for clearance; poor fire-fighting training

RESC. except for 9 men all other workmen escaped

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid, coal AGENT water, foam, seal, extinguishers EQUIP. continuous miner EFF. No, No, Yes No

EQUIP. LOSS continuous miner PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 939

Harmar Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Electrical) Fire

Maintenance shift foreman found smoke in entry parallel to main track haulageway. He founds parts storage area full of smoke and heat. Men were notified of fire and wearing self-rescuers he and 5 others applied dry chemical and then had to retreat. Water car finally brought up and fire put out. Krivokuea, P., Olschesky, H.C., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 7/27/72 TIME 5:30A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Double Freeport

HT. 80 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 190/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 36.1 PROD. 3631

LOC. Harmarville, Allegheny, Pennsylvania OWN. Harmar Coal Co. PERS Supt. - Louis Cecchett Saf. Dir. - John Resick

CAUSE electrical fault in lighting DETECT by foreman traveling in the area

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied unsuccessfully as was rock dust - water car with sufficient pressure worked PREV. incandescent lamps not enclosed; no short circuit or overload protection

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal, office equipment AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. office EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS master mechanic's office destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 940

Maple Creek No. 2

Investigation of Haulage Locomotive Fire

Fire occurred when fault in power cables caused arcing on a parked locomotive. Intense heat prevented disengaging the trolley pole. Surface was requested to cut mine power. Meanwhile trolley pole removed using a board and 2 fire extinguishers were emptied to put the fire out. Several men treated for smoke inhalation and released and returned to work. Krek, R.I., Veith, K.R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 8/3/72 TIME 1:45A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.1
PROD. 12044

LOC. New Eagle, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault in power cables caused arcing on locomotive DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers applied PREV. inadequate protection of trolley pole cables

RESC. all men withdrawn; some through smoke (wearing self-rescuers)

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, timber AGENT powder EQUIP. locomotive
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS trolley pole, 2 cables, some conduit and 2 8' sections of trolley wire guard boards PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 941

Federal No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Upon starting pump motor of continuous miner, flames erupted at the boring motor. Operator yelled for loader operator to deenergize the circuit and he applied water for 5 minutes or so to put the fire out. Hall, P.M., Powers, S.B., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 8/30/72 TIME 1:20A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 78 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 335/3 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 35.0
PROD. 10572

LOC. Miracle Run, Monongalia, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Foreman - Anthony Harris Saf. Dir. - Ben E. Powell

CAUSE heat build-up in centrifugal clutch of left boring motor DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. water applied after nip removed PREV. poor ventilation and dirty equipment

RESC. N/A

IG. engine heat FUEL oil, grease, dust AGENT water EQUIP. continuous miner
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 942

Geneva Mine

Report of Coal Mine GOB Fire

On an idle day with some dump repair work in progress, fire boss discovered smoke near mined out area. He notified others and sealing materials were obtained. Sealing was completed 9/8/72. Tatton, F.W., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 9/3/72 TIME 11:15A DUR. 5 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 3400 TPD 258/3 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 41.2 PROD. 2138

LOC. Horse Canyon, Emery, Utah OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - J.A. Harvey Foreman - J. Toby Saf. Dir. - J. Cassano

CAUSE spontaneous DETECT by fire boss on examination

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. abandoned areas should be sealed

RESC. men withdrawn

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. until 9/8/72

No. 943

Maple Creek No. 1 Mine

Investigation of Electrical Fire

Loaded coal car was set afire when a roof bolt which had been loaded into the car contacted trolley wire causing electrical arcing. Roof bolt had been loaded with material during process of mining through to gob area. Foreman disengaged the bolt from the wire and water extinguished the fire. Krek, Ralph I., MESA Pittsburgh, 3 pp.

DATE 9/12/72 TIME 9:50P DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.1 PROD. 12044

LOC. New Eagle, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof bolt in mine car contacted trolley wire DETECT shuttle car operator noticed mine car afire

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. roof bolt loaded with other material into mine car during process of mining

RESC. men evacuated from fire area

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. mine car

EQUIP. LOSS 8" hole burned through side of mine car PROD. LOSS NS

No. 944

Williams Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Rectifier) Fire

Fire occurred in mains at a rectifier when a circuit breaker faulted out. A.C. power failed alerting people in section. Shift foreman investigated and found smoke in intake. Men were then removed to the surface. Fire extinguisher applied but had no effect and cut out switches could not be reached. Help arrived, 12 extinguishers emptied allowing cut out switches opened and water applied. Marshalek, J., Smith, F., McCray, J.E., HSAC Denver, 10 pp.

DATE 9/26/72 TIME 6:20A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 245/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 3206

LOC. Nora, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - G.D. Shockey Foreman - Junior Emmel Saf. Dir. - E.S. Lieving

CAUSE loose contacts on spring loaded circuit breaker heated under load which deteriorated insulation and caused a short DETECT by mechanic in section with a.c. power failure

EXT. EFF. extinguishers used until cut out switches could be reached when smoke cleared and water applied PREV. air current should have passed over rectifier to return; inadequate circuit protection

RESC. men removed; all had self-rescuers

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. rectifier

EQUIP. LOSS damage to rectifier PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 945

Red Wing Coal Mine

Report of GOB Area Fire

Bureau of Mines in the process of sealing a large fire area in a worked out mine adjacent to Red Wing. Fire boss noted increased CO and methane concentrations behind the seals in the Red Wing mine along the intake air course and management has barred all entry until the Bureau is finished. Gabriella, D., Snow, D.W., Ferguson, J.W., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/27/72 TIME NS DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Collum

HT. 23' SIZE 500 TPD 20/1 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 41.8 PROD. 290

LOC. Axial, Moffat, Colorado OWN. Colowyo Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Charles Farrington Foreman - Dee Smith

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by fire boss on inspection

EXT. EFF. Bureau of Mines is filling cracks and repairing adjacent fire area seals; seals in Red Wing re-plastered PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seals EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS until 10/5/72

No. 946

Hillsboro Mine

Report of Possible Fire

During 12-8 shift examiner reported a heated gob area. State Inspector ordered men withdrawn while water was applied. Material was finally loaded out and watered, then taken to abandoned rooms which were sealed. Pershing, Dale, MESA Vincennes, 1 pp.

DATE 10/26/72 TIME 12:00P DUR. 20 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 39.1
PROD. 1888

LOC. Coffeen, Montgomery, Illinois OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Wm. Jones
Manager - J. White

CAUSE UNK DETECT during shift walk through

EXT. EFF. water and loading to sealed rooms PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL gob, coal AGENT water, loading out, EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 12:00 P - 10:30 P following night

---

No. 947

No. 5 Mine

Coal Mine Smoldering Fire

Workman had been dismantling a belt head on 10/27; on 10/29 smoke was seen issuing from shaft. Fire was found at belt head and was extinguished by 6:00 P.M. Sakovich, M., MESA Vincennes, 1 pp.

DATE 10/29/72 TIME 3:45P DUR. 2¾ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. non-productive VOL. 34.6
PROD. 1391

LOC. Harrisburg, Saline, Illinois OWN. Sahara Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - G.B. Wiley

CAUSE torch started smoldering fire DETECT detected by smoke issuing from shaft

EXT. EFF. water applied PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. torch FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt head PROD. LOSS None

No. 948

Marianna No. 58 Mine

Investigation of Electrical Fire

Fire occurred in a rectifier, due to electrical arcing resulting because of poor contact between the circuit breaker movable and stationary contacts or a defective arc suppressor which failed to suppress the arcing when the breaker opened under load. Fire extinguished quickly with dry chemical extinguishers and rock dust. Krek, R.I., Cross, J.W., MESA Pittsburgh, 2 pp.

DATE 12/1/72 TIME 8:35P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.1
PROD. 12044

LOC. Marianna, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE arcing from poor contacts DETECT smoke in vicinity of rectifier noticed by motorman

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust PREV. no recommendations

RESC. men were withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL rectifier circuit breakers AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. rectifier
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS rectifier circuit breaker PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 949

Nemacolin Mine

Investigation of a Locomotive Fire

Locomotive pulling a loaded trip up slight grade caught fire when arcing occurred at the controller igniting combustible material in the controller compartment and operators cab. Operator extinguished fire with a fire extinguisher. Locomotive drifted backward and collided with another locomotive, knocking that operator off onto the floor. He was admitted to hospital for observation. Brady, Kenneth D., MESA Pittsburgh, 2 pp.

DATE 12/2/72 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 35.2
PROD. 8232

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit occurring in electric controller of locomotive DETECT detected immediately by locomotive operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguisher PREV. mercury switch defective; dirty equipment

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL combustible materials AGENT powder, EQUIP. locomotive
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS controller on locomotive & surrounding area PROD. LOSS NS

No. 950

Sunnyside No. 1

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Shaftmen detected smoke in shaft and found fire 25 feet from bottom of shaft. Three fire extinguishers located 500' away, water hose and ladders were obtained and the fire put out in an hour. Dickerson, T.J., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 12/11/72 TIME 9:30A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper & Lower Sunnyside

HT. 4-9' SIZE 4000 TPD 330/2 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 38.6 PROD. 3022

LOC. Sunnyside, Carbon, Utah OWN. Kaiser Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - John Palacies Foreman - Lloyd Heath

CAUSE (opinion) hot metal from cutting fell and ignited methane feeder DETECT by shaftmen smelling smoke

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers applied, and water and rock dust applied after the fire out PREV. cutting operations require close search for fire during and after work

RESC. all men withdrawn except 12 firefighters

IG. hot metal FUEL gas, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 951

Elzo Mine No. 4

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on cutting machine at the face when a power lead shorted with a braid on hydraulic hose. Hydraulic hose broke and fire broke out. Operator and helper ran from scene and removed the cable from the power supply. Men accounted for and since smoke prevented access to the fire, ventilation was changed. A pump was installed in a sump and water applied. Sample, C.H., Hager, D.R., O'Roark, C., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 12/13/72 TIME 9:00P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Darby

HT. 56-60 in. SIZE 400 TPD 40/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.3 PROD. 8965

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - Herschel Bargo Saf. Dir. - Wallace Harris

CAUSE short occurred when lead of cutting motor contacted metal braid on hydraulic hose DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. pump installed in sump and water applied PREV. inadequate short circuit protection; inadequate fire fighting facilities

RESC. all men accounted for and then fire fighting began

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS hoses, electrical leads, 4 tires PROD. LOSS 1 shift

No. 952

Pioneer Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire, Sealing & Reopening

It is believed fire occurred when short circuit in power cable for pump occurred igniting combustible materials. It was decided to seal the mine rather than fight the fire direct as it had spread so rapidly. Unsealing and recovery operations began 1/22/74. Withdrawal Order terminated 10/10/75. Extensive falls and accumulations of water prevented a complete investigation from being made. Smith, Jr., Frank, MESA Morgantown, 7 pp.

DATE 12/26/72 TIME 2:00A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 6/3 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 35.0
PROD. 3206

LOC. Sardis, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Galloway Land Co. PERS. Supt. - A. Rodriguez
Foreman - L. Secreta and L. Sirk

CAUSE UNK - believed that a short circuit in power wires for pump caused combustible material to ignite DETECT foreman and pumper saw smoke emitting from the mine fan

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. No recommendations

RESC. 2 men in mine returned to surface

IG. electrical (?) FUEL combustible materials AGENT sealing EQUIP. pump
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 953

No. 24 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Skip Hoist) Fire

Fire occurred at the bottom of hoist shaft when hot metal from cutting operations fell and ignited dust, oil and grease. The fire was extinguished in 15 minutes with water and extinguishers. One man received 1st degree burns. Small fire had been found earlier and extinguished. Adams, C., Sakovich, M., Wolfe, M., Itoman, J., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/13/73 TIME 2:15P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 10,000 TPD 314/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 34.4
PROD. 6482

LOC. Benton, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Old Ben Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Tom Mc Cormick
Saf. Dir. - Dennis Frailey

CAUSE hot metal fell and ignited combustible material at shaft bottom DETECT helper looked down and saw fire 20' below

EXT. EFF. water and fire extinguishers applied PREV. highly combustible conditions at shaft bottom/leaking hydraulic hoses, coal dust; fire fighting equipment not immediately available

RESC. all men withdrawn through man shaft

IG. hot metal FUEL insulation, rubber, gages AGENT water, powder, EQUIP. miscellaneous
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS wiring, light fixtures, torch hoses & gages PROD. LOSS until 1/16/73

No. 954

Fies Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Cutting Machine) Fire

Fire occurred when short developed in a trailing cable on the reel of a cutting machine at the face. Operator left without activating fire suppression system (later thermally activated) notified section crew and deenergized the power. Rescue team arrived at the scene and after extending brattice, applied water. Sorrel, H., Lyon, H.J., MESA Beckley, 6 pp.

DATE 4/17/73 TIME 2:15P DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 4000 TPD 255 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 38.5 PROD. 5780

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jack Miles Foreman - Jack Hollan Saf. Dir. - Raymond Ashby

CAUSE short developed in trailing cable on reel DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. power cut and mine rescue team extended brattice and applied water PREV. operator should be better versed in fire suppression system

RESC. Men withdrawn from this and neighboring No. 9 Mine

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 955

Maple Creek No. 2 Mine

Investigation of Haulage Locomotive Fire

Fire occurred on a haulage locomotive at start-up. Operator could not get fire extinguisher or remove trolley pole due to intense arcing. He ran to other locomotive and got extinguisher but it failed. He phoned shaft to get power deenergized. Other motorman arrived with extinguisher and put fire out. Several men inby were treated for inhalation and released. Davis. G.E., Chambers, J.E., Battistonic, C.S., Veith, K.R., MESA Monroeville, 3 pp.

DATE 4/23/73 TIME 12:50A DUR. 1/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.1 PROD. 12044

LOC. New Eagle, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault occurred in vicinity of trolley pole base DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguisher failed and other motorman arrived with extinguisher which worked PREV. fire extinguisher not maintained; conduit should be installed over entire length of power wires; overload protection device should be relocated out of cab

RESC. men in an affected section were withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, piping, conduit AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS 2 4/0 cables; conduit, disconnect switch box; traction motor wires; metal airbrake piping; trolley disconnect switch; 3' of switch guard boards PROD. LOSS NS

No. 956

Vesta No. 4 Mine

Investigation of Mine Fire

Fire occurred in rubbish mine car. Energized side of trolley anchor dropped down contacting conductive piece of material protruding above top of car and extending to metal bottom of car under the rubbish. Arcing occurred in bottom of car igniting combustible material. Fire was quickly extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers, water, and rock dust. Cross, James W., Veith, Kenneth R., MESA Pittsburgh, 4 pp.

DATE 6/8/73 TIME NS DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.1
PROD. 12044

LOC. Richeville, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - James Conrad
Saf. Dir. - Jack Connors

CAUSE energized trolley anchor contacted conductive piece of material DETECT 2 workmen smelled smoke while cleaning drainage ditch

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water, rock dust PREV. combustible materials should not be parked or stored under energized trolley wires

RESC. men were evacuated from the mine

IG. electrical FUEL paper, wood, hyd. hoses, cable AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. mine rubbish car
EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 3' of trolley guard board PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 957

Powhatan No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

An air compressor was being moved to another job site with equipment loaded on top of it. As it passed under the trolley wire the handle on a stoper drill made contact with the wire causing a short circuit which ignited the hose and cable on top the compressor. Rock dust failed and fire extinguished with dry powder fire extinguisher. Beck, M.D., Jones, R.E., 9 pp.

DATE 7/11/73 TIME 10:15A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 10 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 441/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 39.1
PROD. 882

LOC. Beallsville, Monroe, Ohio OWN. Nacco Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Lawrence Graham
Foreman - Frank Bouska
Saf. Dir. - Jon Heidelbach

CAUSE short circuit in trolley wire DETECT immediately observed by crew

EXT. EFF. rock dust, dry powder fire extinguisher PREV. no guarding of equipment being moved

RESC. 141 men underground were removed - 9 men were treated for smoke inhalation; 1 man injured his knee

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, coal, cable AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. compressor
EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 100' of trailing cable and 75' of compressor hose PROD. LOSS NS

No. 958

Camp No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A fire originated in the timbers and cribbing and spread to the coal ribs at the bottom of the intake air shaft. Attempts to fight the fire by direct means were unsuccessful due to the intense smoke and heat. It was elected to earth fill the shaft and seal the fire area. Sorrel, Hudson, Bragg, L.E., MESA Madisonville, 9 pp.

DATE 8/7/73 TIME 2:50P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 291/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.3 PROD. 7093

LOC. Morganfield, Union, Kentucky OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A. Williams Foreman - James Patterson

CAUSE UNK - consensus that it started from short circuited electrical cable or sparks or hot metal DETECT discovered fire in the timbers and cribbing

EXT. EFF. air shaft filled with earth and fire area sealed PREV. adequate

RESC. All men underground evacuated

IG. UNK FUEL timber AGENT seal, earth fill EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 959

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Investigation of Fire on Locomotive

Fire occurred on locomotive. It was extinguished by operator with a fire extinguisher. Evants, MIchael, MESA Pittsburgh, 2 pp.

DATE 8/25/73 TIME 9:00A DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 35.2 PROD. 8232

LOC. Carmichaels, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE ground fault occurred and live power wire contacted cover on locomotive creating arc DETECT locomotive operator saw electric flash on his locomotive

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers PREV. operators should make visual examination of locomotives prior to start of each shift

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL cables, oil AGENT powder EQUIP. locomotive

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hole in air compressor of locomotive PROD. LOSS NS

No. 960

Williams Mine

Report of Coal Mine Rectifier Fire

Fire caused by malfunction in control circuit of automatic circuit breaker permitted pumping action, causing arcing at the contacts which deteriorated the insulating material causing a short circuit. Power system was deenergized and fire extinguished by dry chemical fire extinguishers. Satterfield, James D., McMaster, C.D., MESA Morgantown, 7 pp.

DATE 8/30/73 TIME 3:05A DUR. 35 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 96 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 147/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 3206

LOC. Nora, Harrison, W. Virginia OWN. Mountaineer Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R. Elyette Foreman - J. Emmel Saf. Dir. - E.S. Lieving

CAUSE arcing at the contacts on the spring loaded direct current circuit breaker assembly DETECT roof bolting operator smelled smoke at the fall area

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers PREV. heat sensoring device should be installed in rectifiers; need adequate circuit protection for direct current circuits & components

RESC. Men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT powder EQUIP. rectifier

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS rectifier was a total loss PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 961

Pyro Mine No. 2

Final Report of Fatal Coal Mine (Fire) Accident

The trailing cable on the reel of a cutting machine was discovered on fire. Power was removed from the wrong piece of equipment and a second attempt to remove the power was unsuccessful. All attempts to locate one missing man failed and the area was flooded to form a water seal as direct means were impractical. Craft, William M., Whitcomb, David L., MESA Madisonville, 9 pp.

DATE 9/29/73 TIME 9:15P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 1 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 54 in. SIZE 2200 TPD 179/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.3 PROD. 7093

LOC. Sullivan, Union, Kentucky OWN. Pyro Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Paul Sullivan Saf. Dir. - Gregory Ferrell

CAUSE high resistance fault in trailing cable on the reel of cutting machine causing the arc to ignite the insulation DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. area flooded to form a water seal, seals erected PREV. adequate

RESC. All men but one escaped unassisted. Efforts to recover the missing man were all unsuccessful

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, cable AGENT water, seal EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 962

Big Ben Mine No. 1

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Pre-shift examiner encountered smoke and odor of fire. He called assistant superintendent and with timberman, discovered fire 3800' inby the shaft bottom inby a roof fall. Decision was made to seal the area, completed 10/22. Dorton, J.E., MESA Beckley, 5 pp.

DATE 10/15-20/1973 TIME 5:25A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Cherokee

HT. 64 in. SIZE 360 TPD 19/1 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.1 PROD. 107

LOC. Williamson, Lucas, Iowa OWN. Big Ben Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H. Carter Foreman - L. Laird Saf. Dir. - H. Carter

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by pre-shift examination

EXT. EFF. area sealed PREV. roof support inadequate

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 963

Meigs No. 1 Mine

Fire in Slope Development

Molten metal or sparks from cutting torch ignited acetylene tank and hoses. Fire controlled until tank burned out. Cornett, E.R., Lockey, G.H., MESA St. Clairsville, 4 pp.

DATE 10/29/73 TIME 9:15A DUR. .33 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Clarion No. 4

HT. NS in. SIZE None METH. None VOL. 42.5 PROD.

LOC. Ohio OWN. Southern Ohio Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE molten metal or sparks ignited acetylene tank and hoses DETECT noted by cutting torch operator

EXT. EFF. evacuated shaft; applied dry chemical with hand portable extinguishers until fire burned out PREV. acetylene tank couplings not checked before work; tanks stored too near cutting operations

RESC. shaft evacuated, men put on self rescuers and rode slope car past fire

IG. molten metal or sparks FUEL acetylene AGENT powder EQUIP. cutting torch EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS acetylene tank and accessories PROD. LOSS operations ceased for 1 day

No. 964

No. 31 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Crew had used acetylene torch to cut chains used to tense conveyor belt and had checked for fire thoroughly. Fire discovered 6:15 A.M. Monday morning by assistant mine foreman. Evidently cribbing had caught fire and then roof caved, igniting coal and preventing direct fight. Area was inundated. Bresinger, J.E., MESA Denver, 11 pp.

DATE 10/29/73 TIME 6:15A DUR. 3 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Kittanning

HT. 42 in. SIZE 2500 TPD 315/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 20.2 PROD. 6054

LOC. Nanty Glo, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - R.F. Dodson Foreman - R. Millward Saf. Dir. - T.E. Kobrick

CAUSE slag or spark ignited crib which with generated heat caused a fall of roof burying the fire and preventing fight directly

DETECT by assistant mine foreman after crew smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. direct fighting impossible; dams built and area inundated

PREV. oxyacetylene torch cutting should be avoided in the coal mine environment without fireproof enclosures; pre-shift exam neglected

RESC. NS

IG. torch FUEL timber, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS - some belt construction PROD. LOSS. until 11/20/73

No. 965

Robena No. 1 Mine

Investigation of Trolley Locomotive Fire

Small fire occurred due to short circuit on trolley locomotive. Fire extinguished by dry chemical extinguishers, after trolley wire cutout switch was pulled. Teaster, E.C., MESA Pittsburgh, 3 pp.

DATE 11/13/73 TIME 7:30P DUR. 2 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 35.2 PROD. 8232

LOC. Greensboro, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault occurred creating arcing

DETECT motorman saw fire erupt

EXT. EFF. dry chemical fire extinguishers

PREV. power cables were placed between equalizing bar and frame of locomotive causing insulation to fail

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL cable AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS minimal PROD. LOSS NS

No. 966

Morton Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Air Compressor) Fire

Fire originated near the slope bottom in a crosscut on an air compressor housed in fireproof structure, discovered by beltman. He called for help and with other crewman, applied contents of 2 10-lb. all purpose extinguishers putting the fire out in 5 to 10 minutes. Water was then applied to the compressor and immediate area. Cook, J.H., MESA Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 11/16/73 TIME 9:00A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 2 Eagle

HT. 42-45 in. SIZE 1200 TPD 150/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.7 PROD. 6597

LOC. Winifrede, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - H.E. Cook Foreman - W. Adams Saf. Dir. - C. Peters

CAUSE compressor overheated DETECT by beltman

EXT. EFF. 2 10-lb. all purpose extinguishers; water then applied to compressor and area PREV. failure to maintain over-temperature controls in operating condition

RESC. N/A

IG. eng. heat FUEL rubber, hyd. fluid AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. compressor

EQUIP. LOSS compressor and housing PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 967

Fedscreek No. 2

Report of Coal Mine (Belt Conveyor) Fire

Maintenance man smelled smoke at belt drive and informed section foreman. Fire was found on belt 1100' from surface. Helper sent to notify section crew as fire destroyed telephone. Foreman notified superintendent and fire fighting was then organized. Water from 4" line applied and then rock dust applied when fire area cooled. Dado, J.S., Dale, E.D., Galatic, R.A., MESA Beckley, 9 pp.

DATE 11/20/73 TIME 3:00A DUR. 10½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Clintwood

HT. 36 in. SIZE 400 TPD 33 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 34.5 PROD. 14169

LOC. Biggs, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Kentland Elkhorn Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Doug Jones Foreman - Cecil Tackett Saf. Dir. - Jerry Bevins

CAUSE untrained belt caused bottom roller hanger to fall; resultant frictional heat ignited dust and grease DETECT smoke smelled by maintenance man

EXT. EFF. water line hooked up and rock dust applied PREV. hazardous belt conditions not reported

RESC. helper sent inby to warn section crew who assisted in fire fighting

IG. friction FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, grease, AGENT rock dust, water EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 335' of top and bottom belt; timbers & cribs; 300' of high voltage cable; 9 switches; 360' of telephone & belt control cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 968

Shannon Branch Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Compressor) Fire

Boomman started compressor upon arrival at his section and upon seeing it operate, proceeded to his station. Air line ruptured at 9:15 A.M. and boomman checked finding smoke. He notified crew and motorman helped him apply rock dust and fire extinguishers. Motorman went for fire car. Singleton, J.I., Walls, F.M., Morgan E.B., MESA Denver, 7 pp.

DATE 11/26/73 TIME 9:15A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas

HT. NS in. SIZE 3500 TPD 420/2 Emp. METH. Long. VOL. 35.0 PROD. 12020

LOC. Capels, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Allied Chemical Corp. PERS. Supt. - B. Raines Foreman - F. Mitchem Saf. Dir. - C.E. Jessee

CAUSE compressor started wrongly without fan on allowing heat build up DETECT by boomman and locomotive operator

EXT. EFF. rock dust and dry chemical applied with no success, then water applied direct PREV. failure to fix leaks in compressor oil system; compressor start-up sequence wrong day of fire

RESC. men removed through escapeway

IG. eng. heat FUEL oil AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. compressor

EQUIP. LOSS compressor & incomplete housing PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 969

Maple Creek No. 2

Investigation of Electrical Fire

Fire occurred at a sectional insulator along a haulageway after a derailment caused 1 car to contact trolley wire. Assistant foreman went to scene with ABC fire extinguisher, but could not get close. He called shaft and had power cut. About this time, a mechanic arrived with another extinguisher and the two put the fire out. Cross, J.W., MESA Monroeville, 3 pp.

DATE 12/6/73 TIME 9:15A DUR. 1/12 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.1 PROD. 12044

LOC. New Eagle, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - William Allen

CAUSE mine car contacted trolley wire as a result of a derailment DETECT circuit had been deenergized by fault and foreman crossed deadblock with trolley pole & controller

EXT. EFF. two ABC fire extinguishers applied after power cut PREV. No recommendations

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT CO2 EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS sectional insulator and 8" of trolley wire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 970

No. 10 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Spontaneous GOB) Fire

Smoke was observed under a fall of roof. Water and rock dust were applied and the area subsequently sealed. After sealing, rock dust and CO2 were pumped into the fire area. Work resumed 1/7/74 with the stipulation the sealed area would be monitored. Pershing, A.D., Swaringen, E.M., MESA Vincennes, 6 pp.

DATE 1/5/74 TIME 7:00A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 6' SIZE 19,500 TPD 775/3 Emp. METH. Conv. & Cont. VOL. 37.2 PROD.

LOC. Christian County, Illinois OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Eugene Taglioli

CAUSE spontaneous heating DETECT preshift examiner observed smoke under a roof fall

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust, sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. all persons were withdrawn from the mine

IG. spontaneous heating FUEL gob AGENT water, CO2, rock dust, seal EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 24 hrs.

No. 971

Gateway Mine

Investigation of Trailing Cable Fire

Fire occurred on a shuttle car. Report incomplete and no further facts could be determined, other than that information below. Evanto, M., MESA Pittsburgh, 3 pp.

DATE 1/19/74 TIME 3:00A DUR. 10 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 35.2 PROD.

LOC. Clarksville, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Gateway Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Charles Butera Foreman - Dave Conrad Saf. Dir. - Jack Connor

CAUSE UNK DETECT shuttle car operator detected peculiar odor emitting from shuttle car

EXT. EFF. UNK PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL insulation AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS confined to trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 972

Deer Creek Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Fire occurred on roof bolting machine 300' outby face. Arc welding and acetylene torch cutting had been done with the machine during the day shift and the fire was discovered about 4:30 P.M. by afternoon shift crew. Taffon, F.W., MESA Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/7/74 TIME 3:40P DUR. 1½-2 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Blind Canyon

HT. 14' SIZE 5000 TPD 183/2 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 41.6 PROD.

LOC. Huntington, Emery, Utah OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - N. Sitterud Foreman - W. Cave Saf. Dir. - B. Gordon

CAUSE sparks or hot metal falling on combustible materials on the cutter DETECT by arriving shift crew

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied unsuccessfully; then water from a nearby gathering pump applied PREV. good supplies, but no search for fire after cutting; machine not clean

RESC. N/A

IG. torch sparks or slag FUEL oil, grease, coal, dust AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. cutter

EQUIP. LOSS damage to cutter PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 973

Wentz No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Acetylene Gas Cylinder) Fire

Main cut off valve of acetylene cylinder leaked and rock dust bag placed near gauges allowed accumulation to ignite from sparks. Men evacuated to surface and informed manager, who brought masks and extinguishers to fire. Bowles, A.T., MESA Norton, 6 pp.

DATE 6/29/74 TIME 8:45A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Taggart

HT. 48 in. SIZE 2100 TPD 200/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 32.1 PROD.

LOC. Stonega, Wise, Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - T. Phipps Saf. Dir. - W. Thomas, Jr.

CAUSE flying sparks from cutting struck accumulation of acetylene (by rock dust bag) and ignited DETECT immediately observed by welder

EXT. EFF. after men were removed, dry chemical extinguishers were used PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. spark FUEL bag, gas AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. weld tanks

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 974

Jane Nos. 1 & 2 Mine

Report of Fatal Coal Mine Machinery Fire Accident

While doing some rebolting, leveling bar contacted an energized trolley wire and the arcing ruptured hydraulic hose, spewing oil all over operator and helper. Maintenance foreman saw victim emerging from the fire and smothered the flaming clothing. He then went for help and found helper making his way out. Fire was put out with chemical fire extinguishers. Operator died 9/22. Balitski, W.J., Bugay, G.R., Chambers, J.E., MESA Monroeville, 9 pp.

DATE 8/31/74 TIME NS DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 1 INJ. 1 SEAM Lower Freeport

HT. 58 in. SIZE 8500 TPD, 15 sections, 489/3 Emp. METH. Cont. & Conv. & Long. VOL. 33.7 PROD.

LOC. Elderton, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.E. Stewart, Saf. Dir. - E.J. Onuscheck

CAUSE trolley wire and steel leveling bar contacted while victim installing roof bolt DETECT immediately felt by victims

EXT. EFF. chemical fire extinguishers PREV. trolley wire should have been deenergized or guarded before roof bolting

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid, clothing AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. bolter

EQUIP. LOSS trolley wire; 10' of insulating jacket and electrical and hydraulic components of bolter PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 975

Vanguard No. 1

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred in area of complete pillar extraction surrounded by bleeder entries. Caving prevented pinpointing fire location, but 3 employees discovered smoke and notified officials. One right section sealing was completed 9/18/74. Matekovic, W., MESA Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/17/74 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 65

HT. NS in. SIZE 1300 TPD, 75/2 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 45.5 PROD.

LOC. Hanna, Carbon, Wyoming OWN. Energy Development Co. PERS. Supt. - H. Hedgepath, Foreman - Rudy Kowlok, Saf. Dir. - C.A. Jones

CAUSE spontaneous combustion in caved area DETECT by graveyard shift crew

EXT. EFF. water applied to caveline believed nearest to fire unsuccessfully; area sealed PREV. adequate; mined out areas should be secured, sealed or ventilated adequately

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, seals EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 72 hrs.

No. 976

Camp No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

On a routine inspection, fire was discovered. Water was applied to the fire, however, heat from the fire affected the roof making it unsafe to continue. A decision was made to erect temporary seals. Liquid carbon dioxide then pumped into fire area. Bragg, L.E., Stanley, L.W., MESA Madisonville, 6 pp.

DATE 11/11/74 TIME 8:15A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Kentucky No. 9

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 414/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.3 PROD.

LOC. Morganfield, Union, Kentucky OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Edward Campbell Foreman - James Patterson

CAUSE UNK DETECT on routine inspection

EXT. EFF. water, seals erected, liquid carbon dioxide pumped into fire area PREV. adequate

RESC. None - mine not in operation at time of fire

IG. UNK FUEL rope, rubber AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS portions of the belt framing & ropes PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 977

Federal No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire initiated when loaded mine cars were derailed and the dislodged steel beams contacted the trolley and trolley feeder wires causing a short circuit and arcing which ignited wood cribbing material. Fire fought and extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers and water. Kuretza, S., Hall, P.M., MESA Morgantown, 7 pp.

DATE 1/21/75 TIME 8:45A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 84 in. SIZE 3570 TPD 502/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.0 PROD.

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - L. Jackson Foreman - L. Rinehart

CAUSE dislodged steel I-beams contacted trolley and trolley feeder wires creating a short circuit and arcing DETECT noticed by workmen in mine

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, water PREV. inadequate overcurrent protection for trolley system; too many loaded mine cars placed between rotary dump & track switch

RESC. Men were evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL wood cribbing material AGENT water, powder, EQUIP. mine cars

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS several burned areas on mine cars and wood cribbing PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 978

Burning Star Mine No. 3

Spontaneous Combustion in Draw-Off Tunnel

During routine inspection of draw-off tunnel, safety inspector discovered smoke. Later in the day ventilation was reversed allowing rock dust application to control the blaze. A few days later, the burning material was outloaded. No men were allowed into the mine during occurrence. Dona, Ben J., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 2/7/75 TIME 10:00A DUR. 98 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.0
PROD.

LOC. Schuline, Randolph, Illinois OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - D. Klingenberg
Saf. Dir. - R. Putman

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT during routine inspection

EXT. EFF. fire was allowed to burn unbothered until hours later when safety crew applied rock dust after ventilation reversal PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. spontaneous FUEL insulation, rubber, coal AGENT rock dust, loading EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 979

Olga Mines

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Pillar fall knocked out face ventilation. Foreman discovered post on fire while repairing ventilation controls. He put it out with continuous miner hose and water. There were other fires and some were put out with extinguishers and water, but access to the area was restricted by caving roof. Boreholes were drilled and water, nitrogen, fly ash and rock dust were injected. Farley, E.J., MESA Mt. Hope, 7 pp.

DATE 2/19/75 TIME 1:00P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 82 in. SIZE 400 TPD 9 sections 322/2 Emp. METH. Cont. & Long. (1) VOL. 35.0
PROD.

LOC. Coalwood, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Olga Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Homer Hickam
Foreman - Milford Crigger

CAUSE sparks from sandstone roof fall ignited feeder which ignited timbers DETECT by foreman repairing ventilation knocked out by roof fall

EXT. EFF. water and extinguisher used on some fires, but others were inaccessible and indirect fighting proved successful PREV. No recommendations

RESC. 5 holes drilled from surface and water and nitrogen, fly ash and rock dust were injected

IG. sparks FUEL gas, coal, timber AGENT water, fly ash, rock dust, nitrogen EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 979-b

Olga Mine

Analysis of Olga Mine

Report concerns danger of contaminated run-off from fighting this fire with foam and water; also fly ash and nitrogen. Snyder, J.L., Hoter, L.J., Price, G.C..

DATE 2/19/75 TIME NS DUR. 38 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL.
PROD.

LOC. Coalwood, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Olga Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof fall caused sparks to ignite methane which ignited timbers DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. sandstone roof fall FUEL coal, gas, timber AGENT water, foam, nitrogen, fly ash EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 980

Virginia Pocahontas # 3

Report of Coal Mine Fire, Sealing, & Resealing

Fire was discovered inby a gob area during a routine mine examination. No one was in the mine, other than 2 assistant foremen at the time. Methane build-up in the fire area prevented extinguishing the blaze with water and the mine was sealed until 5/11/75, when air samples indicated the fire was out and the mine was reopened. Mann, Frank C., MESA Norton, 14 pp.

DATE 3/15/75 TIME 5:45P DUR. until 5/11/75 DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 412 Emp. METH. Long. VOL. 23.2
PROD.

LOC. Vansant, Buchanon, Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - W. Dale

CAUSE suspected that a roof fall caused trolley wire to arc DETECT during inspection of mine assistant foremen discovered both ribs of a crosscut burning

EXT. EFF. water lines hooked up and applied; methane build-up prevented success; sealing was advocated PREV. high-pressure water lines & rock dust at strategic locations; adequate supplies

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical or weld spark FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, seals EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 981

No. 114 Mine

Investigation of a Mining Machine Fire

Cutting machine had just finished cutting face and operator was waiting for drill to pass when reel compartment blew up. Rock dust and water were readily available and fire was put out shortly. Gray, R.A., MESA Mt. Hope, 1 pp.

DATE 5/1/75 TIME NS DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL.
PROD.

LOC. Kayford, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE short in cable on reel DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust applied PREV. clean equipment; ready access to fire fighting equipment, but circuit breaker did not trip

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water, rock dust, EQUIP. cutter
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 325' of trailing cable; all hydraulic hoses and electrical wiring leading to the bit motor and pump motor PROD. LOSS. little

---

No. 982

Powhatan No. 6 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

While moving compressor with cable and hose and stoper drills on flatcar, arc occurred between trolley wire and stoper drill handle. Rock dust failed to immediately extinguish fire at first, then rock dust and chemical extinguishers put the fire out. Withdrawal Order issued immediately as inspection of new shaft was in progress. Beck, M.D., Jones, R.E., MESA Vincennes 12 pp.

DATE 6/11/75 TIME 10:15A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 10 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 62 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 390/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 41.0
PROD.

LOC. Beallsville, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Nacco Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - Lawrence Graham
Foreman - John Jeskey
Saf. Dir. - Lawrence Flor

CAUSE operating handle of stoper drill made contact with trolley wire DETECT immediately observed by crew

EXT. EFF. first rock dust applied but failed to extinguish, then power removed and rock dust and dry chemical put it out; water line laid late PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A - some men were treated for smoke inhalation while exiting through smoke

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust EQUIP. compressor
EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS 100' of trailing cable; 50' of compressor hose PROD. LOSS 1 day

No. 983

Inland Mine No. 1

Report of Coal Mine Spontaneous Combustion GOB Fire

Carbon monoxide detected in "B" bleeder - area sealed and liquified carbon dioxide pumped through boreholes. Fire officially out on 8/12/75. Wolfe, Mike, MESA Vincennes, 5 pp.

DATE 6/21/75 TIME 9:00A DUR. 2 months+ DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 108 in. SIZE 10,973 TPD 441/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 34.5 PROD.

LOC. Jefferson County, Illinois OWN. Inland Steel Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - John Prudent

CAUSE spontaneous heating of material in the caved pillar area DETECT carbon monoxide detected by Manager of Employee Services

EXT. EFF. area sealed - liquified carbon dioxide and liquified nitrogen pumped into sealed area PREV. adequate

RESC. Men withdrawn from the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seals carbon dioxide EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. resumed work 7/13/75 in east portion of mine; resumed work 7/18/75 in west end of mine

---

No. 984

Lundale No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Caved underground drift mine was being stripped when evidently a unidentified source of ignition fell through surface cracks and ignited a pillar. Fire could not be approached from underground. Burning coal was exposed and some was removed, then the area was covered for the night. The next day, it was uncovered and fire was still burning. Earth dam for flooding was started, then stopped. Gradall removed surface and water injected through pipe. Margocee, P.E., Reedy, E.G., MESA Mt. Hope, 3 pp.

DATE 8/26/75 TIME NS DUR. 1 day DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Upper Chilton

HT. 65 in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 36.3 PROD.

LOC. Lundale, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Amherst Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H. Epperly, Sr.

CAUSE Unknown source of ignition fell through surface cracks igniting pillar DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. surface removed and material hauled, then area recovered, dam for flooding started but stopped, gradall removed most of cover and water pipe extended into fire area PREV. No recommendations

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None - work stoppage in progress

No. 985

Clyde Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire occurred in a track haulage when roof fell dislodging an energized feeder wire which contacted the track. The fire was put out with dry chemical extinguishers and water. Examiner had arrived and heard roof working. He installed a post, tried to move a shuttle car and left immedate area as the roof fell. He saw flame at that time. Contini, Q.J., Cross, J.S., MESA Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 9/13/75 TIME 4:40A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 72 in. SIZE 2853 TPD 277/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 35.2 PROD.

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - D. Shipley
Foreman - R. Lewis
Saf. Dir. - T. Burke

CAUSE arc caused by contact of feeder and track due to roof fall DETECT immediate by examiner

EXT. EFF. dry chemical and water applied PREV. circuits should have been deenergized during idle period

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, powder, EQUIP. None
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minimal PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 986

Powhatan No. 7 Mine

Investigation of Electrical Fire

Power failure alerted crew to possibility of fire which was discovered shortly thereafter. Once the smoke was shorted to return, it was learned the fire had burned out and so water was applied to hot transformer to cool it. Patterson, V.H., Keaton, R., MESA Vincennes.

DATE 10/22/75 TIME 3:25A DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

HT. 48 in. SIZE 850 TPD 246/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 41.0 PROD.

LOC. Clarington, Monroe, Ohio OWN. Quarto Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - F. Ramsey
Foreman - A. Robinson
Saf. Dir. - P. Hawkins

CAUSE 995 volt buss bars went to ground between the molded case circuit breakers and transformer secondary windings at power center DETECT power failure alerted crew

EXT. EFF. None PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL transformer AGENT water EQUIP. transformer
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 987

Valley Camp No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Storage Battery) Fire

Fire started when internal wiring of track mounted battery unit contacted frame of the unit while batteries were being charged. Unit was pulled from the station, cover lids removed, and rock dust and fire extinguishers used to extinguish fire. Hall, P.M., Kinser, G.A., MESA Morgantown, 6 pp.

DATE 11/6/75 TIME 3:50P DUR. 40 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 60 in. SIZE 2400 TPD 320/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 35.0 PROD.

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H. Littlehales Foreman - Wetzel Spry

CAUSE short circuit in a combination of storage batteries installed in a track mounted unit DETECT section foreman noticed light smoke

EXT. EFF. rock dust and fire extinguishers PREV. thorough check of internal wiring needed before batteries charged; insufficient volume of air in return airway to ventilate battery charging station

RESC. Men evacuated from fire area

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, battery cells AGENT rock dust, extinguishers, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. storage battery

EQUIP. LOSS storage battery compartment PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 988

No. 3 Mine

Investigation of a Trailing Cable Fire

Fire occurred on a shuttle car trailing cable when a fault occurred in a well-made permanent splice. No other information given concerning the actual occurrence. Sizemore, H., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 11/14/75 TIME NS DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 30.7 PROD.

LOC. Itmann, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Itmann Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault in splice of trailing cable DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. circuit breaker was damaged and not repaired

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. shuttle car

EQUIP. LOSS damage to trailing cable PROD. LOSS NS

No. 989

Sahara No. 21 Mine

Coal Mine Belt Fire

After mine closed for Christmas, fire was discovered on main belt as a result of frictional heat build up after belt was shut down. Fire, once found, was extinguished in 15 minutes. Belt was flame resistant. Wolfe, Mike, MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 12/20/75 TIME 8:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 34.6
PROD.

LOC. Harrisburg, Saline, Illinois OWN. Sahara Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - James Hill

CAUSE worn out bearing built up heat - after belt turned off heat build up ignited belt DETECT alarm was heard

EXT. EFF. water applied PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL belt, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. belt
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS broken belt repaired PROD. LOSS. None

No. 990

No. 21 Mine

Report of Mine Fire

Flames were discovered on the outside of the compressor room on a routine check. The fire was fought by direct application of water and the flames were extinguished. Sakovich, Mike, MESA Vincennes, 3 pp.

DATE 1/4/76 TIME 7:30P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 96 in. SIZE 6200 TPD 488/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 34.4
PROD.

LOC. Sesser, Franklin, Illinois OWN. Old Ben Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J. Chady
Foreman - C. Steckenrider
Saf. Dir. - D. Frailey

CAUSE spontaneous origin DETECT on routine check of compressor room

EXT. EFF. direct application of water PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. compressor
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS minor damage - confined to compressor room PROD. LOSS 24 hrs.

No. 991

Nelms No. 1 Mine

Fire in Pump Station

D.C. powered water pump overheated igniting wooden post. Rock dust and water extinguished fire. Hall, C.J., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 2/23/76 TIME 1:05A DUR. .50 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 38.3
PROD.

LOC. Hopedale, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny PERS. Saf. Dir. - L. Thomas

CAUSE d.c. electric pump overheated igniting timber DETECT noted by foreman on inspection

EXT. EFF. applied rock dust to extinguish flames and water applied to stop the smoking PREV. NS

RESC. two sections evacuated for 40 minutes without incident

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water, powder, EQUIP. Pump
EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 1 hr. production

No. 992

No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Frame of roof bolting machine contacted trailing cable as machine was being trammed from the face. Helper went to remove nip, smoke built up and both men went to fresh air. Hose added to water line and water directed on the fire. Extra line brattice was needed so firefighter went to surface, informed owner and returned. Owner ordered everyone out. Farley, L.C., MESA Mt. Hope, 8 pp.

DATE 3/25/76 TIME 11:15A DUR. 7½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Ben's Creek

HT. 48 in. SIZE 350 TPD 16/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 30.7
PROD.

LOC. Coal Mountain, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Marcus Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit occurring when frame contacted trailing cable - breaker was set incorrectly DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. water applied by one man, then by crew with face mask, then by rescue team successfully PREV. inadequate equipment - hose couple did not match line; trailing cables commonly run over; circuit breaker not set properly

RESC. haphazard evacuation

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. bolter
EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 20' of trailing cable and a tire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 993

No. 11 Mine

Coal Mine Fire Investigation (Memo)

Operator left belongings in "shanty", went for supplies and when he returned 2 hours later, found smoke in vicinity. Crews evacuated out the return course, back to intake, across a roof fall, and out the track entry. Fire control took about 15 minutes once started. MESA Norton, 5 pp.

DATE 4/8/76 TIME 6:45P DUR. 1¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 24-30 in. SIZE 500 TPD 152/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 23.2 PROD.

LOC. Whitewood, Buchanon, Virginia OWN. Jewell Ridge Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Roger Stallard Foreman - Graham Davis

CAUSE possibly, operator had put coat across resistance heating element DETECT tractor operator returning for lunch

EXT. EFF. water PREV. not sufficient - violations power on unattended equipment

RESC. section foreman led men to safety - had to improvise escape in face of smoke

IG. heat FUEL timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 994

Geneva Mine

Report of Coal Mine GOB Fire

Carbon monoxide was detected emitting from the north fan portal. No flame or smoke was observed and the area was inaccessible. Seals were erected and water was introduced into the gob area through the seals. Gabossi, Tony, MESA Hazard, 4 pp.

DATE 4/17/76 TIME 11:00A DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Sunnyside

HT. 14' SIZE 2800 TPD 232/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 34.9 PROD.

LOC. Horse Canyon, Emery, Utah OWN. U. S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Paul Clark Foreman - Mike Morgan

CAUSE spontaneous heating DETECT mine superintendent detected carbon monoxide emitting from north fan portal

EXT. EFF. seals, water PREV. adequate

RESC. All persons were withdrawn from the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT water, seals EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 995

No. 14 Mine

Rubber-Tired, Battery-Powered Scoop Fire

Pre-shift examiner found smoke near battery charging station. He notified foreman and all men were removed. Mechanic was to disconnect power to station, but smoke prevented him from doing that. When mine rescue team arrived at fire location, fire had gone out and smoke cleared. Scoop had had problem holding a charge. Shaffer, C.J., Walls, F.M., MESA Mt. Hope, 4 pp.

DATE 4/30/76 TIME 6:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 6

HT. 36-42 in. SIZE 800 TPD 105/2 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 35.0 PROD.

LOC. Algoma, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. United Pocahontas Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE batteries overheated and failed due to improper charging

DETECT by pre-shift examiner encountering smoke near charging station

EXT. EFF. None needed

PREV. No insulators on charging circuit & batteries charged incorrectly

RESC. All men removed

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, batteries AGENT self-extinguish EQUIP. scoop

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tray of batteries, covers & wiring PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 996

No. 6 Mine

Mine Fire (Memo)

Joy 12 R.B. became aflame. Federal and State inspectors arrived and with company officials extinguished the fire with rock dust and extinguishers. Turner, H., MESA Pikeville, 2 pp.

DATE 5/3/76 TIME 2:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv. VOL. 40.2 PROD.

LOC. Kentucky OWN. Coal Valley Corp. PERS. Supervisor - J. Fraley

CAUSE probably a short due to illegal splice

DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. rock dust and chemical extinguishers

PREV. no fire suppression; inadequate short circuit protection to cable; inadequate firefighting equipment; cutter not maintained in permissible condition

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, hyd. fluid AGENT rock dust, powder EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS Joy 12 R.B. cutting machine PROD. LOSS NS

No. 997

Mt. Braddock Mine

Report of Coal Mine Machinery (Battery Tractor) Fire

Section foreman smelled fire and instructed mechanic to go to battery charging station where he discovered fire on batteries of a tractor being re-charged. He emptied a dry chemical extinguisher with little result. Two more fire extinguishers tried unsuccessfully. Fire hose connected and water doused the flames. Wet rock dust packed on batteries. Teaster, E.C., Chambers, J.E., Evanto, M., MESA Beckley, 6 pp.

DATE 6/19/76 TIME 9:10A DUR. 5/6 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pittsburgh

HT. 108 in. SIZE 950 TPD 89/2 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 33.7 PROD.

LOC. Mt. Braddock, Fayette, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - Rex Hartzel Saf. Dir. - Samuel Cortis

CAUSE faults occurred between housings and terminals and/or plates of the batteries DETECT by mechanic checking fire odor

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied with little success; water application successful PREV. charging unit kept 2" from combustibles; automatic fire suppression system at charging station recommended

RESC. Men inby exited through intake air

IG. electrical FUEL batteries AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. utility vehicle

EQUIP. LOSS 2 batteries PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 998

Lady Dunn No. 105

Report of Coal Mine Fire

Fire boss discovered smoke coming down main haulageway. Telephone lines were down so he returned to the surface. Superintendent found the fire under a roof fall where workmen had been cutting down old steel arches the previous day. Hose was installed but insufficient, so fire department was called and water applied until the fire was out. Jenkins, J.M., MESA Mt. Hope, 8 pp.

DATE 6/29/76 TIME 4:30A DUR. 8 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Powellton & No. 2 Gas

HT. 48 in. SIZE 1450 TPD 176/2 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. PROD.

LOC. Cannelton, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Cannelton Industries, Inc. PERS. Supt. - George Tolley Saf. Dir. - Alvin Grounds

CAUSE cutting produced hot metal which ignited coal DETECT by fire boss on pre-shift

EXT. EFF. water applied by fire department PREV. insufficient search for fire after cutting & inadequate rock dusting

RESC. N/A

IG. hot metal FUEL coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 999

Jensie Mine

Investigation of an Electrical Equipment (Locomotive) Fire

Motorman pulling trip experienced power failure, called shift foreman, who told him to check rectifier. After satisfied it was alright, he threw switch which shorted and started to burn. At this time, it was noticed that locomotive was burning. Fire put out, rekindled, requiring ventilation change and more extinguisher. Jones, Bruce, MESA Vincennes, 3 pp.

DATE 7/7/76 TIME 8:15P DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM No. 6 Coalbed

HT. 54 in. SIZE 1836 TPD 230/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 38.3 PROD.

LOC. E. Springfield, Jefferson, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Robert Supko Foreman - Jack Jordan

CAUSE short circuit of trolley wire to locomotive - two contactors dropped down to frame DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. first just extinguisher, then fire restarted so air was shorted to return and fire re-extinguished PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, locomotive, grease AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS minor PROD. LOSS. several hours

No. 1000

Powhatan No. 4 Mine

Trolley Wire Fire

Fire occurred when dc trolley feeder shorted through defective hanger to steel rail used in roof support igniting timbers. Power disconnected and dry chemical hand portable extinguishers used and then water from hose.

DATE 8/15/76 TIME 8:30A DUR. .45 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 41.8 PROD.

LOC. Clarington, Monroe, Ohio OWN. Quanto Mining Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - H. Thomas

CAUSE DC trolley feeder shorted through defective hanger to steel rail used in roof support igniting timbers DETECT track inspection crew noted flame

EXT. EFF. power disconnected; dry chemical applied from hand portable extinguishers, then water from hoses PREV. adequate

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. trolley wire

EQUIP. LOSS minimal PROD. LOSS minimal

No. 1001

No. 1 Mine

Investigation of an Electrical Fire

During check for methane prior to energizing face equipment, shift foreman discovered smoke coming from section transformer. Section power turned off and fire fighting equipment brought up. Flame was extinguished with dry chemical type A,B, & C extinguishers. Top removed and power center cooled with water. Wrachford, W.H., Webb, P.O., MESA Benton, 2 pp.

DATE 9/27/76 TIME 8:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 87 in. SIZE 11,500 TPD 358/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 39.5 PROD.

LOC. Carlinville, Macoupin Illinois OWN. Monterey Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - R. Davtel Saf. Dir. - R.W. Mottershaw

CAUSE buss bars flexing under normal load reached fatigue limit and cracked allowing high-resistance arc to form DETECT foreman discovered smoke

EXT. EFF. chemical extinguishers were available and put fire out PREV. fire drills every 90 days

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL transformer AGENT powder EQUIP. transformer

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS transformer lost PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

No. 1002

River King Underground Mine NO. 1

Report of Coal Mine Spontaneous Combustion GOB Fire

Haze and smoke were detected by company officials after being alerted by a preshift examiner. Due to massive falls in the area and inability to pinpoint the fire, it was determined to seal the fire area. After completion of seals, liquid carbon dioxide was pumped into the area through a borehole. Sakovich, Mike, MESA Hazard, 5 pp.

DATE 11/23/76 TIME 10:00A DUR. 24 hrs.+ DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Illinois No. 6

HT. 78 in. SIZE 12,000 TPD 546/3 Emp. METH. Cont. VOL. 39.3 PROD.

LOC. Freeburg, St. Clair, Illinois OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Charles Moake Foreman - Herbert Hitt Saf. Dir. - Larry Morse

CAUSE spontaneous heating DETECT preshift examiner detected an odor - further investigation revealed smoke

EXT. EFF. sealing PREV. adequate

RESC. all persons withdrawn from the mine

IG. spontaneous FUEL gob AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 1003

Lady Dunn No. 105

Report of Underground Coal Mine Investigation: Fire

Fire boss discovered smoke during idle pre-shift exam, after experiencing power brown out. He notified dispatcher and headed for surface. He and V.P.'s tried fire extinguishers and water from a bucket to extinguish the fire. Fire department called and water was applied successfully. Jenkins, C.E., MESA Mt. Hope, 8 pp.

DATE 11/25/76 TIME 9:00P DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Powellton

HT. 48 in. SIZE 1900 TPD 209 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 37.2 PROD.

LOC. Cannelton, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Cannelton Industries, Inc. PERS. Supt. - Tom Kerns Saf. Dir. - Alvin Grounds

CAUSE energized trolley feeder contacted rectifier DETECT by fire boss on pre-shift

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers applied unsuccessfully; water applied from bucket, then fire department called PREV. d.c. power circuit left energized, poor overcurrent protection, feeders over metal should be insulated

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. rectifier

EQUIP. LOSS an inactive rectifier PROD. LOSS. 1 day

No. 1004

Alpine Mine

Belt Conveyor Fire

Electricians smelled smoke and found fire on a belt tailpiece. He and two others tried four fire extinguishers and rock dust unsuccessfully. Surface was notified. Superintendent did not withdraw men and they refused to go inby to work places. A crew changed ventilation, applied rock dust and water from two directions. Bowman, J.F., Maxey, T.C., MESA Mt. Hope, 5 pp.

DATE 12/9/76 TIME 6:00A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 36 in. SIZE 650 TPD 54 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 30.7 PROD.

LOC. Marianna, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Robinson and Phillips Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Bill Austin Saf. Dir. - Norman Laster

CAUSE friction DETECT by electrician smelling smoke

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers and rock dust applied by discoverer and helpers unsuccessfully; water and rock dust applied by crew PREV. dust and loose coal had accumulated around conveyor; poor training

RESC. No evacuation

IG. friction FUEL coal, rubber AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS unspecified amount of belt and tailpiece PROD. LOSS NS

No. 1005

No. 1 Mine

Report of Underground Coal Mine Investigation - Belt Conveyor Fire

Fire occurred at transfer point of two conveyors 1200' inby the surface. Fire boss discovered smoke during pre-shift exam. Due to freezing pipe, new pumps and line had to be laid so fire was not fought until 4:30 P.M. that day and put out 20 minutes later. Davis, J.E., MESA Mt. Hope, 6 pp.

DATE 12/10/76 TIME 7:15A DUR. 10 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Lower Cedar Grove

HT. 59 in. SIZE 400 TPD 24 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 36.6 PROD.

LOC. Newtown, Mingo, W. Virginia OWN. FMV Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - Charles Estep Foreman - Dillard Bryant

CAUSE short in undersized cable carrying power to 100 hp belt motor DETECT by preshift examiner

EXT. EFF. water line and pumps set up and water applied PREV. no firefighting equipment in operating condition; no suitable short circuit protection; no ground fault protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, dust, timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS damage to two belts PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 1006

Hampton No. 3 Mine

Report of Underground Coal Mine Investigation - Mine Fire

Belt drive was being moved on a low-boy when it contacted trolley wire. Arcing ignited wooden roof support headers. Fire extinguishers were either defective or ineffective in high velocity air. Crew unable to find cut out switches so cut cable at splice. Section foreman when alerted, put jumpers across trolley wire to power carrier, re-energizing affected circuit. Water applied. Pauley, W.S., MESA Mt. Hope, 7 pp.

DATE 12/31/76 TIME 2:00A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 72-100 in. SIZE 1500 TPD 199 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 37.6 PROD.

LOC. Clothier, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Westmoreland Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - C. Davis Saf. Dir. - Paul Meek, JR.

CAUSE failure to properly insulate the belt drive against contact with trolley feeder wire, which occurred causing arcing DETECT immediately observed by crew

EXT. EFF. curtain erected; water applied from outlet in adjacent belt entry PREV. no shielding of equipment during movement; no person stationed at automatic circuit breaker during movement of equipment

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, dust, timber, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS damage to wooden supports PROD. LOSS NS

No. 1007

Olga Mine

Locomotive Fire

Smoke was seen issuing from return air/man shaft. A search for fire located a smoldering fire on a tandem locomotive. The fire was put out 15 minutes later. Locomotive evidently overheated as it had pulled 28 trips that shift. Operator had deenergized cable at end of his shift. Huffman, R.P., 5 pp.

DATE 1/20/77 TIME 4:10P DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Pocahontas No. 4

HT. 48-84 in. SIZE 4500 TPD 550 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 35.0 PROD.

LOC. Coalwood, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Olga Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Martin Valeri Saf. Dir. - James Parrott

CAUSE overheated locomotive DETECT smoke seen issuing from return air/man shaft

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. No recommendations

RESC. all men withdrawn

IG. eng. heat FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. locomotive

EQUIP. LOSS contactor panels, air compressor, components and airhoses and wiring PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 1008

Kopperston No. 1 Mine

Fire at Belt Conveyor Mine Car Transfer Station

MESA inspectors arrived for regular inspection and saw fire area left from previous day. Fire occurred for unknown reason in boom area. It was discovered and put out with fire extinguishers and water in a little over a half-hour. Bowman, J.F., Maxey, T.C., Williams, J.D., MESA Mt. Hope.

DATE 3/20/77 TIME 4:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Eagle

HT. 60 in. SIZE 3000 TPD 370 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 30.7 PROD.

LOC. Kopperston, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - possibly light with wrong fuse under wooden seat used for heating DETECT examiner smelled smoke in boom area

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers applied until water car brought up PREV. trolley breaker by-passed, circuits not deenergized on idle shifts, water pressure not maintained, inadequate overcurrent protection

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 1009

Vesta No. 4 & 5

Mine Fire

Fire started from shorted trolley feeder wire hanger and is being fought with water and foam. Preparatory sealing was begun by constructing some stoppings. Huntley, D.W., MESA Monroeville, 2 pp.

DATE 4/10/77 TIME 9:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE 6500 TPD 709 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 35.2 PROD.

LOC. Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE shorted trolley feeder wire hanger DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water applied; foam introduced; numerous roof falls loaded PREV. No recommendations

RESC. all men in both mines withdrawn

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT water, seals, loading, foam EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes No, No

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. to date 4/25/77

No. 1010

No. 50 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Machinery) Fire

Smoke observed on compressor of stoper drill 10 minutes after it was shut down. Foreman and assistant obtained water from nearby line and put fire out. Nicely, H.E., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 4/21/77 TIME 1:40P DUR. 1/3 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 30.7 PROD.

LOC. Pikeville, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. Foreman - John Bodner

CAUSE UNK DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. water line nearby and water applied PREV. no recommendations

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical (?) FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water EQUIP. stoper drill

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to compressor and power wire and 1 tire PROD. LOSS NS

No. 1011

Florence No. 1 Mine - Blacklick Portal

Report of Investigation (Underground Coal Mine)

Fire was discovered in the belt entry. The belt conveyor burned through and separated creating 2 fire areas. Both fires extinguished by water. Chappell, R.J., MESA Hazard, 3 pp.

DATE 7/13/77 TIME NS DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM NS

HT. 72 in. SIZE 2000 TPD 313 Emp. METH. NS VOL. 24.2 PROD.

LOC. Armagh, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Florence Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - J.A. Hickman Saf. Dir. - H. Michaels

CAUSE poorly maintained belt conveyor DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. poor maintenance of belt

RESC. NS

IG. UNK FUEL belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 1012

No. 9-E Mine

Conveyor Belt Fire

Beltman arriving at portal smelled wood smoke but thought it was a forest fire. Shortly, other beltman informed him of stoppage. He travelled inby and found fire along No. 1 belt. He informed superintendent who made arrangements to fight the fire. Power was disconnected and water applied. During clean up 10/10 and 10/11, hot spots were found and extinguished. Kaylor, J.E., MESA Mt. Hope, 5 pp.

DATE 9/23/77 TIME 7:00A DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Powellton

HT. 48-84 in. SIZE 200 TPD 45 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 30.7 PROD.

LOC. Coal Mountain, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Hugh Mullens Foreman - Arthur Houchins

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by beltman

EXT. EFF. water applied from two directions PREV. no examination of belt previous shift

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS damage to belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 1013

No. 3 Mine

Investigation of Mine Fire

Fire broke out when "explosion" occurred at face end of Joy 11 RB cutting machine. No fire-fighting nor sealing materials provided and mine not sealed until 10/2/77 at 9:00 P.M. Turner, H., MESA Pikeville, 2 pp.

DATE 10/1/77 TIME 2:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0 SEAM Thacker

HT. 48 in. SIZE 500 TPD 15/1 Emp. METH. Conv. VOL. 34.5 PROD.

LOC. Turkey Creek, Pike, Kentucky OWN. Big Lump Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT immediately observed by operator

EXT. EFF. mine sealed after long delay due to unavailability of materials PREV. no suitable short protection to trailing cable; no fire suppression devices or fire-resistant hydraulic fluid; equipment not clean; explosives not used in permissible manner

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL coal, insulation AGENT seals EQUIP. cutter

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 1014

Franklin Highwall Mine

Cable Fire (Battery Charging Station)

Ram car driven over charging cable while having battery charged. Fire extinguished with hand portable extinguishers. MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 10/3/77 TIME 12:30A DUR. .10 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 6 SEAM NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS VOL. 37.5 PROD.

LOC. New Athens, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Consolidated Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - T. Kovalski
Foreman - R. Yemich
Saf. Dir. - M. Torchik

CAUSE ram car ran over charging cable while battery being charged DETECT fire noted by ram car operator

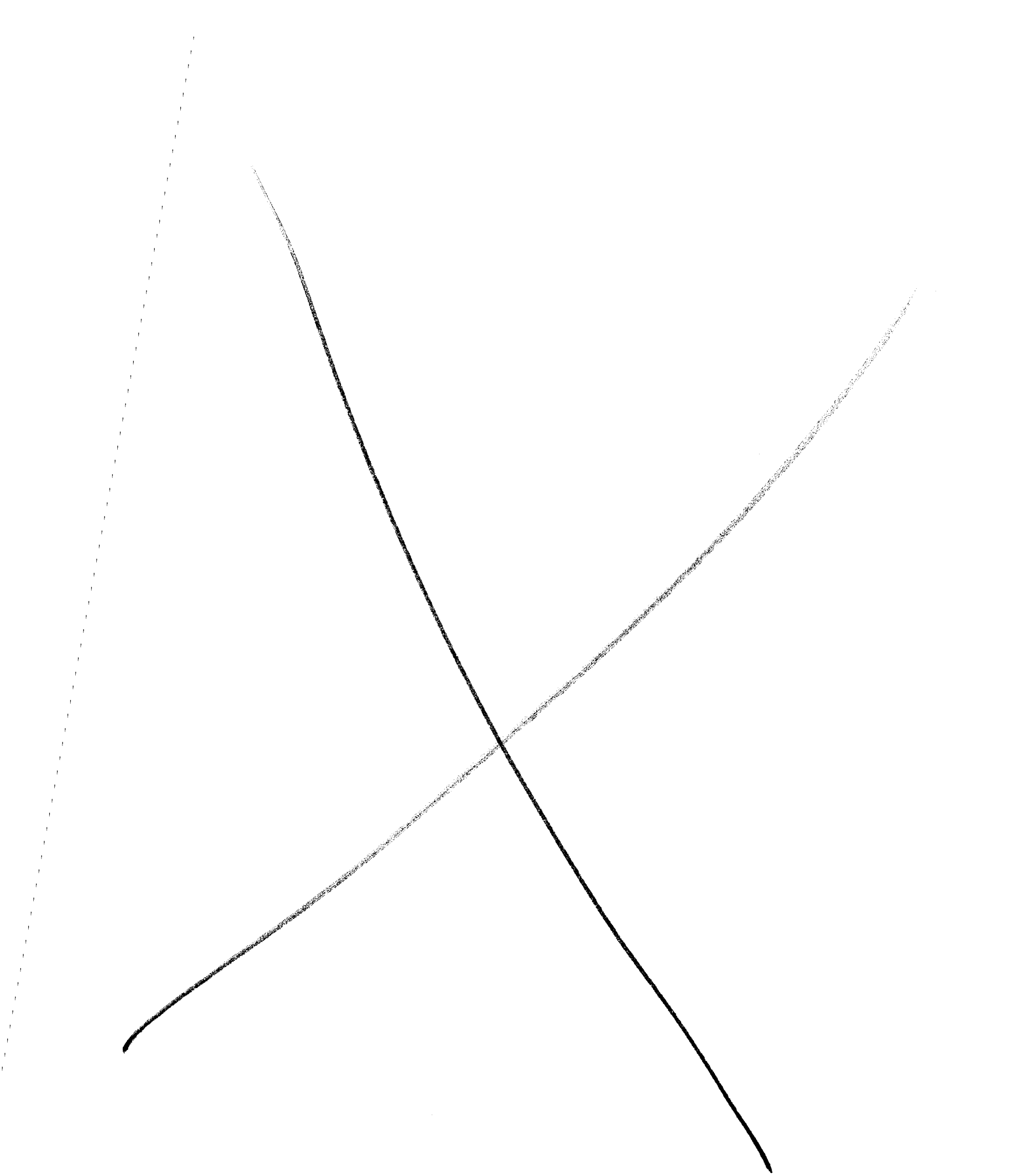
EXT. EFF. used hand portable extinguishers PREV. no protection from physical damage for charging cable

RESC. Mine evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT powder EQUIP. battery charging station

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cable PROD. LOSS NS



Page
Edge
Index
Number

25

50

75

SURFACE COAL MINES

FIRE INCIDENT REPORTS

1950 - 1977

100

125

150

175

This section of the Appendix consists of a fire incident report form for each MSHA accident report that could be located during the study. The items contained in the report forms are defined on the first page of the preceding section.

The page-edge index system on the preceding page is used to assist the reader in locating desired fire incident numbers quickly. To locate a desired section of the table, curl the report edge down to uncover the page edge mark in line with the desired fire incident number.

No. 1

Fire of Unknown Origin that Destroyed Surface Coal Cleaning Plant

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed a large cleaning plant. Curry, T.F., MESA Birmingham, 3 pp.

DATE 3/1/50 TIME 4:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 3500 TPD 63/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Empire, Walker, Alabama OWN. DeBardeleben Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. O L.G. Bishop

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by watchman

EXT. EFF. Fire department called but their services of little value as fire had gained much headway

PREV. excessive amounts of coal stored in plant; pumps installed too close to plant to be operable during fire; no source of independent power

RESC. None - plant not in operation

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EFF. No EQUIP. cleaning plant

EQUIP. LOSS entire cleaning plant - $250,000 plus PROD. LOSS. N/A - mine idle since 2/1/50

No. 2

Grapevine Mine

Surface Fire

Fire of unknown origin started at belt drive located in tipple near discharge end of belt, and burned the belt in two causing the belt to roll back into the slope igniting timbers near the bottom of the slope. Fire department extinguished the fire easily. Dupree, C.H., MESA Vincennes, 1 pp.

DATE 12/30/51 TIME 7:15A DUR. 1.0 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Madisonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Black Star Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - possibly caused by friction between belt drive and belt DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire department applied water PREV. flammable belt

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 30' of belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 3

Regent Mine

Final Report on Minor Mine Fire

Fire occurred in the raw coal belt gallery and when discovered had gained considerable headway. Volunteer fire department called from Dugger, Indiana, and using the plant water supply confined the fire to the belt gallery. O'Connor, J.A., Sheridan, J.P., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 11/1/52 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 58 & 66 in. SIZE 2300 TPD 195 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Indiana No. 5 & No. 6

LOC. Sullivan, Sullivan, Indiana OWN. Linton-Summit Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Joseph Bose

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. adequate; however, smoking was practiced about the surface building

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt, belt framework, rollers, electric motors, wiring and structural framework PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 4

Stephenson Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire detected in hoist room of tipple. Fire department extinguished it. Belt, L.A., MESA Vincennes.

DATE 11/19/52 TIME 10:50P DUR. 2.2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 50 in. SIZE 4011 TPD 8 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Kentucky No. 9

LOC. Hebbardsville, Henderson, Kentucky OWN. Stephenson Coal Co. PERS. Owner - Ed Stephenson

CAUSE battery on starter for gasoline hoist motor shorted igniting combustibles DETECT observed by owner and crew on surface

EXT. EFF. Unspecified attempts by crew unsuccessful; fire department water application successful PREV. poor housekeeping

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL debris, timber AGENT water EQUIP. hoist room

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hoist, lines, vibrator PROD. LOSS NS

No. 5

Triple S

Fire Tipple

Tipple only was in operation - coal must have fired and caused explosion which destroyed the tipple. Beck, Brank, MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 7/20/53 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 1400 TPD METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Cuba, Fulton, Illinois OWN. David E. Rowland PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT neighboring family heard blast

EXT. EFF. fire departments called and attempted to extinguish with no success PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS $500,000 PROD. LOSS. total

No. 6

Phillips Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire

A passing motorist noticed flames in the building. Water was applied to the fire with no success. The mine was subsequently sealed on the surface. The seals collapsed twice, however, by then it appeared the fire was extinguished. Smith, F.J., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 9/25/53 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 66-96 in. SIZE 140 TPD 9 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Warrick

LOC. Boonville, Warrick, Indiana OWN. Shaw Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE men smoking in the tipple DETECT passing motorist noticed flames

EXT. EFF. water, sealing on the surface PREV. inadequate - lack of fire doors, lack of proper fire-fighting facilities; men were smoking

RESC. None - mine empty

IG. burning cigarette FUEL oil, grease, coal, wood AGENT water, seal EQUIP. tipple

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tipple completely destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 7

Louis No. 1 Mine

Report of Fan House & Air Duct Fire

Fire started when overheated internal combustion engine powering the fan, ignited fuel from the attached fuel tank installed directly over the engine. Wooden fan house and connecting wooden air duct were destroyed. Evans, W.L., MESA Morgantown, 3 pp.

DATE 7/3/54 TIME 2:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 50 in. SIZE 90 TPD 18 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Upper Freeport

LOC. Tunnelton, Preston, W. Virginia OWN. Houck-Rediler Brothers Coal Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - Norman Reidler

CAUSE overheated engine powering fan ignited fuel from attached fuel tank DETECT discovered by four workmen upon arrival on surface after their shift

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water PREV. fan operated by internal combustion engine; combustible materials in area; fan not installed in fireproof housing

RESC. None

IG. engine heat FUEL wood, diesel fuel AGENT extinguishers, water, EFF. No, No EQUIP. fan

EQUIP. LOSS entire wooden fan house and connecting wooden air duct PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 8

Cantrall Mine

Report of Coal Mine Tipple Fire

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed wooden tipple. Beck, Brank, MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 11/10/54 TIME 5:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 6' SIZE 300 TPD 35 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Illinois No. 5

LOC. Cantrall, Sangamon, Illinois OWN. Cantrall Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by tipple boss

EXT. EFF. fire department called but they were unsuccessful in efforts to extinguish fire PREV. installations should be carefully and frequently inspected

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EFF. No EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS entire tipple - $50,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 9

Livingston No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Tipple & Prep. Plant Fire

Fire was discovered by employees in tipple and preparation plant. Immediately fire-fighting was begun to no avail. Structure burned completely and will be replaced by used steel structure. Hammons, G.W., MESA Vincennes, 3 pp.

DATE 12/22/54 TIME 2:15A DUR. 12 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 74 in. SIZE 850 TPD 100 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Illinois No. 6

LOC. Livingston, Madison, Illinois OWN. Livingston-Mt. Olive Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by several employees

EXT. EFF. available water and dry chemical applied by fire department unable to control fire; electric power cut and fire allowed to burn out PREV. adequate

RESC. men were stationed in shaft below tipple with fire-fighting equipment if burning material dropped. Five maintenance men escaped through escapeway.

IG. UNK FUEL timber AGENT water EFF. Yes/No EQUIP. tipple and preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS whole preparation plant PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 10

Sterling

Fire in Tipple

Ratkovich, D.R., MESA Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 3/10/55 TIME 4:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv. SEAM NS

LOC. NS OWN. McNeil Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE possible short in light wiring due to high wind DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber, coal AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS weigh house and considerable amount of head frame PROD. LOSS Complete

No. 11

Fairview Mine

Report of Mine Fire (Surface Substation)

Passing motorist saw fire and notified gas station which called fire department. Fire chief instructed men to stay 20' back of oil drums as they were bulging. While checking pump he heard explosion, one of men approached to 8' and sprayed hot drum. Explosion broke concrete wall, spewed hot oil on 2 men and sent concrete piece to cut one mans eye. Callahan, J.T., MESA Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/18/55 TIME 4:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 3

HT. 60 in. SIZE 75 TPD 7/1 Emp. METH. Cont. SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Short Creek, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Fairview Coal Mining PERS. Foreman - Raymond Zitko

CAUSE UNK DETECT by passing motorist

EXT. EFF. Fire department sprayed water PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL oil, grease, timber AGENT water EQUIP. substation

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS substation building, diesel motor, generator, 1 side of wooden building, PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 12

Sun Valley Mine

Surface Fire

Fire of probable electrical origin occurred on surface destroying the diesel motor generator set and structure. It is believed a short circuit occurred on coil of generator. Chemicals extinguished fire. Husted, A.C., Salt Lake City, 2 pp.

DATE 6/27/55 TIME 9:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 60 TPD 4/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM No. 1

LOC. Emery, Emery, Utah OWN. Sun Valley Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Harold Sitterud

CAUSE short circuit on coil of generator DETECT discovered by mine foreman upon returning to surface

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, chemicals PREV. no recommendations made

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL wood AGENT extinguishers, rock dust, chemicals EQUIP. generator

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS diesel motor generator set and structure PROD. LOSS NS

No. 13

No. 101 Mine

Tipple Fire

Cutting work finished 11:30 P.M. 6/30/55. Many witnesses saw no smoke after. At 3:00 A.M., watchman noticed smoke. While he was checking 1st and 2nd floors, fire broke out in the 3rd floor (engine hoisting control room). Employees living nearby responded to his alarm and applied water and DuGas extinguishers. Fire department arrived and put fire out. Kemrite, F.E., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 7/1/55 TIME 3:00A DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 1548 TPD 198/3 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM NS

LOC. Century, Barbour, W. Virginia OWN. Bethlehem Mines Corp. PERS. Supt. - L. McGee

CAUSE (probably) from sparks from acetylene torch which fell between platform and floor in hoisting engineers control room DETECT by watchman

EXT. EFF. nearby employees applied available extinguishers, fire department arrived and applied water PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. sparks FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water, CO2 EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. hoist room

EQUIP. LOSS wooden flooring and electrical installation PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 14

Tri-K Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Prep. Plant)

Tipple was idle (between shifts) when fire was discovered in upper part of building. Considerable smoke, flame and arcing required assistance of fire department in extinguishing blaze. Douglas, S.J., Perz, F., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 8/17/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 66 in. SIZE 700 TPD 50 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Indiana No. 5

LOC. Terre Haute, Vigo, Indiana OWN. Tri-K Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE probably electrical arc from overheated wire contacting combustibles DETECT supply man noticed smoke

EXT. EFF. by fire department PREV. poor welding practice; poor wiring isolation

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, oil, grease AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS shaker screens with motor drive, several switches, main power switch, part of conveyor belt PROD. LOSS NS

No. 15

Sewell Chief

An oil switch exploded in surface substation severely burning foreman on duty. Hobart, G., 2 pp.

DATE 9/1/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Richwood, W. Virginia OWN. Woolridge Coal Mining PERS. Foreman - Clarence Beale

CAUSE oil switch exploded DETECT immediate by foreman

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. explosion FUEL clothing AGENT NS EQUIP. substation

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS assume substation lost PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 16

Betsy Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Strip Mine)

Mine was idle. Janitress noticed smoke. By the time fire-fighting began, fire was out of control. Heavy loss. Unknown cause. Eakins, J.S., HSAC Denver, 4 pp.

DATE 10/8/55 TIME 3:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 52 in. SIZE 2600 TPD 95 Emp. METH. auger and shovel SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Smithfield, Jefferson, Ohio OWN. Powhatan Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - A.D. Henry

CAUSE possibly short in battery cables near 50 gal. fuel tanks DETECT janitress noticed smoke

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. adequate

RESC. N/A

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, timber, building, trucks AGENT water EQUIP. garage, repair shop, tractors

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS $300,000 - garage, repair shop, 6 large tractor-trailers, one tractor, large supply of parts PROD. LOSS NS

No. 17

Dexter City Coal Mine

Surface Fire

Small shed attached to front of maintenance garage was destroyed. Faulty (new) electrical heating unit was blamed. Graham, M., HSAC Denver.

DATE 12/3/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Dexter City, Ohio OWN. Electro-Metallurgical Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE faulty electric heating unit or wiring DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber AGENT UNK EQUIP. shop

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS building PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 18

Valley Camp No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Surface Cleaning Plant)

Fire occurred on outside of cleaning plant when sparks from an oxyacetylene torch being used by construction workers flew onto a retarder counterweight hung outside the building, igniting oil and grease on the counterweight. Fire spread to asphalt coating on the sheet metal siding. Fire extinguished with water from fire hydrant. Symons, W.J., MESA St. Clairsville, 3 pp.

DATE 2/9/56 TIME 12:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 54 in. SIZE 2300 TPD 205/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - A.E. Vanaman Saf. Dir. - M.J. Mechling

CAUSE sparks from oxyacetylene torch ignited oil and grease DETECT noticed immediately by construction workers

EXT. EFF. water PREV. oil and grease on equipment within flying range of sparks from torch

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL oil, grease, asphalt AGENT water EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS sheet metal siding PROD. LOSS NS

No. 19

Clymer No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Surface (Fanhouse) Fire

Fire started in fanhouse caused by heat created by friction from belts slipping. Fire fighting equipment could not be reached as it was kept in the motor room of fanhouse where fire was. Fire department successfully extinguished fire. Coleman, J.D., Montgomery, W.O., MESA Johnstown, 4 pp.

DATE 3/5/56 TIME 1:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 44 in. SIZE 300 TPD 32/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Lower Freeport

LOC. Clymer, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - J. Leadbetter

CAUSE heat created by friction from belts slipping DETECT discovered by man in tipple and a nearby resident

EXT. EFF. fire department successfully extinguished fire PREV. belt not fire resistant; oil accumulation on floor; drive belts loose; fire fighting equipment could not be reached

RESC. None on surface - 13 men underground evacuated

IG. friction FUEL insulation, oil, belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt and fan

EQUIP. LOSS fan motor, wiring, belt drive and recording pressure gage PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 20

Report of Coal Mine Surface Fire

Fire occurred in tipple and oil house; exact cause of the blast and fire could not be determined. Master switch in tipple was pulled. Due to power failure, pump would not start. Fire extinguished by fire department. Dona, Ben J., MESA Vincennes.

DATE 3/8/56 TIME 8:00P DUR. 3½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Nortonville, Hopkins, Kentucky OWN. Jenkins Coal Mining Co. PERS. Foreman - J. Thorp Co-owner - C. Jenkins

CAUSE UNK DETECT blast heard by employees & officials & foreman saw smoke

EXT. EFF. fire department extinguished fire PREV. no recommendations made

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL oil AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. tipple and oil house

EQUIP. LOSS oil house completely demolished; area affected in tipple contained a vibrator, 20 electric motor and switches and a washer pump PROD. LOSS NS

No. 21

Diamond No. 2 Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Tipple) Fire

Fire occurred in tipple when molten metal from rivets being cut off a chain with acetylene torch ignited materials beneath the chain. Fire department extinguished fire. One man received slight burns of the face while fighting fire and received first aid treatment. Null, V.D., MESA Johnstown, 3 pp.

DATE 4/16/56 TIME 8:00A DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. 42 in. SIZE 1450 TPD 180/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Lower Kittanning

LOC. Charles, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Imperial Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Matthew Jarvie

CAUSE molten metal from rivets ignited combustible materials DETECT 2 repairmen discovered fire

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, fire department PREV. combustible materials accumulated in tipple

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust, grease, oil AGENT water, extinguishers, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS 2 wooden window sashes and mine telephone PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 22

Sunshine Coal Companys Preparation Plant

Surface Fire

During construction of coal washing plant, sparks from a welding torch evidently ignited heavy dimensions of lumber covering the shaft. Much water was pumped into shaft to prevent spread of fire into the mine. McCune, J., MESA Vincennes, 1 pp.

DATE 5/7/56 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 900 TPD 65/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Bicknell, Knox, Indiana OWN. Sunshine Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE sparks from cutters torch DETECT immediate by welder

EXT. EFF. water put upon fire and shaft PREV. None

RESC. N/A

IG. torch spark FUEL timber, plant AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. cleaning plant

EQUIP. LOSS $400,000 to plant PROD. LOSS complete

No. 23

Fateley Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Fan Buildings & Airshaft) Fire

Fire occurred when lightning struck the fan house and escape shaft at mine. Fan house was consumed by fire and penetrated down escape shaft setting fire to coal bed around the shaft bottom. Surface fire extinguished with water and affected area of mine sealed. Sheridan, J.P., MESA Vincennes, 3 pp.

DATE 6/6/56 TIME 9:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 48 in. SIZE 40 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Bevier

LOC. Thomas Hill, Randolph, Missouri OWN. Fateley Coal Co. PERS. Owner - J.O. Fateley

CAUSE lightning DETECT discovered by owner

EXT. EFF. water extinguished surface fire; affected area of mine sealed PREV. fanhouse not fireproof; fanhouse too close to nearest side of mine opening; sheet metal buildings should be grounded effectively

RESC. None - mine idle

IG. lightning FUEL wood, coal AGENT water, seals, EQUIP. fan house

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS fan house total loss - wood lining in escape shaft PROD. LOSS. None - mine had been idle

---

No. 24

Wolf Creek No. 2 Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed tipple at mine. Fire could have been started by lightning hit or short circuit in electric wiring in tipple: electric circuit in the tipple was energized. Ratkovich, Dan R., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 7/21/56 TIME 10:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Canon City, Colorado OWN. Strainer Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT boys from nearby town discovered fire

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. power on unattended equipment

RESC. None - mine idle since 5/31/56

IG. UNK FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. tipple

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS tipple completely destroyed PROD. LOSS None

No. 25

Dean No. 2 Mine

Report of Fatal Miscellaneous (Ignition of Gasoline) Accident

Strip mine accident occurred when employee opened a drum of gasoline and the pressure sprayed gasoline on him. Fumes were blown to where welding was being done (25 feet) and ignited and flashed back catching one man on fire who died 8/16/56 from 3rd degree burns. Another employee received less severe burns as he tried to help smother the flames. Neal, Joseph, MESA Jellico, 4 pp.

DATE 8/15/56 TIME 12:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 1

HT. 48 in. SIZE 300 TPD 18/2 Emp. METH. Strip & Auger SEAM Dean

LOC. Dean, Scott, Tennessee OWN. Dean Coal Co., Inc. PERS. Foreman - P.T. Lindsay V.P. - Ralph M. Ross

CAUSE drum containing gasoline opened near source of ignition DETECT observed immediately by 2 workmen

EXT. EFF. employees tried to put fire out with their shirts unsuccessfully and soil used to finally smother flames PREV. drum containing gasoline opened near source of ignition; gasoline in tightly closed container and in the sun; container unsafe for delivering gas

RESC. employees tried extinguishing fire on victim with shirts unsuccessfully; victim covered with soil and flames smothered

IG. spontaneous FUEL clothing, gasoline AGENT shirts, soil, EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 26

No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire Fan House & Portal

Fire started from unknown cause destroying the mine fan enclosure and setting fire to the cross bars and lagging in the drift mouth of the mine. Soil and clay applied unsuccessfully to fire and water finally quenched fire. Kessler, W.W., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 11/27/56 TIME 11:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 36 in. SIZE 65 TPD 22/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Mystic

LOC. Graysville, Putnam, Missouri OWN. Clark Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - W.T. Clark Foreman - M. Guffey

CAUSE UNK DETECT miner smelled smoke

EXT. EFF. soil, clay, water PREV. fanhouse not fireproof; no firefighting equipment at mine; crossbars and lagging were wooden

RESC. Men withdrawn from underground

IG. UNK FUEL lagging, belt, crossbars AGENT water, soil, clay, EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. fan house

EQUIP. LOSS mine fan enclosure PROD. LOSS operations resumed 11/30/56

No. 27

Gibson Mine

Report of Mine Tipple Fire

Fire occurred in tipple at mine; undetermined origin. It was the opinion the fire was of electrical origin as power circuits in the tipple were energized. Fire department extinguished the fire. Turner, E., Krek, R.I., MESA Pittsburgh, 3 pp.

DATE 12/6/56 TIME 3:00A DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 64 in. SIZE 200 TPD 42/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh

LOC. Bentleyville, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Island Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT passing motorist observed fire

EXT. EFF. fire department extinguished fire PREV. power circuits for tipple left energized when it was unattended

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tipple - $50,000 to $75,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 28

Decker No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Cleaning Plant Fire

Fire was discovered in the cleaning plant of subject mine. It is believed that defective wiring or short circuit in the alternating current power may have caused the fire as the plant was energized prior to the fire. Fire department extinguished fire and prevented spread of flames to the crusher, raw coal storage bin and wooden tipple. Husted, A.C., MESA Pittsburgh, 3 pp.

DATE 5/8/57 TIME 10:30P DUR. 5½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 42 in. SIZE 350 TPD 33/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Upper Freeport

LOC. Kittanning, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Powell Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - James Hosey

CAUSE UNK DETECT motorist observed fire

EXT. EFF. fire department extinguished fire PREV. power circuits for tipple left energized when it was unattended

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL preparation plant AGENT water EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS partial loss of the structure and equipment therein - excess of $50,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 29

Ragnoni Drift Mine

Surface Fire at Abandoned Ragnoni Drift Mine

Fire of unknown origin destroyed a small wooden frame coal pocket on the surface at the abandoned mine. Fire smoldered for a week and ignited culm and mine refuse in the area. Bulldozer was used to spread out burning material and water applied effectively. Moore, James A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 6/29/57 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Archbald, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Perrine Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. None

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, culm, mine refuse AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS small wooden frame coal pocket PROD. LOSS. None

No. 30

Glenwood Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the Glenwood Breaker. Several fire departments were called and extinguished fire. Moore, James A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 7/28/57 TIME 3:15A DUR. 3 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 6 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Moosic, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Glenwood Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire departments PREV. None

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS breaker total loss - $32,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 31

Reitz No. 3 Lower Mine

Investigation on Fire in Surface Building

Fire resulting from stroke of lightning destroyed the hoist house and its components and a portion of the tipple. Volunteer fire department extinguished fire. Moore, D.W., Devett, W.R., MESA Johnstown, 2 pp.

DATE 9/1/57 TIME 2:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Central City, Somerset, Pennsylvania OWN. Reitz Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE lightning DETECT detected by residents in vicinity of mine

EXT. EFF. volunteer fire department PREV. additional lightning protection for overhead powerlines and surface buildings should be considered

RESC. None

IG. lightning FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. tipple and hoist house

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 30' length of tipple structure, hoise house and hoisting equipment PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 32

Cameo Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire caused by spontaneous combustion of coal in the slack storage bin completely destroyed the tipple. Roberts, William, HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 9/29/57 TIME 1:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Cameo, Mesa, Colorado OWN. Kerr Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous combustion of coal DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal, tipple AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS tipple completely destroyed - $50,000; loss of coal production at 3500 tons PROD. LOSS resumed operations on 10/8/57

No. 33

Loyal Mine

Report of Coal Mine (Surface Substation) Fire

A fire was initiated by electric arcing which destroyed a surface substation. The Saltsburg Fire Department was summoned but was delayed due to mechanical difficulties which necessitated the use of chemicals to extinguish the fire. Brown, C.L., Krek, R.I., HSAC Denver, 6 pp.

DATE 1/9/58 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 44 in. SIZE 3300 TPD 190/3 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Upper Freeport

LOC. Loyalhanna Township, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Wyatt-Seanor Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - R.D. Meeks

CAUSE arcing electrical faults in the alternating current circuit DETECT employee enroute to work discovered fire

EXT. EFF. chemicals PREV. adequate

RESC. maintenance workers underground removed to safety

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil AGENT chemicals EFF. Yes EQUIP. substation

EQUIP. LOSS surface substation PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 34

Raymond Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire, possibly caused by sparks from burning with acetylene torch, completely destroyed the roll house. Several fire companies were called and fire extinguished. Culverhouse, G.W., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 3/6/58 TIME 8:55A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 15/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Eynon, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Northwest Coal Co. PERS. V.P. - A. Mascelli

CAUSE possibly caused by sparks from acetylene torch DETECT discovered by welder

EXT. EFF. soda-acid extinguishers, fire departments PREV. acetylene torch used where wood and other flammable materials were exposed to the sparks

RESC. None

IG. sparks FUEL wood AGENT water, soda-acid EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. roll house

EQUIP. LOSS roll house completely destroyed - excess of $30,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 35

No. 3 Mine

Report of Serious Injuries From Explosion & Fire

Explosion and fire occurred while superintendent and another employee were welding a furnace grate in the combination mine foremans office and hoise house and scale house. It is believed a spark from the electric welder ignited gasoline which had been used to clean parts of the hoist and was stored in the structure. Structure destroyed and 2 men received severe burns. Jones, Harry, MESA Morgantown, 3 pp.

DATE 3/29/58 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2

HT. 28 in. SIZE 40 TPD 12/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Bakerstown

LOC. Barton, Allegany, Maryland OWN. Gary Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H.N. DeShong Foreman - E.J. Ross

CAUSE possibly from sparks from electric welder ignited gasoline DETECT immediate detection by mine superintendent and another employee who were doing the welding

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. flammable solvents used to clean equipment; structure not fireproof; welding done too close to flammable materials

RESC. tipple foreman upon seeing fire rushed to scene and helped extinguish burning clothing on the 2 men

IG. electrical FUEL wood, gasoline, clothing AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. mine foremans office, hoist house and scale house

EQUIP. LOSS Total loss of structure PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 36

Leon E. Kocher Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire, which may have been started by sparks or hot pieces of metal from acetylene torch used for cutting metal, almost totally destroyed the breaker where fire occurred. Fire extinguished by several volunteer fire companies. Todd, R.C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 5/1/58 TIME 11:10P DUR. 5 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 800 TPD 25/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Goodspring, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Leon E. Kocher Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Fred Schwalm

CAUSE possibly from sparks or hot pieces of metal from acetylene torch DETECT night watchman discovered fire

EXT. EFF. several fire companies PREV. acetylene torch used near combustible materials exposed to sparks and/or hot metal

RESC. None

IG. sparks FUEL wood AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS breaker almost totally destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 37

Marlin Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire, possibly started by sparks or hot pieces from acetylene torch used for cutting metal, completely destroyed breaker where fire occurred. Five fire companies extinguished the fire. Deak, Thomas F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 6/5/58 TIME 4:45P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 100 tons per hr. 6/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Mar Lin, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Crawson Equipment Co. PERS. Foreman - B.A. Buhl

CAUSE possibly from sparks or hot pieces of metal from acetylene torch DETECT discovered by night watchman at nearby plant

EXT. EFF. five fire companies PREV. electric power for pump was disconnected; acetylene torch used near combustibles

RESC. None

IG. sparks FUEL wood and other combustibles AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS breaker destroyed - $150,000 to $200,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 38

No. 2 Slope Mine

Report of Surface Structure Fire

Fire of unknown origin started in the generator room of a combination generator, shop, washhouse, and first aid room of structure. Fire completely gutted the structure. Fire company called and extinguished the fire. Fortney, G.W., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 6/17/58 TIME 6:00P DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 250 TPD 46/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Pittston, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. P and J Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by headman working on nearby tipple

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. poor housekeeping; generator housed in same room as shop and other equipment

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. combination generator, shop, washhouse & first aid room

EQUIP. LOSS structure completely destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 39

Spring Mountain Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire occurred in breaker which had ceased operations and was being dismantled. It is believed the fire was caused by some object striking and damaging the oxygen and propane cutting equipment and igniting the tanks. Fire department extinguished fire, however, breaker was a total loss. Sigworth, C.S., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 7/23/58 TIME 3:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 4 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Jeansville, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Lehigh Valley Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - J.F. Baumann

CAUSE falling object striking and rupturing hose, gauges, or oxygen and propane tanks and escaping gases ignited by spark or hot metal DETECT discovered by foreman

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. tanks containing gas and equipment attached to tanks should be kept where they cannot be struck by falling objects

RESC. Men evacuated building

IG. electrical FUEL gas, wood AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS breaker completely destroyed PROD. LOSS. UNK

No. 40

Brier City Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire of undetermined origin totally destroyed the breaker. The breaker had been idle since 6/25/68 and no power was used in it since that date. Three fire companies extinguished fire. Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 7/26/58 TIME 1:45P DUR. 3 ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 350 TPD 11/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Minersville, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Queen Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT reported by several unidentified persons

EXT. EFF. 3 volunteer fire companies PREV. no recommendations made

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS breaker totally destroyed - $100,000 - $125,000 PROD. LOSS UNK

No. 41

Sonman Slope "E" Mine

Surface Fire in Cherry Bottom Substation

Fire occurred in substation caused by the overheating of the stator windings while operating on a single phase resulting when a short circuit on the direct current power system caused insulation failure on one of the stator windings causing it to burn open. Volunteer fire department extinguished fire. Devett, W.R., MESA Johnstown, 2 pp.

DATE 7/28/58 TIME 11:00A DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Sonman, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Eastern Gas & Fuel Associates PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit on the direct current power system DETECT smoke observed by telephone crew while working on nearby telephone line

EXT. EFF. volunteer fire department PREV. protective relays should be tested periodically and maintained in proper operating condition

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, wood AGENT water EQUIP. substation

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to motor generator set, switching and control panels, wiring and 30' of roof - $7,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 42

Bowman No. 2 Mine

Investigation of a Surface Fire

Fire of undetermined origin caused extensive damage to belt conveyor and coal bin in a tipple. Fire department extinguished fire. Krek, R.I., 3 pp.

DATE 8/6/58 TIME 5:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Loyalhanna Township, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Bowman Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Peter Montali

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by employee in preparation plant

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water from pump (ineffective as service line severed by fire), fire department PREV. belts not flame resistant; coal dust accumulated around tipple

RESC. none

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, belt, wood, dust AGENT extinguishers, water EQUIP. tipple and conveyor belt

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to rubber belt conveyor and wooden coal bin and 2 steel ropes - $10,000 - $20,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 43

Vinton No. 6 Mine

Surface Fire in Cleaning Plant

Fire of undetermined origin occurred originating in abandoned section of the cleaning plant. It is assumed a small fire started by sparks or hot metal from a cutting torch used earlier in the day and fire later gained great headway. Fire extinguished by volunteer fire companies. Devett, W.R., Williams, F.A., MESA Johnstown, 2 pp.

DATE 9/17/58 TIME 10:55P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Vintondale, Cambria, Pennsylvania OWN. Collins Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE possibly cause from sparks or hot metal from cutting torch DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. volunteer fire companies PREV. area should be watered down before and after cutting and area policed to insure fire will not be kindled

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS car dump and its drive motor and wiring, timbers, roofing and siding and flooring in operating section of plant; abandoned section completely destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 44

Decker No. 3 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Cleaning Plant Fire

Fire in cleaning plant resulted in partial loss of the structure and equipment therein. Direct source of fire undetermined but believed a short circuit in the power wires may have caused fire as power circuit in plant was energized prior to fire. Several fire companies extinguished fire and prevented its spread. Satterfield, M.J., MESA Pittsburgh, 3 pp.

DATE 10/11/58 TIME 11:30A DUR. 4½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 42 in. SIZE 296 TPD 38/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Upper Freeport

LOC. Kittanning, Armstrong, Pennsylvania OWN. Powell Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - C. McGregor, Jr.

CAUSE possibly from short circuit in power wires DETECT cleaning plant foreman discovered the fire

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, several fire companies PREV. power circuits for structures not being attended should be deenergized

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL cleaning plant AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers, EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes, No, No

EQUIP. LOSS partial loss of cleaning plant and equipment therein PROD. LOSS NS

No. 45

No. 1B Mine

Report of Investigation of Surface Fire Near Mine Opening

Fire occurred in supply room in which explosives and detonators were stored and resulted in an explosion which killed a pony in an adjoining enclosure. Supply room burned completely. Fire could have been started from smoking or open carbide lights. Fitzgerald, L.G., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 11/12/58 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 48 in. SIZE 15 TPD 3/Emp. METH. NS SEAM Sewell

LOC. Mt. Hope, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. C.A. Williams Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - C.A. Williams

CAUSE possibly from smoking or open carbide lights DETECT smoke noticed by foreman and 2 workers

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. 3 men ran from burning structure

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal, explosives AGENT NS EQUIP. supply room

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS supply room demolished PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 46

Pine No. 1 Mine

Cleaning Plant Fire

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the cleaning plant. Devett, William R., MESA Johnstown, 2 pp.

DATE 12/25/58 TIME 3:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Mentcle, Indiana, Pennsylvania OWN. Pine Township Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT alarm turned in by passing motorists

EXT. EFF. 2 volunteer fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cleaning plant totally destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 47

Mrak Strip Mine

Fire, Surface Coal Storage Bin

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the coal storage bin and coal stored in it. Fire department extinguished fire after thawing out their pumps. Fire could have been started by short circuit in the electric light wires or by a discarded cigarette. Ratkovich, Dan R., Anchorage, 2 pp.

DATE 12/31/58 TIME 11:45P DUR. 14½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Eska, Alaska OWN. Mrak Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by night man at the boiler house

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. coal bin

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS storage bin and coal in it (160 tons) were completely destroyed; parts of conveyor destroyed PROD. LOSS. mine resumed operations 1/2/59

No. 48

Soldier Canyon Mine

Report of Coal Mine Bath & Scale House Fire

Fire occurred in bath house resulting in total loss of same and the adjoining scale house, and contents and equipment therein. It is believed fire started from an overheated chimney. Fire was extinguished by water pumped from the mine. Husted, A.C., Salt Lake City, 2 pp.

DATE 1/4/59 TIME 2:00P DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 10' SIZE 100 TPD 5/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Rock Canyon

LOC. Wellington, Carbon, Utah OWN. Premium Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE (opinion) overheated chimney DETECT watchman discovered fire

EXT. EFF. chemicals, water PREV. chimneys should be well constructed and insulated

RESC. None

IG. overheated chimney FUEL bath and scale house AGENT water, chemicals, EQUIP. bath & scale house

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS total loss of bath house and scale house $18,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 49

Western Mine

Report of Coal Mine Cleaning Plant Fire

Fire occurred in cleaning plant resulting in total loss of same and equipment therein. It is believed that the thermostat on oil tank broke causing the oil to spray onto the heater elements which caused the fire. Two fire departments extinguished fire. Husted, A.C., Salt Lake City, 3 pp.

DATE 1/7/59 TIME 8:30A DUR. 3½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 30-50 in. SIZE 600 TPD 41/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Liberty

LOC. Mutual, Carbon, Utah OWN. Western Coal Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT tipple operator observed fire

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, rock dust, fire departments PREV. oil stored in non-fire resistant construction

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL insulation, oil, belt AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers, EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS total loss of cleaning plant and equipment therein - $35,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 50

Reels Cove No. 2 Mine

Tipple & Surface Belt Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed tipple and 4,000 feet of surface belt line. Fire originated on belt line, but cause was not determined. Amburgey, Ira, Jellico, 2 pp.

DATE 1/10/59 TIME 5:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Whitwell, Tennessee OWN. Tennessee Products and Chemical Corp. PERS. Supt. - H.A. Daffron Foreman - Pat Baker

CAUSE UNK DETECT by person living near tipple who was awakened by light from the fire

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL belt, tipple AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. tipple and belt

EQUIP. LOSS tipple destroyed and 4,000 feet of surface belt line PROD. LOSS NS

No. 51

Thomas W. Schneck Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Breaker almost totally destroyed when pail of fuel oil was spilled and ran in the firebox of the boiler causing the fire. Extinguished by fire companies later the same day. One man (owner) received 2nd degree burns and another (laborer) received broken ribs and possible fracture of the right hip. Landis, H.P., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 2/2/59 TIME 1:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE 250 TPD 15/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Suedberg, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Thomas W. Schneck Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fuel oil contacting the fire in the boiler DETECT immediate detection by owner & laborer

EXT. EFF. 2 fire companies PREV. flammable liquids used to clean equipment; flammable liquids in open containers & too near source of ignition

RESC. men evacuated building - owner and laborer injured

IG. fuel oil contacting boiler FUEL wood, oil AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS breaker almost a total loss PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 52

Eccles No. 5 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fire (Surface Hoist House & Underground Substations)

Control room (in hoist house) roof caught fire after hoist had been run for a prolonged period at slow speed for training. Resistor bank hung from roof overheated and ignited the roof. Fire spread to roof of main building and cable leading to substation in main east burned setting substation on fire. Fire put out with foam extinguishers and rock dust. Hoist house fire fought with water. Gallagher, F.J., Childers, M.S., MESA Mt. Hope, 5 pp.

DATE 2/5/59 TIME 11:50A DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 80 in. SIZE 1454 TPD 155/2 Emp. METH. Cont. & Conv. SEAM Beckley

LOC. Eccles, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates PERS. Supt. - C.A. Perdue Saf. Dir. - L.A. Mabry

CAUSE overheated resistors mounted on top of contactor panel DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water, foam type extinguishers, rock dust PREV. resistors should be located distance from combustibles, circuit breaker & reverse current protection suggested

RESC. None - mine idle

IG. overheated resistors FUEL insulation, wood AGENT water, foam, rock dust, EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. hoist house & underground substation

EQUIP. LOSS damage to main east substation and hoist house control room; generator tore up windings operating as a motor;hoist ropes replaced PROD. LOSS none - mine idle

No. 53

Springbrook Breaker

Report of Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed breaker. It is believed that sparks from an acetylene torch may have caused the fire. Several fire companies extinguished the fire. Culverhouse, George W., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 2/19/59 TIME 6:45P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Moosic, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Springbrook Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE (opinion) sparks from acetylene torch DETECT fire alarm sounded

EXT. EFF. several fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS breaker destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 54

Recla Slope Mine

Report of Fire of Surface Structures

Fire completely destroyed a combination shifting shanty and lamp house, a supply house and a building housing an air compressor. It is believed the fire started in the combination structure by an overheated stove. Fire department called but could not get close to structures as electric detonators were exploding in the supply house. Carson, Lee B., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 3/26/59 TIME 1:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 50 TPD 8/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Branch Dale, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Recla Coal Co. PERS. Co-partner - Guy E. Recla

CAUSE overheated stove DETECT NS - co-partner was notified of fire by telephone

EXT. EFF. fire department called but were stopped due to electric detonators exploding PREV. stove containing burning coal should be arranged to prevent overheating

RESC. None

IG. overheated stove FUEL wood, explosives AGENT water EQUIP. 3 surface buildings

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS combination shifting shanty and lamp house, supply house; and a building housing air compressor - $2,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 55

Thompson Creek No. 1 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Surface Fire

Fire, started by overheated coal stove, was near the discharge end of the main conveyor belt which extended underground. Some fire was carried a short distance into the mine when the belt stopped, by breaking or deenergizing of the power line. Very little smoke entered the mine and fire extinguished with rock dust and water. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 4/17/59 TIME 2:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 2-6' SIZE 550 TPD 76/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM A & B

LOC. Carbondale, Pitkin, Colorado OWN. Thompson Creek Coal and Coke Corp. PERS. Supt. - Andrew Allan

CAUSE unattended overheated coal stove DETECT night watchman observed fire

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. conveyor belt not fire-resistant; power circuits not deenergized at end of shift; unattended coal burning stoves should be dampened

RESC. 4 men underground evacuated to surface

IG. overheated coal stove FUEL insulation, wood, belt AGENT water, rock dust EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt

EQUIP. LOSS 100 ft. of belt, electrical wiring PROD. LOSS. 1 shift

---

No. 56

White River Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire in tipple was caused by hot metal from welding done earlier which dropped into conveyor buckets containing coal and the draft from underneath the tipple turned smoldering coal to a blaze. Tipple was a total loss. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 12/4/59 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Rangely, Rio Blanco, Colorado OWN. White River Fuel Co. PERS. Foreman - Robert Staley

CAUSE hot metal dropping into conveyor buckets which contained coal DETECT discovered by mine foreman

EXT. EFF. fire department called, however, tipple already burned down when they arrived PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. hot metal FUEL coal, wood AGENT water EFF. No EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS tipple total loss - $50,000 PROD. LOSS operations resumed on 12/26/59

No. 57

Newkirk Colliery

Report on a Surface Fire

Fire caused by a short circuit in overheated power circuit completely destroyed pump house. Fire was beyond control when fire department arrived and they remained to patrol the area. Todd, R.C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 1/25/60 TIME 9:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Newkirk, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Newkirk Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in overheated power circuit DETECT discovered by truck loader

EXT. EFF. fire company called, but fire beyond control when they arrived PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL pump house AGENT water EQUIP. pump house

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS pump house, 3 pump motors, 10 tons of lime and a lime mixing machine completely destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 58

Seiler & Bair Breaker

Report of Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the Seiler & Bair breaker. Carson, Lee B., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 2/13/60 TIME 11:20P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Spring Glen, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen-Mont Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by person living near breaker

EXT. EFF. 2 fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS breaker destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 59

No. 19 Mine

Belt Fire on Surface Compressor

Fire started on drive belt for the compressor which was caused by the belt slipping on the drive pulley from oil accumulations on the belt. Fire extinguished with water and chemical extinguishers and damage confined to the belt and drive pulley. Sigworth, C.S., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 2/26/60 TIME 3:30A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Wanamie, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Alden Corp. PERS. Foreman - W. Waslofski

CAUSE belt slipping on drive pulley DETECT discovered by 3rd shift lampman

EXT. EFF. chemical extinguishers, water, and carbon tetrachloride extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL oil, belt AGENT water, powder, carbon tetrachloride EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS confined to belt and drive pulley PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 60

Lansford Colliery

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire of undetermined origin occurred in breaker that was being dismantled and machinery recovered. Fire was discovered in area where acetylene torch had been used on 3/9/60. Fire was extinguished with water. Todd, Robert C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 3/11/60 TIME 10:15A DUR. 12 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Lansford, Carbon, Pennsylvania OWN. Isaac Weiner, Inc. PERS. Foreman - John Long

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by foreman

EXT. EFF. carbon dioxide extinguishers, water from barrels in breaker, and fire company PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT water, carbon dioxide extinguishers EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS dismantling operations resumed 3/14/60

No. 61

Breaker Fire

Fire which started in a compressor room at the end of the main conveyor line partly destroyed the breaker, cause was undetermined. Moore, James A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 3/13/60 TIME 9:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 300 TPD 10 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Inkerman, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Sebastopol Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT UNK EQUIP. crusher

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS main conveyor line section of breaker and section where coal was prepared PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 62

George Simpson 12A Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed tipple and coal. Bulldozer pushed burning debris away from coal beds and mixed with inert materials to extinguish. Ratkovich, Dan R., HSAC Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 6/22/60 TIME NS DUR. 3 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Shiprock, New Mexico OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT detected by driver of oil truck passing by

EXT. EFF. bulldozer used to push burning debris away from slope portal and fire in lower bed dug out and removed PREV. NS

RESC. None - mine idle

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT inert material EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tipple destroyed and some coal PROD. LOSS NS

No. 63

Mason & Sons No. 4 Mine

Preparation Plant Fire

Fire occurred in preparation plant resulting in total loss of the structure. Nearby fire companies fought fire but were unable to save the structure. It is believed fire was caused by spontaneous combustion in the coal bin or by a bolt of lightning during a storm which occurred prior to discovery of fire. Barry, John, MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 9/4/60 TIME 11:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 44 in. SIZE 286 TPD 43/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM No. 6

LOC. Otsego, Coshocton, Ohio OWN. Mason & Sons Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Elwood J. Mason

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by neighboring farmers

EXT. EFF. fire companies fought fire for several hours but were unable to save the structure PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS total loss of preparation plant PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 64

Diana Mine

Mine Tipple Fire

Fire caused by sparks from an acetylene torch used during the construction of the tipple fell into wooden coal bin coated with creosote and ignited same, totally destroying the tipple. Fire fought with water from fire trucks but fire was already out of control. Buswink, W.J., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 9/20/60 TIME 9:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 6/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Sewellsville, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Fairpoint Coal Co. PERS. Owner- L. Zaccagnini

CAUSE sparks from acetylene torch DETECT by employee who was welding

EXT. EFF. fire department called but fire out of control PREV. surface structures should be fire proof; flammable coatings should not be applied in proximity to welding operations

RESC. NS

IG. sparks FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS tipple completely destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 65

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire of unknown origin (possibly from sparks from acetylene torch used earlier in the day) destroyed the breaker building. Fire company called but fire was already out of control. Fulmer, J.A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 9/29/60 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Tamaqua, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Winton Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE (opinion) sparks from cutting torch DETECT unknown passing motorist reported fire

EXT. EFF. fire company called but fire was out of control PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. sparks FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS 15% of the machinery (85% already salvaged) and framework of the breaker PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 66

Joe's Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed tipple. A bulldozer was used to remove burning coal to spoil dump. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 9/30/60 TIME 6:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Oak Creek, Routt, Colorado OWN. Operator - Joe Petranovich PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. bulldozer removed burning coal to spoil dump PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT None - bulldozer removed burning coals EQUIP. tipple

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS tipple destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 67

Darkwater Breaker

Report of Fire at Darkwater Breaker

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the breaker. Source of ignition may have been a short in the electric power circuit. Fire company called but fire was raging out of control and they directed their efforts to preventing spread of fire. Todd, R.C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 10/2/60 TIME 1:00A DUR. 1¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 60 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. St. Clair, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Mineral Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE possibly by short circuit in electric power circuit DETECT discovered by police officers on routine patrol duty

EXT. EFF. fire company prevented spread of fire to cleaning plant but could not save breaker PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL breaker AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS breaker destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 68

Oakland Breaker

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the breaker. Fire companies fought fire, but it had already progressed to such an extent that the breaker was destroyed. Fulmer, John A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 10/19/60 TIME 9:05P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Ashland, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Reading Anthracite Co. PERS. Supt. - E. Williams

CAUSE UNK DETECT unknown woman living nearby reported fire

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS breaker building destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 69

Wyoming Mine Preparation Plant

Report on Investigation of Belt Fire

Fire of undetermined origin occurred in the cleaning plant causing damage to belt, conveyor structure and side rollers. Fire departments extinguished the fire. Ulshafer, A.L., MESA Mt. Hope, 3 pp.

DATE 12/10/60 TIME 5:20A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 2000 TPD 17/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Wyoming, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ola Grose Foreman - W. Dalton

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by section foreman

EFF. fire departments PREV. belts not fire-resistant

None

FUEL belt AGENT water EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes

1000 ft. of belt, several sections of conveyor structure and most of the side rollers PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 70

Maitland No. 2 Mine

Tipple Fire

pletely destroyed the tipple. Fire department called but fire was were directed to preventing spread of fire. Bastalich, J.A.,

. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

METH. NS SEAM NS

Red Ash Coal Co. PERS. NS

DETECT discovered by person living near mine

epartment PREV. NS

ESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tipple completely destroyed - $20,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 71

No. 1 Coal Preparation Plant

Report of Preparation Plant Fire

Fire occurred in preparation plant caused by a short circuit in the alternating current power wires in the plant. Fire department called but upon their arrival, the plant was already a total loss. Michael, W.B., MESA Mt. Hope, 3 pp.

DATE 12/13/60 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 36 in. SIZE 250 TPD 4/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pocahontas

LOC. Bramwell, Mercer, W. Virginia OWN. Summons Pocahontas Coal Co. PERS. President - J.B. Thompson

CAUSE short circuit in the alternating current power wires DETECT fire department notified by unspecified person

EXT. EFF. fire department called but plant was a total loss upon their arrival PREV. accumulations of coal and coal dust present; power wires should be installed on insulators

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL wood, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. No EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS entire preparation plant - $60,000 - $70,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 72

Breaker Fire

Fire started when main electric switch in cleaning plant short circuited and ignited wooden side of plant. Part of breaker also destroyed. Cummings, W.T., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 12/22/60 TIME 12:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 700 TPD 30 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Audenried, Carbon, Pennsylvania OWN. Beaver Brook Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in main electric switch DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL wood, breaker AGENT water, extinguishers, EFF. No, No EQUIP. crusher and preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS cleaning plant and part of breaker - $150,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 73

Colombine Mine

Report of Coal Mine Tipple Fire

Fire occurred in tipple when men were applying flame of an acetylene torch to a cold pipeline conveying oil in the presence of explosive coal dust and flame ignited coal dust. Fire spread rapidly and was extinguished by water from sump inside the mine. The tipple and equipment in it were a total loss. Husted, A.C., Salt Lake City, 3 pp.

DATE 1/5/61 TIME 4:00A DUR. 8 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 75 in. SIZE 300 TPD 15/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Castlegate "B"

LOC. Scofield, Carbon, Utah OWN. Colombine Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - William Monks

CAUSE applying flame of acetylene torch to cold pipeline in presence of explosive coal dust DETECT by official in charge of mine and a truck driver

EXT. EFF. chemicals and water PREV. coal dust accumulations; use of acetylene torch to heat cold pipeline conveying oil

RESC. None

IG. torch flame FUEL wood, dust AGENT water chemicals EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS total loss of tipple and equipment in it - $125,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 74

Vento Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed tipple. Fire department called but fire was out of control and they prevented fire from spreading. There was a coal burning stove in which the fire was allowed to die out during the nights and electric power was also on. Exact cause was undetermined. Reay, R.T., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 1/5/61 TIME 3:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Florence, Fremont, Colorado OWN. Vento Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Dominic Vento

CAUSE UNK DETECT by night patrolman

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tipple destroyed - $50,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 75

Livingston No. 1

Surface-Structure Fire

All men were outside loading timber when smoke was seen. Fire put out in an hour. Hammons, G.W., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 1/23/61 TIME 9:15A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Livingston, Madison, Illinois OWN. Livingston-Mt. Olive Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - probably overheated coal burning stove DETECT from outside as all men were out of plant

EXT. EFF. water from mine and fire department and dry chemical PREV. adequate

RESC. None

IG. oven heat FUEL insulation, rubber, coal AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS $7000 damage to coal crusher and electric panel, rubber coal transfer belt PROD. LOSS. 7 days

---

No. 76

Report on Investigation of Substation Fire

Fire started on switch board panel from overloading of the power circuits and spread to oil tank on the motor generator set in building which housed the generator. Building and generator totally destroyed. Michael, W.B., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 4/10/61 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Kitchekan Mountain, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. Hill Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE probably overloading of power circuits in the switch board panel DETECT discovered by employee

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. inadequate fire-fighting equipment

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL wood, hydraulic fluid AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. substation

EQUIP. LOSS substation and generator total loss PROD. LOSS NS

No. 77

Investigation of Reported Small House Coal Mine Fire

Fire, possibly caused from defective wiring, destroyed a wooden dwelling owned and occupied by Grove Davenport. A small mine nearby had been used by him for extracting coal for his own use. Fire ignited a pile of coal stocked near the mine opening, but did not enter the mine. Fire department called but fire was out of control. Zavora, J.W., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 4/17/61 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 60 in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Hells Kitchen, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Grover Davenport PERS. NS

CAUSE possible defective wiring DETECT discovered by a neighbor

EXT. EFF. fire department called PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. small house

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS dwelling destroyed and some coal PROD. LOSS. None

---

No. 78

Brookside Mine

Surface Substation Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed a substation. Williams, Fred A., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 4/18/61 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 60 in. SIZE 50 TPD 11/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Bridgeport, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Brookside Coal Co. PERS. Owner - Matthew Bennett

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by men reporting to work the following morning

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT NS EQUIP. substation

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS substation destroyed - $6,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 79

Rex Carbon Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed hoist room and a portion of the tipple. Fire department extinguished the fire. Bastalich, J.J., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 5/16/61 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 25 TPD 4 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Florence, Fremont, Colorado OWN. Rex Carbon Fuel Co. PERS. Co-partner - Delbert Angel

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by co-partner

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. NS

RESC. Underground workmen evacuated

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hoist room and portion of tipple PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 80

Miller Mine

Spoil Bank Fire

Spoil bank fire which had been burning about 3 weeks showed evidence of traveling to haulage portal and smoke and vapors were blowing toward the mine openings. A trench was cut by a bulldozer in front of the haulage portal to prevent fire from entering the mine. Koza, F.A., 2 pp.

DATE 5/19/61 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Grampian, Clearfield, Pennsylvania OWN. Operator - George Riddle PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. trench cut with bulldozer in front of haulage portal to prevent fire from entering the mine PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL spoil bank AGENT trench cut EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 81

Centralia Colliery

Report of Breaker Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed breaker, which had been idle since 5/16/61. Fire company responded to alarm but could not save the breaker. Landis, H.P., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 6/10/61 TIME 12:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 96 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Centralia, Columbia, Pennsylvania OWN. Coates Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT alarm turned in by unspecified person

EXT. EFF. fire company PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS breaker destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 82

Report of Fire at Fisher Washery

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the washery and the machinery in it. Fire department called but due to advanced stage of fire, no attempt was made to fight it. Todd, R.C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 7/12/61 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 60 TPD 5/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Gordon, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Operator - Charles A. Fisher, Jr. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by unidentified resident who notified fire department

EXT. EFF. fire department but no attempt was made to fight the fire due to advanced stage of it PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL washery AGENT water EQUIP. washery

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS washery destroyed and machinery PROD. LOSS NS

No. 83

Roseville Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire, believed to have been caused by spontaneous combustion in the coal storage bin in tipple, resulted in extensive damage to the bin, belt conveyor, walkway, and conveyor drive motor, and 50 tons of coal. The coal had been left in the bin over an 11 day idle period. Fire departments called and extinguished the fire. Reardon, J.C., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 8/30/61 TIME 9:00P DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 450 TPD 13/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Roseville, Muskingum, Ohio OWN. Rose Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - C. Beisser President - W.V. Beisser

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire departments PREV. coal left in bin over 11 day idle period

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous combustion FUEL coal, belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt and tipple

EQUIP. LOSS storage bin, belt conveyor, walkway and conveyor drive motor; 50 tons of coal PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 84

Beechwood Strippings

Report of Warehouse & Office Fire

Fire of unknown origin occurred which destroyed the warehouse and office building. Fire companies fought fire unsuccessfully, but were able to save the repair shop and boiler house and oil house. Landis, H.P., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 10/16/61 TIME 4:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Minersville, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Correale Construction Company PERS. Supt. - Arthur Beecher

CAUSE UNK DETECT observed by nearby resident who turned in alarm

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EFF. No EQUIP. warehouse and office building

EQUIP. LOSS warehouse and office building destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 85

Red Wing Mine

Mine Office & Scale House Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the mine office and scale house. Roberts, William, HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 11/18/61 TIME NS DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Amial, Moffat, Colorado OWN. Colowyo Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by miner living near the mine

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. Men ordered out of mine

IG. UNK FUEL mine office & scale house AGENT UNK EFF. EQUIP. mine office & scale house

EQUIP. LOSS mine office and scale house destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 86

Lower Region Breaker

Report of Lower Region Breaker Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the cleaning and sizing center section of breaker, and some prepared coal. Fire companies extinguished the fire. Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 2/21/62 TIME 7:00P DUR. 6 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 150 TPD 7/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Shamokin, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. Lower Region Colliery PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by night watchman

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS confined to cleaning and sizing center section of breaker - $50,000; prepared coal - $9,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 87

Report of Combination Office & Warehouse Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the office and warehouse combination building. Fire company fought fire but could not save the structure. Lindsey, Joseph R., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 1 pp.

DATE 2/25/62 TIME 7:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Sheatown, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Biscontini & Sons PERS. Supt. - George Kienzle

CAUSE UNK DETECT unspecified person turned in alarm

EXT. EFF. fire department fought fire unsuccessfully PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. office and warehouse

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS office and warehouse and its contents PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 88

No. 241 Slope

Surface Fire at Fan House

Fire occurred in fan house when switch caught fire. Switch was overfused as wires were not of proper capacity. Fire department extinguished fire. Damage confined to the switch. Retsed, F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 2/28/62 TIME 9:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hanover Township, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Blackman Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE switch overfused as wires were not of proper capacity DETECT by outside employees

EXT. EFF. fire company put fire out PREV. wires not of proper capacity caused overfused switch

RESC. Men underground withdrawn

IG. switch overfused FUEL switch AGENT water EQUIP. fan house

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS confined to switch PROD. LOSS NS

No. 89

Courtney Mine

Report of Surface Fire & Explosion

Fire was discovered in a wooden supply building near the mine tipple. An explosion occurred in the burning building completely destroying the supply house and scale house. Damage also to an automobile and a dwelling in the area. One man struck on the leg by flying debris from the explosion. Risko, J., MESA Hazard, 5 pp.

DATE 4/4/62 TIME 10:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. 54 in. SIZE 180 TPD 6 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Upper Freeport

LOC. Shippingport, Beaver, Pennsylvania OWN. Jack S. Courtney and C.A. Courtney Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jack S. Courtney

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. None PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL explosives AGENT None EQUIP. supply house; scale house

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS supply house and scale house; gasoline pump; roof of tipple; storage building above tipple PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 90

Shop & Warehouse Fire

Fire occurred in storage room due to faulty insulation in the alternating current switch-control box. The buildings and stock material were mostly a total loss. Several hours were required to bring the fire under control. Torrance, W.T., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 1 pp.

DATE 4/6/62 TIME 9:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hazleton, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Correale Construction Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE faulty insulation in switch control box DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. faulty insulation in switch control box; poor inspection

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, wood, other flammables AGENT NS EQUIP. shop & warehouse

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS buildings and stock material severely damaged; most was a total loss PROD. LOSS NS

No. 91

Top Split Slope Mine

Gasoline Fire

Fire occurred when gasoline spilled on hoist motor and hoist motor was started. Sparks from the motor ignited the gasoline. Some gasoline from the burning container splashed on victim igniting his clothing, and when he attempted to throw flaming container through doorway, gasoline splashed on hoist building setting it afire. Sinicrope, A.A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 5/5/62 TIME 11:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE 12 TPD 4/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Brockton, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Frank Niadna Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE spark from motor ignited gasoline DETECT by business head

EXT. EFF. water from a 5-gallon container PREV. NS

RESC. Frank Niadna (business head) received 1st and 2nd degree burns

IG. electrical FUEL gas, wood, clothing AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. hoist house

EQUIP. LOSS hoist house PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 92

Mazaka Breaker

Report on a Shed Fire

Fire occurred in shed covering the silt chain conveyor. The salamander used for heating purposes overheated and ignited the structure. Fire companies extinguished the fire. Landis, H.P., 2 pp.

DATE 1/22/63 TIME 5:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 25-50/TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. McAdoo, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Mazaka Brothers Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE salamander overheated and ignited structure DETECT truck driver noticed fire in conveyor shed

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. overheated salamander FUEL wood, tarpaper AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor shed

EQUIP. LOSS conveyor shed - power wires, electric motor, switch controls & salmander - $1,000 - $2,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 93

Hutchinson Mine

Report of Surface Building Fire

Fire occurred in surface substation and hoist building when brattice cloth partition enclosing rectifier was ignited by open-type resistance heater and sparks from burning cloth ignited spilled hydraulic fluid in the pit. Water from fire trucks applied unsuccessfully, and foam applied by another fire department successfully. Reid, R.H., MESA Pittsburgh, 5 pp.

DATE 1/25/63 TIME 9:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 72 in. SIZE 1000 TPD 78/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh

LOC. Hutchinson, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - William Leake

CAUSE brattice cloth partition ignited by open-type resistance heater DETECT discovered by surface laborer and 2 mechanics

EXT. EFF. water applied unsuccessfully; fire department filled building with foam successfully PREV. fire resistant hydraulic fluid not used; structures not fire proof

RESC. Men underground were evacuated

IG. heater FUEL wood, cloth, hyd. fluid AGENT water, foam, EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. substation and hoist building

EQUIP. LOSS confined to pit under elevated hoist controls PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 94

No. 4 Mine

Report of Serious Explosion-Fire Accident in Surface Shop

A repairman for the company and a visitor at the mine received burns as a result of an explosion and fire which occurred after diesel oil was poured into a coal heating stove. Repairman was burned around the legs and the visitor seriously burned. Mine foreman extinguished flames on hair and clothing, administered first aid, and called an ambulance. Pate, C., MESA Barbourville, 1 pp.

DATE 2/2/63 TIME 8:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Bear Branch, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Mountain Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Carson Sowders

CAUSE using diesel oil to start fire in heating stove DETECT by repairman and mine foreman

EXT. EFF. mine foreman extinguished flames on hair and clothing of visitor PREV. diesel oils should not be used to start a fire; unauthorized person in mine surface building

RESC. Flames extinguished on victim and first aid administered

IG. explosion FUEL diesel fuel, clothing AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. stove

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 95

Report of Surface Building Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the combination supply house and repair shop. Volunteer fire departments called but building completely engulfed and their efforts were directed to saving the tipple and other surface buildings. Zavora, J.W., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 2/7/63 TIME 2:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 5 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Waynesburg, Stark, Ohio OWN. Merrick Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Karl Merrick

CAUSE UNK DETECT workmen in tipple observed smoke

EXT. EFF. volunteer fire departments - efforts confined to saving other surface buildings PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. supply house & repair shop

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS combination supply house, repair shop and contents - $75,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 96

Kentucky Preparation Plant

Investigation of Reported Mine Blast

Explosives were placed by persons unknown and were detonated by fuse and cap causing 2 blasts which caused extensive damage in excess of $100,000. Cause undetermined, but could have been from trespassers. Parry, G.W., 2 pp.

DATE 3/10/63 TIME 10:50P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 9000 TPD 37/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Irvine, Estill, Kentucky OWN. Southeast Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE (possibly) by trespassers DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. explosives FUEL explosives, diesel fuel, belt AGENT NS EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS speed reducer, drive motor, belt head and supports, tail pulley and supports, main plant building, building at railroad car unloading point, locomotive - $100,000 PROD. LOSS 4 days

No. 97

Ackison Mine

Surface Substation Fire

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed substation which housed a generator, grinding machine, 50 gallon drum of oil and tools. Hughes, F.E., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 3/27/63 TIME 9:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 42 in. SIZE 15 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM No. 6

LOC. Zaleski, Vinton, Ohio OWN. Ackison Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT heat and flames noticed by employee while checking on cause of generator stopping

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. oil stored in substation contributed to fire; lack of adequate fire fighting facilities

RESC. 2 men underground evaucated

IG. UNK FUEL wood, oil AGENT NS EQUIP. substation

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS substation destroyed - $5,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 98

Wattis Nos. 1 & 2 Mines

Fire in Coal Processing Plant (Tipple)

Fire of undetermined origin occurred in tipple resulting in an estimated loss of $15,000. Rock dust and water were used to extinguish the fire. VanNatter, P.C., MESA Salt Lake City, 1 pp.

DATE 4/15/63 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Wattis, Carbon, Utah OWN. Lion Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. rock dust and water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water, rock dust, EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS estimated loss of $15,000 - building and contents a complete loss PROD. LOSS 2 days

No. 99

Saginaw No. 1 Mine

Small Surface Fire

Small fire occurred when sparks from oxyacetylene torch ignited the kerosene saturated surface along the mine road. Symons, W.J., MESA St. Clairsville, 1 pp.

DATE 4/22/63 TIME 12:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 54-62 in. SIZE 2750 TPD 122/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. St. Clairsville, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Oglebay Norton Co. PERS. Foreman - C.G. VanHorne

CAUSE sparks from oxyacetylene torch DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. sparks FUEL kerosene AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 100

Hollenback Shafts

Fire at Two Abandoned Fan Houses at Hollenback Shafts

Fire completely destroyed 2 fan houses which had been abandoned. Cause of fire unknown. Local fire companies extinguished the fire. Fortney, G.W., 2 pp.

DATE 4/27/63 TIME 4:00P DUR. 18½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Alden Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. fan houses

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS both fan houses destroyed PROD. LOSS None

No. 101

Georgetown Preparation Plant

Belt Fire

Fire occurred at plant when belt was ignited by flaming fluid from ruptured hydraulic hose that was burned when the operating coil of a magnetically operated hydraulic control valve short circuited. Volunteer fire company extinguished fire. Damage estimated at $20,000. Williams, F.A., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 5/23/63 TIME 12:40P DUR. 50 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 23,000 TPD 140/2 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Georgetown, Harrison, Ohio OWN. Hanna Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in hydraulic control valve DETECT electrician discovered fire

EXT. EFF. volunteer fire company PREV. fire resistant hydraulic fluid not used; hydraulic hose too close to electric operating devices; operating coil should be covered

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL rubber, belt, hyd. fluid AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt and preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS conveyor belt, wiring, hydraulic hoses, and controls - $20,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 102

Olyphant Breaker

Fire in Breaker Being Reconstructed

Fire occurred in breaker which was being renovated, probably caused from sparks or hot metal from welding being done. Several fire companies extinguished fire, but section of breaker being renovated with its equipment was destroyed. Two firemen received slight injuries. Sinicrope, A.A., 4 pp.

DATE 7/19/63 TIME 2:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 24/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Dickson City, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Olyphant Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE sparks or hot metal from welding DETECT noticed by a workman in the breaker

EXT. EFF. several fire companies PREV. area where welding is done should be dampened by water; chemical fire extinguishers not provided

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL breaker AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS entire section of breaker being renovated and its equipment - $450,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 103

Powderly Breaker

Fire in Part of Facilities of Discontinued Powderly Breaker

Fire near scale house of Powderly Breaker destroyed the scale house and unused dumping hopper. Facilities had not been used since 2/19/63 and it is believed the fire was started by children. Fire companies extinguished fire. Sinicrope, A.A., 2 pp.

DATE 7/21/63 TIME 5:45P DUR. 3¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Carbondale, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Gillen Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE believed to have been started by children DETECT reported by nearby resident

EXT. EFF. 3 fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL scale house AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS scale house destroyed and unused dumping hopper PROD. LOSS None

---

No. 104

Pond Hollow Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire of undetermined origin occurred in the coal storage bins of the tipple. Fire extinguished by fire departments and damage confined to storage bins, electric motors, coal crusher, screens and conveyors. Barr, R.E., Williams, F.A., MESA St. Clairsville, 3 pp.

DATE 9/10/63 TIME 2:30A DUR. 5½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 25,44, & 30 in. SIZE 650 TPD 32/3 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM Nos. 5, 6, & 6A

LOC. New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas, Ohio OWN. Cross Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Fred Utz

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire departments PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 3 storage bins, 2 electric motors, a coal crusher, several screens and 2 conveyors PROD. LOSS NS

No. 105

Black Heath Breaker

Report on Breaker Fire

Fire of unknown origin destroyed portion of the breaker. Breaker had been idle 2 days prior to the fire. Fire companies extinguished the fire. Carson, L.B., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 5 pp.

DATE 10/4/63 TIME 4:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 400 TPD 15/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Cressona, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Black Heath Coal and Construction Co. PERS. President - Allen Koch

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by workman who turned in the alarm

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal, breaker AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS portion of breaker where coal was sized and prepared was a total loss PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 106

Mason No. 5 Mine

Surface Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed repair shop and dump section of tipple. Possibly caused from sparks from electric welding being done by mechanic. Fire extinguished by fire companies. Williams, F.A., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 10/10/63 TIME 12:00P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 44 in. SIZE 350 TPD 61/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM No. 6

LOC. Otsego, Muskingum, Ohio OWN. Mason & Sons Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Elwood J. Mason

CAUSE (assumed) sparks from electric welding DETECT discovered by mechanic doing welding

EXT. EFF. carbon dioxide fire extinguishers, fire companies PREV. electric welding around combustible materials

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL repair shop & combustible materials AGENT water, carbon dioxide, EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS repair shop and dump section of tipple was destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 107

Elzo Mine

Report of Fire in Discarded Coal

Coal which had been discarded and pushed up in front of auger holes became ignited from forest fires in the area. Burning coal removed from in front of auger holes and fire was extinguished. Sample, Charles H., MESA Barbourville, 1 pp.

DATE 11/1/63 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Auger SEAM NS

LOC. Yancey, Harlan, Kentucky OWN. Harlan Fuel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE coal in auger holes ignited by forest fires DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. forest fires FUEL coal AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 108

Hutchinson Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire occurred in tipple when sparks from arc-welding ignited combustible materials on railroad track under tipple and spread to tipple floor. Fire extinguished with rock dust and local fire companies. Stiles, S.L., MESA Pittsburgh, 2 pp.

DATE 11/16/63 TIME 10:40A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hutchinson, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - William Leake

CAUSE sparks from arc-welding ignited combustible materials DETECT discovered by tipple workmen

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire companies PREV. thorough cleaning of area where welding is done

RESC. 5 men underground evacuated

IG. electrical FUEL wood, coal, oil, dust AGENT water, rock dust, EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS area of tipple floor PROD. LOSS NS

No. 109

Moss No. 3 Preparation Plant

Fire in the Thermal Dryer Plant

Fire occurred in dryer plant when fine coal particles deposited by the air current in the duct work of dryer attained a critical heat sufficient to cause the coal to flame. Fire also found in the exhaust stack. Fire extinguishers and water promptly extinguished the fire. Ross, R.G., MESA Norton, 3 pp.

DATE 12/19/63 TIME 7:35P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 23,000 TPD 78/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. S. Clinchfield, Russell, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Ben Hendrickson

CAUSE heat from dryer DETECT fire discovered by workman who was dropping cars on the track

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. heat from dryer FUEL coal, dust AGENT water, extinguishers, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. thermal dryer plant

EQUIP. LOSS broken weld in exhaust stack PROD. LOSS. resumed operations on 12/20/63

No. 110

Report of Investigation of Tipple Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed tipple and 98 ft. of the rope and button conveyor. Tipple collapsed in flames and efforts confined to fighting fire on the rope and button conveyor line with rock dust, water, and fire extinguishers. Croyle, R.G., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 1/14/64 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Brooklyn, Fayette, W. Virginia OWN. Southern Coals Corp. PERS. Supt. - Arthur King

CAUSE UNK DETECT passing train crew reported fire

EXT. EFF. water, rock dust and fire extinguishers used to fight fire on rope and button conveyor line PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, rope & button conveyor AGENT water, rock dust, extinguishers, EFF. Yes, Yes, Yes EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS tipple destroyed and 98 ft. of rope and button conveyor PROD. LOSS approximately until 3/20/64

No. 111

Slab Fork No. 8 Mine

Report of Investigation of Substation Fire

Fire occurred when fault occurred in conductors between the transformers and oil switch of one of the rotary converters. It is believed the oil switch had opened under the extreme load caused by the fault and ignited the oil in the switch. Fire extinguished with water and damage confined to portions of substation. Allamon, T., Childers, M.S., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 1/16/64 TIME 6:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Slab Fork, Raleigh, W. Virginia OWN. Slab Fork Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fault occurring between 2 of the alternating current cables DETECT chief electrician saw smoke ensuing from the building

EXT. EFF. water PREV. nonflammable oil not used; fused cut-outs of correct type and capacity should be used

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, rubber, wood AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. substation

EQUIP. LOSS confined to oil switches, substation panels, wiring, and rafters PROD. LOSS. resumed normal operations 1/21/64

No. 112

Fire

Burning wood in wooded hillside in area of exposed outcrop ignited coalbed. The fire penetrated under the hill and into the coalbed for approximately 30 feet. Approximately 6000 gallons of water furnished by the Town of Benwood put out the fire. Burning material was scattered and covered with a layer of tamped clay. Eakins, John S., HSAC Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 2/11-18/1964 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 3-4' SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM Sewickley

LOC. Benwood, Marshall, W. Virginia OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE burning wood in area of exposed outcrop ignited coalbed DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. None - no mining being done

IG. burning wood FUEL coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS None

No. 113

Dutch Creek Mine

Investigation of Fire Underneath the No. 1 Clean Coal Bin Near Preparation Plant

Fire occurred when oil burning salamander was placed too close to flooring on which hydraulic pump was installed and heat from the salamander ignited oily boards and 2 truck tires. Fire extinguished with dry chemical extinguishers within a few minutes. Reay, R.T., MESA Lakewood, 2 pp.

DATE 2/18/64 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Redstone, Pitkin, Colorado OWN. Mid-Continent Coal and Coke Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE heat from salamander ignited combustibles DETECT discovered by employee of another company

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers PREV. combustible materials around coal bin; wooden decking used for hydraulic pump

RESC. None

IG. heat from salamander FUEL wood, oil, rubber AGENT powder EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS $150 - damage to 2 truck tires PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 114

Thomas Breaker

Report of Thomas Breaker Fire

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the breaker. Fire companies fought fire and brought it under control and extinguished it. Deak, T.F., 3 pp.

DATE 2/21/64 TIME 11:50P DUR. 10½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 500 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Ranshaw, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. Thomas Coals, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT discovered by nearby residents

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS breaker destroyed - $98,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 115

Joanne Mine

Report of Fire in Electrical Control Room of Cleaning Plant

Fire occurred in electrical control room of cleaning plant when one phase of the 480 volts alternating current system from 3 banks of capacitors went to ground. The power wires were of inadequate carrying capacity. Mine rescue team from Joanne Mine extinguished the fire. McMaster, C.D., Dobis, J.J., MESA Morgantown, 2 pp.

DATE 3/7/64 TIME 12:40P DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 84 in. SIZE 4108 TPD 266/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh

LOC. Rachel, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Joanne Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE electrical arcing when insulation on power wire failed due to overheating of the conductor DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. power circuits should have adequate current carrying capacity

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation AGENT NS EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS confined to portion of electrical control room in plant PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 116

Norma Mine

Surface Fire in Tipple

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the tipple. Volunteer fire companies kept fire from spreading. Williams, F.A., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 3/28/64 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 42 in. SIZE 9/3 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM No. 6

LOC. New Cumberland, Tuscarawas, Ohio OWN. M and P Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by owner of a neighboring farm

EXT. EFF. volunteer fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT water EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 250 tons of coal, tipple destroyed - $100,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 117

Sinclair Strip Mine

Serious Burns Accident

Electrical leads to rotation motor of stripping shovel were not insulated when motor removed for repair. When generators were started to move the shovel, the current arced between the leads and steel deck near mechanic changing gear case of removed motor. His oil soaked clothes were ignited. Tesdale, P.H., MESA Vincennes.

DATE 7/16/64 TIME NS DUR. .1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 3

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Paradise, Muhlenberg, Kentucky OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE uninsulated leads to removed motor arced to steel deck, igniting oil soaked clothes of mechanic DETECT victim observed own clothes on fire

EXT. EFF. victim, foreman and electrician beat flames out by hand PREV. loose leads not insulated; leads not checked by next shift; clearance to start generator given without adequate checks

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL clothing AGENT beating by hand EQUIP. stripping shovel

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 118

Loomis Breaker

Fire in Loomis Breaker

Fire discovered in main belt conveyor leading to breaker. It was apparently caused by welding operations performed on the day of the fire. Fire companies extinguished fire and damage to equipment and facilities estimated at $150,000 - $200,000. Sinicrope, A.A., 4 pp.

DATE 9/17/64 TIME 6:00P DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 35/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hanover Township, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Lehigh Valley Anthracite Co. PERS. Foreman - Edward O'Mahen

CAUSE apparently from welding operations DETECT by night watchman

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. inadequate number of fire extinguishers; combustible materials accumulated around breaker; area should be wetted down after welding operations

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL oil, belt, wood, dust AGENT water EQUIP. conveyor belt and crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS $150,000 - $200,000 - belt conveyor, metal housing frame, sheet metal, floor, equipment and building in area of discharge point and wiring PROD. LOSS 6 weeks to 2 months

No. 119

Outcrop Fire in Big Buck Mountain vein in Abandoned Strip Pit near Second Opening of Little Buck Mountain Slope Mine

Fire discovered in vein in abandoned nearby strip pit. Source of ignition not determined, however, there was evidence of burned brush in area from power company cutting the brush and dumping it in the strip pit. Water used unsuccessfully to extinguish fire and excavating equipment brought in to dig out the fire. Rachunis, W., 2 pp.

DATE 11/17/64 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Mahanoy City, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Kluchinsky Brothers PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by Federal coal mine inspector and co-partner of mine during routine inspection

EXT. EFF. water used unsuccessfully; excavating equipment used to dig out fire PREV. NS

RESC. 2 men underground recalled to surface

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water, excavating, EFF. No, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 8 days

No. 120

Nos. 3 & 4 Mines

Surface Fire & Explosion (Raw Coal Silo)

Fire occurred in conveyor belt gallery leading to the silo when an oxyacetylene burner was being used to cut in the shield surrounding the drive pulley and an explosion occurred. Two employees were slightly injured in the explosion. Fire department extinguished fire. Bragg, M.E., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 12/5/64 TIME 1:15A DUR. 2 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Superior, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Cannelton Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C. Quesenberry

CAUSE sparks from oxyacetylene burner DETECT by 2 maintenance men

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. ventilating system employing natural drafts were installed and testing of atmosphere before sparks are made should be done

RESC. None - 2 maintenance men received slight injuries

IG. electrical FUEL belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt and silo

EQUIP. LOSS belt weightometer and lagging on belt drive pulley PROD. LOSS NS

No. 121

Norton Mine

Surface Belt Fire

Fire occurred when conveyor belt was ignited at the place where it stopped over 2 burning buckets of fuel oil being used to warm the conveyor belt. Fire extinguished by fire department. Williams, F.A., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 2/4/65 TIME 5:45A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 61 in. SIZE 2582 TPD 126/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Powhatan Point, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Oglebay Norton Co. PERS. Supt. - B. Scypta Foreman - F. Shephard

CAUSE belt stopped and was ignited by burning buckets of fuel oil under it DETECT discovered by employee on midnight shift

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. open flame used to warm belt conveyor

RESC. None

IG. burning buckets of fuel oil FUEL belt AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt

EQUIP. LOSS 200' of conveyor belt, several troughing and idler rollers and the drive motor PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 122

Valley Camp No. 3

Report of Surface Fire & Explosion (Coal-Storage Silo)

A slight explosion occurred when coal was being removed from the silo which contained a fire of spontaneous origin. A hole was drilled through the silo and water injected. More holes were drilled opposite and water injected through perforated pipe until 6/8/65. Rock dust was also applied as was water from sprinkler system. Eakins, J.S., Symons, W.J., Kretoski, S.R., MESA St. Clairsville, 6 pp.

DATE 6/4/65 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 63 in. SIZE 5900 TPD 290/3 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Triadelphia, Ohio, W. Virginia OWN. Valley Camp Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - A.B. Rushton Foreman - Walter Looney Saf. Dir. - R.L. Bell

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water applied through holes in silo and from top; rock dust also applied preparatory to out-loading PREV. sprinkler at feeders needed; tests for gas should be made; lights should be enclosed; fire-fighting equipment inadequate

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous FUEL explosives AGENT water, rock dust, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. silo

EQUIP. LOSS 2 sheets of 28-gage sheet metal blown off one end of silo tunnel PROD. LOSS until 6/11/65

No. 123

North Line Breaker

North Line Breaker Fire

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the breaker. Eleven fire companies fought and finally extinguished the fire. Fire may have originated in breaker where burning operations had been in progress or from sparks from an incinerator pit. Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 6/26/65 TIME 3:10P DUR. 20½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 600 TPD 20/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Shamokin, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. North Line Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - T.T. Strine

CAUSE UNK DETECT by passing motorist

EXT. EFF. fire companies PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS breaker destroyed - $250,000 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 124

No. 9 Breaker Fire

Fire of unknown origin almost totally destroyed the breaker. Fire department extinguished fire. Breaker was in the process of being dismantled. Orlando, J., 6 pp.

DATE 7/19/65 TIME 6:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 4 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hughestown, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Pennsylvania Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by a neighbor

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. NS

RESC. none

IG. UNK FUEL breaker AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS excess of $20,000 - top 3 floors destroyed and considerable damage to all floors in rear of structure PROD. LOSS NS

No. 125

Moss No. 3 Preparation Plant

Report of Coal Dust Ignition (Fire)

Fire occurred in preparation plant during wind storm when dust laden air was ignited by a blow back from the furnace. Fire fighting started immediately and extinguished at 10:00 P.M. the same day. Stewart, W.R., MESA Norton, 4 pp.

DATE 8/7/65 TIME 8:40P DUR. 1 hr. 20 minutes DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 23,000 TPD 85/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. S. Clinchfield, Russell, Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - William Patterson

CAUSE dust laden air ignited by blow back from furnace DETECT fire noticed by a repairman

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. coal dust accumulations in plant; belt conveyor not fire resistant

RESC. None

IG. furnace FUEL dust, belt, wiring AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS 230' of belt, 1 electric motor, control wiring PROD. LOSS. resumed operations 8/9/65

No. 126

Fire in Preparation Plant of King Mine

Fire occurred in preparation plant when mechanics were doing welding and a hot piece of material fell into accumulations of grease and oil starting a fire. Rock dust thrown on flames, but was not effective. Fire department extinguished the fire. Reay, T.T., MESA Salt Lake City, 2 pp.

DATE 8/9/65 TIME 8:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hiawatha, Carbon, Utah OWN. U.S. Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - Max A. Robb

CAUSE hot piece of material fell onto combustible materials DETECT by 2 mechanics

EXT. EFF. rock dust, fire department PREV. accumulations of combustible materials in area

RESC. None

IG. hot piece of material FUEL wood, oil, grease, hoses AGENT water, rock dust, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS wooden partition between the steel frames of tipple PROD. LOSS NS

No. 127

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Coal Mine (River Tipple) Fire

Fire occurred in river tipple when oil saturated coal and coal dust was ignited by molten metal slag during electric burning operations. Volunteer fire departments extinguished the fire. Employee who was doing the burning suffered 2nd and 3rd degree burns. Breedon, J.D., MESA Pittsburgh, 5 pp.

DATE 9/4/65 TIME 3:00P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE 4357 TPD 331/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - C.J. Lindstrom

CAUSE molten metal from burning operations DETECT by washery repairman

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers, volunteer fire department PREV. accumulations of coal spray oil on tipple; area should be wetted down before cutting; inadequate fire fighting facilities

RESC. None - repairmans clothing caught fire and he was severely burned

IG. electrical FUEL coal, dust, oil, clothing AGENT water, extinguishers, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS negligible PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 128

Nos. 11 & 13 Mines

Tipple Fire

Fire occurred in pumproom of tipple during welding operations. It is believed a leak in a gas line of heater caused accumulation of gas that was ignited by the pilot lights or sparks from the welding. Fire department called, but tipple totally destroyed and they prevented spread of fire to adjoining buildings. Sanford, D., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 10/13/65 TIME 6:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 1200 TPD 48 Emp. METH. NS SEAM No. 2 Gas

LOC. Eskdale, Kanawha, W. Virginia OWN. Imperial Colliery Co. PERS. Supt. - A.L. Clark

CAUSE possibly by sparks from welding DETECT by repairman

EXT. EFF. fire departments PREV. NS

RESC. 2 repairmen in tipple evacuated same

IG. electrical (?) FUEL gas, wood AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS tipple destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 129

No. 55 Buck Mountain Slope Mine

Report of Coal Mine Surface Hoist House Fire

Surface hoist house and generator room were destroyed by fire as a result of dry leaves and brush accumulated against the hoist house which were ignited by heat or flash of fire from exhaust pipe of the hoist's internal combustion engine. Fire departments confined fire to surface structure and prevented the spread of the fire. O'Connor, L.E., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 6/12/66 TIME 11:30A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 8 TPD 3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Tower City, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. B and P Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE fire from exhaust pipe of internal combustion hoist engine ignited leaves and brush DETECT by hoisting engineer

EXT. EFF. local fire companies PREV. structures should be fire proof and areas kept free of combustible materials

RESC. 2 men underground withdrawn

IG. engine heat FUEL wood, leaves, brush, cardboard AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. hoist house

EQUIP. LOSS hoist house and generator room totally destroyed - $1,500 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 130

Harry E. Breaker

Fire in Harry E. Breaker

Fire occurred at breaker caused by a short circuit in the conduit between the 2 panel boards of main circuit breaker. Foam type extinguishers used until power deenergized and fire department then extinguished fire. Electrician received slight burns on his face. Culverhouse, G.W., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 7 pp.

DATE 8/19/66 TIME 6:25A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Swoyerville, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Harry E. Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in conduit between 2 panel boards in main circuit breaker DETECT by electrician

EXT. EFF. foam type extinguishers and water by fire company PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, wood AGENT water, foam, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS 2 circuit breakers, 6 power transmission lines PROD. LOSS NS

No. 131

Breaker Fire

Fire of undetermined origin started in abandoned coal pocket next to the breaker and cleaning plant and completely destroyed all buildings. Estimated damage $75,000 and no plans made to rebuild the cleaning plant. The breaker was partially dismantled when the fire occurred. Cummings, W.T., 6 pp.

DATE 10/29/66 TIME 9:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Carbondale, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Raymond Colliery, Co. PERS. President - T. Gillen

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT NS EQUIP. preparation plant and crusher

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS $75,000 - coal pocket (abandoned), partly dismantled breaker and a cleaning plant completely destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 132

Caranta Nos. 2 & 3 Mines

Report of Coal Mine Tipple & Portals Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed tipple and ignited crop coal at the mine portals. Attempts were made to extinguish the fire by direct means at the portals, but they were unsuccessful. A bulldozer was used to seal the mine openings. Husted, A.C., Lakewood, 3 pp.

DATE 12/2/66 TIME 2:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 8 TPD 2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Monero, Rio Arriba, N. Mexico OWN. Stanley Idzior, Lessee PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by lessee

EXT. EFF. direct attacks unsuccessful; mine portals sealed PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood, coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. tipple

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS tipple completely destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 133

Bell Slope Mine

Report of Coal Mine Surface Hoist House Fire

Surface hoist house destroyed by fire when gasoline and oil soaked rags in a container were ignited by a spark, ash from a cigarette, or spontaneous combustion. Fire company confined fire to hoist house and prevented spread of the fire. Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 1/10/67 TIME 6:45A DUR. 1 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 20 TPD 4/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Trevorton, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. Bell Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - G. Feaster, Jr.

CAUSE UNK DETECT by foreman and hoisting engineer

EXT. EFF. fire company PREV. oily rags kept in uncovered container; smoking was not prohibited; gasoline container not closed after used

RESC. 1 man underground evacuated

IG. UNK FUEL gas, oil, wood AGENT water EQUIP. hoist house

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS hoist house total loss and all equipment therein - $2,500 PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 134

West Cameron Mine

Report of Coal Mine Surface Structure Fire

Fire occurred in surface structure when clothes draped over a chair near a heating stove became overheated and burst into flames and ignited the floor. The structure was totally destroyed and the fire company confined the fire to this structure and prevented the spread of the fire. Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 12 pp.

DATE 2/2/67 TIME 8:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 50 TPD 5/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Gowen City, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. West Cameron Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - Robert Erb

CAUSE clothes draped over chair became overheated and ignited the floor DETECT by passing motorist

EXT. EFF. fire company PREV. clothes placed too close to heating equipment

RESC. None

IG. stove FUEL wood, clothing AGENT water EQUIP. 3 room surface structure

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 3 room structure which housed surface hoist, combination supply and change house and an office PROD. LOSS NS

No. 135

King Mine Preparation Plant

Grease Fire

Fire occurred in preparation plant around a bearing of a coal shaker which was greased through a hose, and the accumulation of grease was ignited by overheated bearing or sparks from a hot air duct. Fire extinguished promptly with water and rock dust and property damage was negligible. Reay, T.T., Salt Lake City, 2 pp.

DATE 3/9/67 TIME 6:45P DUR. 5 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hiawatha, Carbon, Utah OWN. U.S. Fuel Co. PERS. Supt. - Max Robb

CAUSE overheated bearing or sparks from hot air duct DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water and rock dust PREV. accumulations of grease in plant; shut off valve not turned off after greasing bearings

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL insulation, grease, hose AGENT water, rock dust, EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS negligible PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 136

Breaker Fire

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the cleaning plant. Probable cause was a short circuit in the power wires. Fire department extinguished the fire. Cummings, W.T., 4 pp.

DATE 5/4/67 TIME 7:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 1500 TPD 14/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Carbondale, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Carbondale Coal Co. PERS. President - T. Gillen

CAUSE short circuit in power wires DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire department PREV. NS

RESC. 8 men fled to safety

IG. electrical FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. preparation plant

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS cleaning plant destroyed - $100,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 137

Glosek Breaker

Breaker Fire

Fire, discovered at 6:00 A.M. by arriving official, completely destroyed the breaker and accessories. Cummings, W.T., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 5 pp.

DATE 7/7/67 TIME 6:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 150 TPD 4 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Northumberland County, Pennsylvania OWN. Glosek Brothers Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Frank & Roman Glosek

CAUSE UNK DETECT by arriving official

EXT. EFF. None PREV. No recommendations

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL insulation, wood, coal, belt AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. crusher and conveyor belt

EQUIP. LOSS breaker, conveyors, jig-cleaning units and some motors - $75,000 PROD. LOSS. complete

---

No. 138

Blackfoot No. 5 Mine

Special Investigation of Fire in Vans

The dragline operator observed smoke issuing from a van containing blasting agents which was parked in a storage area. The fire spread to 2 other vans, but detonation did not occur. Attempts to extinguish the fire were not made due to the blasting agents. Source of ignition not determined. O'Connor, J.A., Wills, P., MESA Vincennes, 15 pp.

DATE 8/6/67 TIME 12:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 50 in. SIZE 6000 TPD 92/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Indiana No. 5

LOC. Winslow, Pike, Indiana OWN. Enos Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - F.A. Bollier

CAUSE UNK DETECT dragline operator saw smoke rising from the storage area

EXT. EFF. None PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL vans AGENT None EFF. EQUIP. 3 vans

EQUIP. LOSS 3 vans PROD. LOSS NS

No. 139

Zero Lykens Vein North Dip Slope Mine

Report of Coal Mine Surface Hoist House Fire

Crew left mine at 1:10 P.M. Local resident phoned neighboring mine owner at 2:55 P.M. and informed him of explosions and smoke at or near his mine. He went to mine and saw L & M hoist house ablaze. After emptying 1 extinguisher he left to get help. Local fire department responded having difficulty on access road. Fire was put out by 5:30 P.M. Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 9/22/67 TIME 2:30P DUR. 3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 1-11' SIZE 20 TPD 3/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Zero Lykens

LOC. West Cameron, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. L & M Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Lambert Reber

CAUSE an overheated stove ignited working clothes DETECT by local resident who heard explosions

EXT. EFF. fire company applied water PREV. combustible material near heat; oven should not be banked and then left

RESC. None

IG. explosion - oven heat FUEL gasoline, wood AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. hoist house

EQUIP. LOSS $7,500 damage PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 140

No. 5 Mine

Surface Belt Fire

Lightning evidently struck a belt igniting it. Local fire department extinguished. (surface belt) Dona, B.J., MESA Vincennes.

DATE 3/31/68 TIME 8:10A DUR. 2 1/3 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Harrisburg, Saline, Illinois OWN. Sahara Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Tom Goldman Foreman - Thurman Gulky

CAUSE lightning DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water applied by fire departments PREV. adequate

RESC. None

IG. lightning FUEL insulation, rubber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. belt

EQUIP. LOSS 130' of belt, power switches and wiring PROD. LOSS NS

No. 141

Wyodak Strip Mine

Fire Followed by Explosion

Misfired aquanite left in boreholes for 3 days was put back in magazine on 8/8/68. At 11:35 A.M., a housewife called foreman and informed him of smoke coming from magazine. Foreman went to look and realizing explosion was imminent, warned men to take cover. One man injured by glass, one had sawdust in eye and one died of cerebral hemorrage. Moschetti, A.C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 8/8/68 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Gillette, Campbell, Wyoming OWN. Wyodak Resources Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - possibly mice nests caught fire DETECT by neighboring housewife

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. No recommendations

RESC. injured removed to hospital

IG. UNK FUEL explosives, wood AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS explosives magazine and tipple window PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 142

Nemacolin Mine

Investigation of Surface Prep. Plant Fire

Foreman discovered preparation plant belt fire during normal visit. He instructed worker to stop conveyor and they applied contents of 2 dry chemical extinguishers. Area saturated with water. Krek, R.I., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 8/20/68 TIME 6:55P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Thurman Titus
Foreman - Philip Staun

CAUSE speed reducer coupling at belt drive rubbing against metal guard produced heat or sparks and ignited oil and dust DETECT discovered by foreman

EXT. EFF. dry chemical applied and area saturated with water PREV. guard should be fastened in place

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL rubber, oil, dust AGENT powder EQUIP. conveyor belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 143

Dotiki Mine

Surface Belt Fire

Coal dust fire discovered by night watchman. Water was applied. The belt also caught fire. Craft, W.M., MESA Pikeville, 1 pp.

DATE 9/22/68 TIME 1:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Clay, Webster, Kentucky OWN. Webster Co. Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT by night watchman

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL coal, dust, belt AGENT water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 1200' of belt and extensive damage to the belt structure PROD. LOSS. None

---

No. 144

Virginia Pocahontas No. 2 Mine

Investigation of a Fire

Hoist engineer, signal man and truck driver carrying rock dust to the shaft noticed lights blinking and then go out. Signal man returned to hoist and saw interior aflame. Six fire extinguishers used unsuccessfully. Fire department arrived after men underground removed and fire put out by 5:30 P.M. Wiley, H., MESA Norton, 2 pp.

DATE 12/3/68 TIME 4:00A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Pilgrim Knob, Buchanon, Virginia OWN. Virginia Pocahontas Co. PERS. Supt. - William Meadows Saf. Dir. - Joe Skiba

CAUSE (believed) fault in one of switch or control boxes which ignited insulation DETECT by nearby crew

EXT. EFF. 6 fire extinguishers applied without success; fire department applied water PREV. no information on electrical protective devices

RESC. all men withdrawn from underground

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, oil, dust, coal, wood AGENT water, powder, EQUIP. hoist house

EFF. Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS damage to hoist house PROD. LOSS NS

No. 145

Siegel No. 7 Strip Mine

Report of Fatal Strip Mine (Burn of Person) Accident

Dragline operator helper stopped to repair dragline and since it was cold, they lit a drum (5 gal.) with fuel oil in it. Helper attempted to add more fuel oil and explosion spewed flaming oil on both. Helper put his clothing fire out and helped operator who subsequently died of massive infection. Balitski, W.J., MESA Pittsburgh, 3 pp.

DATE 1/1/69 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0

HT. 18 & 30 in. SIZE 400 TPD 12/1 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM Upper & Lower Clarion

LOC. Leeper, Clarion, Pennsylvania OWN. Harold A. Siegel Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Jerome Siegel

CAUSE pouring additional fuel oil on open flame DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. flaming clothing smothered with blankets PREV. salamanders should be used instead of open flame

RESC. flames smothered and burnt clothing removed

IG. explosion FUEL clothing, oil AGENT smothered with blankets, EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 146

H. J. & H. Breaker

H. J. & H. Breaker Fire

Two workmen installing angle iron under a dewatering shaker were told to hook up 50,000 BTU heater to melt ice in the rock chute. A short time later, they saw the west wall aflame. They attempted to put the fire out with class C extinguishers and water, but failed. One man drove to scalehouse and turned in the alarm. Fire company put the fire out. Deak, T.F., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 8 pp.

DATE 1/13/69 TIME 8:05A DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 170 TPD 6/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Trevorton, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. H.J. & H. Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE portable space heater ignited a wall - faulty automatic switch DETECT by workmen in the breaker

EXT. EFF. class C and water failed initially; fire department applied water PREV. breaker had overload protection

RESC. None

IG. heater malfunction FUEL wood AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS $50,000 PROD. LOSS NS

No. 147

William A. Colliery Breaker

William A. Colliery Breaker Fire

Fire of electrical origin evidently broke out in the 4th floor electrical control room of this breaker. A truck driver discovered the blaze and could not get in to fight the fire due to smoke and fumes. He turned in the alarm and five fire companies put the blaze out by 10:30 A.M. Sigworth, C.S., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 7 pp.

DATE 1/28/69 TIME 7:00A DUR. 3½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 7/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Pennsylvania OWN. Kehoe-Berge Coal Co. PERS. President - A. Tambur

CAUSE started in electrical control room for unknown reason DETECT by arriving truck driver

EXT. EFF. water from fire company applied PREV. no recommendations

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL hyd. fluid, coal AGENT water EQUIP. crusher

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS total inestimable loss PROD. LOSS. complete

No. 148

Maitland No. 2 Mine

Surface Fire

Superintendent evidently left drafts opened on stove in mine office and was phoned at home by local resident and informed of fire. Fire department was called but someone a short distance from the mine told them the fire was out and indeed, it was not. Superintendent and other personnel extinguished embers with extinguishers. Husted, A.C., MESA Denver, 2 pp.

DATE 4/17/69 TIME 7:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 80 TPD 10/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Walsenburg, Huerfano, Colorado OWN. Red Ash Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Frank Fink

CAUSE overheated coal stove DETECT local resident saw fire

EXT. EFF. None, embers quenched with extinguishers PREV. No recommendations

RESC. None

IG. stove FUEL wood AGENT powder EQUIP. miscellaneous

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS mine office, lamp room, blacksmith shop, storage room; miscellaneous supplies & records PROD. LOSS complete until necessary equipment can be obtained

No. 149

Guyan No. 1 Mine

Report of Fatal Surface (Oxygen Cylinder Ignition) Accident

Experienced worker was performing cutting, left burning torch on tank evidently with the intention of returning momentarily. He was informed of fire at his work station and when he returned, explosion occurred, burning him and two others. Victim died that afternoon. Gay, T.W, Hatfield, T.H., MESA Mt. Hope, 7 pp.

DATE 2/6/70 TIME 1:30P DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 1 INJ. 2

HT. 72 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 219/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Cedar Grove

LOC. Amherstdale, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Virgil Harless Foreman - C. Parsley Saf. Dir. - James Adkins

CAUSE lighted torch left on tank which burned hose and caused tank to explode igniting gas and dust DETECT other workers felt concussion

EXT. EFF. small coal dust fires resulting were quickly put out with extinguishers and water PREV. training in safe cutting procedures indicated; much coal dust in plant; burning torch left unattended

RESC. burned persons were removed to hospital

IG. cutting torch FUEL dust, gas, clothing AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, Yes, EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS tank PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 150

Nemacolin Mine

Report of Investigation of Preparation Plant Fire

Fire occurred in preparation plant when belts ignited from friction by one or more belts being loose or broken. Fire extinguished with rock dust and dry chemical extinguishers. Reid, R.H., MESA Pittsburgh, 2 pp.

DATE 5/19/70 TIME 9:25P DUR. 20 min. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Nemacolin, Greene, Pennsylvania OWN. Buckeye Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE from friction by one or more belts being loose or broken DETECT smoke noticed by picking table operator

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguishers, rock dust PREV. belts were loose and/or broken

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL rubber, belt AGENT powder, rock dust, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS drive belts PROD. LOSS 2 hrs.

No. 151

Allison Mine

Fire in the Cleaned Coal-Storage Silo, Belt Conveyor & Load-out Station

A passing motorist saw flame coming out of the silo. Heating had been detected for the previous 3 weeks and coal was being removed, finished supposedly 5/24. Evidently, a thunderstorm with high winds caused sparks to fly to uncovered coal and ignited it. Water was injected through holes in silo. Williams, F.A., MESA St. Clairsville, 3 pp.

DATE 5/25/70 TIME 4:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 60 in. SIZE 1500 TPD 115/2 Emp. METH. Cont. SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Beallsville, Monroe, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE not all heated coal had been removed and winds carried some to freshly uncovered remaining coal DETECT by passing motorist

EXT. EFF. water applied at load-out station, then holes were made in the silo and hot coal washed out the bottom PREV. heat detecting device in silo suggested

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous combustion FUEL belt, rubber, wood, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt, silo, and load-out station

EQUIP. LOSS 1500' of conveyor and structure and some damage to silo and load-out station PROD. LOSS. until 5/30/70

No. 152

Virginia Pocahontas No. 3

Report on Fire in the Raw-Coal Surface Storage Silo

Cutting by outside contractor resulted in fire when a methane-air mixture in the silo was ignited by either sparks or hot metal. Fire fighting began immediately as a water pipeline was available at the top of the silo. McManus, J.F., MESA Norton, 2 pp.

DATE 10/28/70 TIME 11:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Vansant, Buchanon, Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE methane-air mixture ignited by a spark or piece of molten metal DETECT immediate by welder

EXT. EFF. coal removed from bottom and water applied from pipeline at top of silo PREV. methane monitor or frequent checks needed; welding operations should be shielded

RESC. None

IG. sparks or hot metal FUEL gas AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. silo

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS NS

No. 153

No. 6 Mine

Report of Mine Fire (Surface Structures)

Leaking rainwater caused a short circuit in the power control switch box for the battery-charging circuit resulting in fire. Couch, F., HSAC Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 10/29/70 TIME 11:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Wooton, Leslie, Kentucky OWN. Clarence Maggard Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in power control switch box DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS: None? PREV. unattended equipment should be deenergized

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL wood, coal, insulation, rubber AGENT none EFF. EQUIP. NS

EQUIP. LOSS $25,000 - $30,000 - equipment and supplies on the surface PROD. LOSS. None - mine idle

---

No. 154

D.C. No. 2 Mine

Tipple Fire

Fire occurred for unknown reason destroying the tipple. Fire company called by local resident fought the blaze until 4:00 A.M. Matekovic, J., Biondich, M., MESA Denver, 1 pp.

DATE 2/1/71 TIME 7:00P DUR. 8 hrs.+ DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Gunnison, Gunnison, Colorado OWN. O.C. Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - possibly from defective insulation or an overheated stove DETECT by local resident who called fire department

EXT. EFF. local fire department PREV. all structures within 100' should be fireproof

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL insulation, belt, wood, coal AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS tipple and small tool building destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 155

Jenkin Jones Preparation Plant

Report of Coal Mine Prep. Plant Explosion

A small ignition occurred about 7:30 A.M. and was quickly wetted out. An explosion occurred about 9:15 A.M. injuring 4. They ran for shelter and then fought fires for 2 hours. Evidently, due to insufficient coal in the wet coal bin, a loss of seal between the bin and dryer. Initial ignition released sparks which settled into cyclone collectors. Suspended dust ignited when dryer access doors opened. Collier, J.W., Vallina, J.O., MESA Mt. Hope, 7 pp.

DATE 4/20/71 TIME 9:15A DUR. 2 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 4

HT. NS in. SIZE 6000 TPD 30/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Jenkin Jones, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - B. Bennett Foreman - P. Satmory

CAUSE fine coal dust ignited by smoldering coal or sparks in the cyclone collectors DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water applied PREV. excessive coal dust in plant; operator not well trained; sufficient coal not maintained in wet coal bin (no seal)

RESC. None

IG. sparks FUEL wood, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS preparation plant suffered component damage PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 156

No. 31-F Mine

Surface Mine Office Fire

Fire was discovered by unknown person and put out 1 hour later. Office was severely damaged, especially mine records. Hatfield, T.H., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 5/7/71 TIME 10:10A DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Foreman - J. Edwards Saf. Dir. - H. Bowers

CAUSE 5 gal. can of naptha ignited by electric room heater after leak DETECT discovered by unknown person

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. naptha should not be kept in unsafe places

RESC. None

IG. fumes FUEL wood, lamps, naptha AGENT NS EFF. EQUIP. lamps

EQUIP. LOSS 65 mine cap lamps, 3 lamp racks, 2 lamp chargers, all mine records and misc. materials PROD. LOSS NS

607

No. 157

L. S. Wood Mine

Report of Coal Mine Surface Fire

Two compressors in a fireproof housing were destroyed by fire. Compressor oil, brake fluid, lubricating grease and motor oil was also stored in this building contributing to the fires intensity. Hoistman saw smoke and notified mechanic. They tried to deenergize compressors unsuccessfully and then cut power at the substation. Dry chemical tried, then rock dust. Bishop, J.L., MESA Denver, 3 pp.

DATE 5/17/71 TIME 2:20P DUR. 1 hr.+ DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 1400 TPD 61/2 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Redstone, Pitkin, Colorado OWN. Mid-Continent Coal and Coke Co. PERS. Supt. - Edward Selan Foreman - Jack Moser

CAUSE UNK DETECT by hoistman seeing smoke

EXT. EFF. power cut, dry chemical extinguishers tried and then large quantities of rock dust; water applied to extinguish fire PREV. flammable materials require better storage

RESC. None

IG. electrical (?) FUEL brake fluid, grease, oil, insulation AGENT water, powder, rock dust EFF. Yes, No, Yes EQUIP. compressors

EQUIP. LOSS two compressors and stored fluids; some damage to building PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 158

No. 4 Slope

Report of Coal Mine Surface Hoist House Fire & Explosion

A gasoline powered generator in an addition to the hoist house exploded and set fire to the hoist house. Small quantities of explosives and detonators left in the hoist house bottom floor were detonated and demolished the structure. Before explosion, fire was fought with clay and a fire extinguisher; local fire department was called and water put the fire out. Deak, T.F., Schetroma, A.F., Mickatauage, V.G., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 7/6/71 TIME 11:40A DUR. 2½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 7' SIZE 5 TPD 2/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM No. 2 Lykens

LOC. Trevorton, Northumberland, Pennsylvania OWN. MGS Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - J.G. Murin

CAUSE generator exploded for unknown reason DETECT hoist engineer saw flame on generator

EXT. EFF. clay and a fire extinguisher tried before explosion; fire department applied water PREV. explosives should be stored in a magazine and fire fighting equipment was inadequate

RESC. None

IG. electrical (?) FUEL insulation, gasoline, wood, dust, explosives AGENT water, clay, powder, EFF. Yes, No, No EQUIP. generator hoist

EQUIP. LOSS hoist house and generator house completely destroyed PROD. LOSS complete

No. 159

No. 4 Mine

Report of Coal Mine Fatal Surface (Oxygen-Acetylene Ignition) Accident

Owner was seriously burned and later died due to an acetylene-oxygen ignition. He was cutting angle iron near the tanks and either burnt a hole in the hose or a leaking coupling ignited gas. Dorazio, M., McMaster, C.D., HSAC Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 10/26/71 TIME 3:00P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 1 INJ. 0

HT. 48 in. SIZE 75 TPD 7/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Upper Freeprot

LOC. Tunnelton, Preston, W. Virginia OWN. Luella Jean Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.T. Haskiell

CAUSE acetylene hose coupling leaked and possibly victim connected with torch or burned hole in hose with torch DETECT immediate by owner

EXT. EFF. clothing fire smothered; gas went out PREV. unsafe use or defective equipment; torches should be kept at least 10' from tanks & leaks should be checked

RESC. None

IG. explosion FUEL gas, rubber, clothing AGENT smothered EFF. Yes EQUIP. gas tanks

EQUIP. LOSS two tanks and hoses PROD. LOSS. complete

No. 160

Jones & Laughlin Prep. Plant

Report of Preparation Plant Conveyor Belt Fire

One of only two men working saw smoke and discovered the fire in the preparation plant. He told helper to call fire department. Electrician, driving nearby, saw smoke and went to plant, de-energizing power. Four other fire companies called and fire put out shortly. There was extensive damage to this section of belt and plant structure. Rudolph, E.M., MESA Monroeville, 7 pp.

DATE 11/25/71 TIME 10:00A DUR. 1½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 16,000 TPD 175/2 Emp. METH. None SEAM NS

LOC. Labelle, Fayette, Pennsylvania OWN. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - R. Stein Saf. Dir. - J.W. Connor

CAUSE (consensus) overheated belt roller rotating in loose coal and dust or overheated bearing ignited same DETECT by river pumper at work

EXT. EFF. water applied by 5 fire departments PREV. loose coal should be removed and belts should be better inspected

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. conveyor belt

EQUIP. LOSS extensive damage to two belts and rooms PROD. LOSS NS

No. 161

St. Clair Mammoth P-48 Strip Job

Report of Fatal Coal Mine (Burn of Person) Accident

Employee received 3rd degree burns when his clothing caught fire while standing near a can of burning diesel fuel oil, attempting to get warm. Two truck drivers helped extinguish flames on victim's clothing. Victim taken to hospital where he died 3/3/72. Laird, J.R., Lee, C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 5 pp.

DATE 1/17/72 TIME 11:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 2400 TPD 80/3 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. St. Clair, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Reading Anthracite Co. PERS. Foreman - N. Bauman

CAUSE ignition of diesel fuel which caught victim's clothing afire DETECT immediate by victim and 2 truck drivers

EXT. EFF. flames smothered PREV. diesel fuel oil was being burned in open containers

RESC. 2 truck drivers who saw incident helped extinguish flames on victim's clothing

IG. open flame heater FUEL clothing, diesel fuel AGENT smothered EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 162

Mammoth Breaker

Report of Mammoth Breaker Fire

Night watchman discovered fire at the head of the main scraper line. Officials were notified and two fire companies called. PP&C cut power and the fire departments had the fire under control by 8:30 A.M. Deak, T.F., Erb, R.W., Mickatauage, V.G., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 2 pp.

DATE 2/22/72 TIME 4:20A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 2000 TPD 75/1 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Raven Run, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Lehigh Valley Anthracite PERS. Supt. - H. Belardi Foreman - L. Chase

CAUSE UNK DETECT by night watchman

EXT. EFF. water applied by fire companies PREV. No recommendations

RESC. None

IG. electrical (?) FUEL insulation, wood, coal, dust, belt AGENT water EQUIP. scraper

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 6th & 7th floors, $250,000 PROD. LOSS complete

No. 163

Hazelton Shaft Breaker

Report of a Fire at the Hazelton Shaft Breaker

Fire of undetermined origin discovered by night watchman. Fire department was called and they applied water from the outside while company personnel applied water from inside the breaker. MESA Wilkes-Barre, 6 pp.

DATE 2/17/73 TIME 12:15A DUR. 4 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 2500 TPD 28/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Hazelton, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Jeddo-Highland Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - J.F. O'Donnell

CAUSE UNK DETECT by night watchman

EXT. EFF. water applied from inside and out PREV. no recommendations

RESC. None

IG. electrical (?) FUEL insulation, wood, coal, dust AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS top two floors partially destroyed PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 164

Huber Breaker

Report of Boiler Room Fire

Fire occurred in stack when a boiler tube broke causing an increase in temperature. Two firemen tried to dump the fire by pushing the stoker switch but it failed to operate. They started putting water onto the bed of fire, but fly ash in stack became ignited. Fire department put stack fire out. Mead, B.A., MESA Wilkes-Barre.

DATE 4/3/73 TIME 4:10P DUR. 3 hrs.+ DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 3800 TPD 130/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Ashley, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Minindu Corp. PERS. Foreman - F. Rapaduski

CAUSE boiler tube broke causing intense heat DETECT by firemen working nearby

EXT. EFF. firemen applied water to bed of fire and fire department applied water in stack PREV. No recommendations

RESC. None

IG. boiler tube heat FUEL fly ahs AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. boiler

EQUIP. LOSS damage to boiler and stack PROD. LOSS NS

No. 165

River King Mine

Burning of Explosives Truck

Fire started under the bed of an explosives truck carrying ammonium-nitrate. The Marissa Fire Department was called, however, the truck was allowed to burn. Area was evacuated. Pershing, Dale, Webb, P.O., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 4/12/73 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Lenzburg, St. Clair, Illinois OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Sam Shiflett
Saf. Dir. - Ronald Kelley

CAUSE UNK DETECT explosives truck driver saw fire

EXT. EFF. None - truck allowed to burn PREV. adequate

RESC. area evacuated and all access roads blocked

IG. explosion FUEL explosives AGENT None EQUIP. truck

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS explosives truck PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 166

No. 3 Surface Mine

Report of Non-Fatal Surface Coal Mine Machinery Accident

Work was in progress to construct a berm on an access road where co-owner was killed 2 weeks previous. Operator of front-end loader was badly burned when he scraped the top of a gas line crossing the road igniting gas and consuming combustibles on the loader. Operator ran to stream below to put his fire out. Keene, R.P., MESA Pikeville, 5 pp.

DATE 4/21/73 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. 62 in. SIZE 400 TPD 13/1 Emp. METH. Strip & Auger SEAM Freeport

LOC. Hatfield, Martin, Kentucky OWN. Howard & Russell Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - H. Ratliff
Foreman - H. Ratliff
Saf. Dir. - H. Ratliff

CAUSE rupturing a gas line with metal bucket of loader DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. none for loader; victim ran to stream below to douse his burning clothing PREV. victim not alert to hazard

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL gas, oil, insulation, rubber, hyd. fluid, clothing AGENT water EQUIP. front end loader

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS front-end loader a complete loss PROD. LOSS None

No. 167

Inland Mine

Mine Conveyor Belt Fire (Surface)

Load out belt discovered not operating and sparks dropping from the drive roller. The belt and feeder switches were turned off and fire extinguishers expended fighting fire. Sesser Fire Department extinguished fire. Gulley, D.L., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 5/14/73 TIME 2:45A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Jefferson County, Illinois OWN. Inland Steel Co. PERS. Supt. - Don Jones

CAUSE possibly due to counter balance shoes becoming wedged causing the belt to slip and catch fire at the drive roller DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. fire department and fire extinguisher PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL belt AGENT water, extinguisher, EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes Yes

EQUIP. LOSS approximately 100' of conveyor belt and extensive damage to wiring and centrifugal slip switch PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 168

Forge Slope Mine

Coal Mine Surface Air Compressor Fire

Belt man discovered fire in air compressor house. Evidently, there was a crack in one shaft of one of two compressors which possibly caused piston to stick causing v belt to slip, which ignited belt and wooden guards. Stella, V.J., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 5 pp.

DATE 7/23/73 TIME 6:20P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Newport Township, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Nan, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE friction caused by stuck piston with cracked shaft DETECT belt tender saw smoke emitting from air compressor house

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. no recommendations

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL rubber, wood AGENT NS EQUIP. compressor house

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS air compressor house destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 169

Lorree Colliery

Fire Investigation

Teenagers were seen on the mine property at 5:00 P.M. and smoke was seen coming out of the abandoned repair shop now used for storing tires. Two fire departments responded and the fire was put out by 5:30 A.M., 8/29/73. Building was a total loss. Krznaire, P.C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 8/28/73 TIME 5:30P DUR. 12 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Larksville, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Barbara Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE vandalism DETECT smoke seen by unspecified person

EXT. EFF. 2 fire companies applied water PREV. No recommendations

RESC. None

IG. vandalism FUEL insulation, rubber, wood AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS storage building destroyed PROD. LOSS. None

No. 170

No. 3 Skidmore Slope

Hoist House Fire

Lightning presumably ignited hoist house and it was completely destroyed. Laird, J.R., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 1 pp.

DATE 9/2/73 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Goodspring, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Hegins Mining Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE lightning DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. None PREV. no evidence of lightning arrestors

RESC. None

IG. lightning FUEL wood AGENT None EFF. EQUIP. hoise house

EQUIP. LOSS mine hoist and hoist house destroyed $30,000 PROD. LOSS complete

No. 171

Ayrshire Mine

Report of Nonfatal Burn Accident

Burn accident occurred inside dragline when clothing of welder caught fire while cutting steel. It is believed that a piece of molton steel material became lodged in his clothing, igniting it. Repair crew extinguished flames on victim with a dry chemical fire extinguisher. Victim received 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree burns. Luxmore, C.E., MESA Vincennes, 4 pp.

DATE 1/2/74 TIME 3:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. 60 in. SIZE 4000 TPD 145/3 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM Indiana No. 6

LOC. Chandler, Warrick, Indiana OWN. Amax Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Charles Penz

CAUSE ignition of clothing on victim while cutting steel DETECT immediate by victim

EXT. EFF. dry chemical extinguisher PREV. clothing not fire-resistant

RESC. repair crew helped pull clothing off victim and extinguished flames

IG. cutting torch FUEL clothing AGENT powder EQUIP. dragline

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 172

Murrin Stripping

Report of Nonfatal Surface Burn of Persons Accident

Fire occurred on a dragline when connecting rod bearing burned out the babbitt which became overheated and the metal rubbing against the metal created a spark igniting the fumes in the crankcase section of the motor. Two men received burns and were admitted and treated at the hospital. The fire was extinguished with a fire extinguisher. Lee, C., Mead, B.A., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 4 pp.

DATE 2/11/74 TIME 5:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE 70 TPD 6/2 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM NS

LOC. Carbondale, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania OWN. Northwest Mining Co. PERS. Supt. - T. Smith Foreman - J. Brownell

CAUSE friction DETECT by 2 victims

EXT. EFF. fire extinguisher PREV. attempt was made to throttle engine to an idling position from an unsafe location

RESC. None

IG. friction FUEL fumes AGENT extinguisher EQUIP. dragline

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 173

Big Ben No. 1

Report of Coal Mine (Surface Building) Fire

A fire of undetermined origin destroyed a support building on the surface. Assistant superintendent was in the building the evening of the occurrence and saw nothing unusual. Local resident phoned him at 11:30 P.M. informing him of the fire. With some difficulty, local fire department was called and the fire put out after the building had already collapsed. Dorton, J.E., MESA Denver, 5 pp.

DATE 5/23/74 TIME 11:00P DUR. 1½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 64 in. SIZE 600 TPD 17/1 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Cherokee

LOC. Williamson, Lucas, Iowa OWN. Big Ben Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Harold Carter Saf. Dir. - Harold Carter

CAUSE UNK DETECT local resident saw burning building

EXT. EFF. local fire department applied water PREV. building should be of fireproof construction

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL wood AGENT water EQUIP. surface building

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS building housing hoisting equipment, supply room, lamp room, shop & bathing facilities destroyed. Hoist fell to bottom. PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 174

No. 3-A Surface Mine

Machinery Fire

Fire occurred on front end loader when hydraulic hoses ruptured allowing the oil to spray over the heated manifold exhaust system. The heat of the manifold ignited the oil vapors. No attempt was made to extinguish the fire. Cab operator jumped from the cab and sustained slight injuries to both ankles. The loader was destroyed. Gay, Thomas W., MESA Mt. Hope, 3 pp.

DATE 10/25/74 TIME 2:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Lundale, Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Neese Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE hydraulic line ruptured and fluid ignited by heat of manifold on loader DETECT by operator and a truck driver

EXT. EFF. no attempt made to extinguish fire PREV. fire walls in front end loader inadequate; inproper use of hydraulic hose connections to prevent oil leaks

RESC. None

IG. engine heat FUEL oil, hyd. fluid AGENT None EQUIP. front end loader

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS loader completely destroyed PROD. LOSS NS

No. 175

Glen Lyon Breaker

Report of Fire

An explosion occurred about 11:00 P.M. and fire then destroyed the breaker. Local fire company arrived within minutes and sent a call for aid out, to which several nearby fire departments responded. The fire was fought all night unsuccessfully. Lee, C., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 10/31/74 TIME 11:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Glen Lyon, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Blue Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT immediate by local residents

EXT. EFF. local and several nearby fire companies fought fire unsuccessfully with water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. explosion FUEL wood, dust, oil, grease AGENT water EFF. No EQUIP. crusher

EQUIP. LOSS breaker a total loss PROD. LOSS. None

No. 176

New Cumberland (Strip)

Tipple Fire

Checkweighman observed smoke coming out of tipple electric switch boxes and panels. Five fire departments were called and extinguished the fire in 45 minutes. Most of the 2 story tipple structure was lost. Employees stated that wet shoes produced shock at several start and stop switches often, previous to the fire. Taylor, K.L., MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 2/10/75 TIME 4:20P DUR. 3/4 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. New Cumberland, Tuscarawas, Ohio OWN. Puskarich Mining, Inc. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit in transformer DETECT smoke seen emitting from box by checkweighman

EXT. EFF. 5 fire departments PREV. poor maintenance of switches

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, timber AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. tipple

EQUIP. LOSS tipple PROD. LOSS complete

No. 177

Powhatan No. 3 Mine

Fire & Explosion at the Surface Fan Installation

Arcing resulting from starter malfunction consumed several contacts and heated insulating oil to flash point. Corner of oil tank torn away in ensuing "explosion" and oil spilled into building. No extinguishment required. Mine shut down until ventilation restored at 1:40 P.M., 6/3/75. O'Dell, C.E., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 6/1/75 TIME 10:15A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 60 in. SIZE 443/3 Emp. METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh No. 8

LOC. Dilles Bottom, Belmont, Ohio OWN. North American Coal Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE malfunction in Westinghouse CL-11-600 4.16 KV motor starter for 300 hp fan motor DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. None PREV. adequate

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, electric components AGENT None EQUIP. fan

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS electric controls and components that control fan operation PROD. LOSS. 2 days

---

No. 178

Hughes Mine (strip) Armstrong Mills Pit

Investigation of Machinery Fire

Fire broke out under instrument panel of front end loader while it was in operation. Two men got extinguishers, jumped off and emptied same. Failing to put out the fire, fire department was called. Water from nearby pumps put flames out shortly thereafter. Turkal, J.E., MESA Vincennes, 3 pp.

DATE 10/2/75 TIME 10:20P DUR. ¼ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 24-42 in. SIZE 150 TPD 6/1 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM No. 9

LOC. Lamira, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Eastern Ohio Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Kerry George

CAUSE UNK DETECT immediate by operator

EXT. EFF. 3 6-16 Kidde Tri-class extinguishers failed to operate or to put out fire; fire department extinguished fire with water PREV. adequate

RESC. None

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, oil, hyd. fluid, AGENT water, powder, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. front end loader

EQUIP. LOSS cab of loader, cables and hose PROD. LOSS slight

No. 179

Powhatan No. 6 Mine

Investigation of Thermal Dryer Fire

Fire caused by spontaneous combustion in fine damp coal and dust resulting from underdrying. Turkal, J.E., MESA St. Clairsville, 2 pp.

DATE 11/24/75 TIME 3:18A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Alledonia, Belmont, Ohio OWN. Nacco Mining Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - P. Hawkins

CAUSE spontaneous combustion of fine coal and dust DETECT fire detection indicating light on

EXT. EFF. 10 workmen applied water PREV. inspection once weekly, but not of area where fire started

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous FUEL insulation, coal, dust AGENT water EQUIP. dryer

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None: some insulation PROD. LOSS. None

No. 180

Bull Creek Cleaning Plant

Coal Mine (Silo) Fire

Fire, probably caused by spontaneous combustion occurred in coal silo and was extinguished with water. On 12/30/75, smoke was again observed coming from silo and additional water was applied and remaining coal loaded out. Pauley, W.S., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 12/26/75 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Ashford, Boone, W. Virginia OWN. Southern Appalachian Coal Co. PERS. Foreman - T.R. Harris

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by 3 employees assigned to cleaning

EXT. EFF. water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous combustion FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. silo

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 181

Tremont Breaker

Report of Fatal Surface Coal Mine Burn Type Accident

Fatal burn type accident occurred in the breaker when the owner was thawing a media pump in a confined space with a space heater and his clothing caught fire from contact with the heater. Victim extinguished fire by himself; was taken to hospital where he died 1/28/76. Yamulla, A.M., Duszewski, R.J., MESA Wilkes-Barre, 3 pp.

DATE 1/7/76 TIME 10:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 1 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 3/1 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Tremont, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania OWN. Blue Bell Enterprises PERS. Owner- J. Butcavage

CAUSE victims clothing caught fire when it contacted a heater DETECT immediate by victim

EXT. EFF. NS - victim extinguished flames by himself PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. space heater FUEL clothing AGENT NS EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. NS

No. 182

No. 50 Mine Preparation Plant

Compressor Fire

Fire occurred on air compressor when compressor was started and the laborer failed to open the valve in the water system which permitted water to circulate, maintaining a safe operating temperature. Power was deenergized and water and fire extinguishers used to quench fire. Smith, Gerald L., MESA Mt. Hope, 2 pp.

DATE 1/14/76 TIME 7:05A DUR. ½ hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Pineville, Wyoming, W. Virginia OWN. U.S. Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE failure to open valve in water system on air compressor when it was started DETECT by laborer and equipment operator

EXT. EFF. water and fire extinguishers PREV. accumulations of combustible materials on compressor

RESC. None

IG. engine heat FUEL combustible materials AGENT water, extinguishers EQUIP. air compressor and preparation plant

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. 183

James Mine

Spontaneous Ignition of a Fine Coal Stockpile

Inspection revealed fire 8/4/76. Operator removing unburned material to spread dirt on burning portion at the time of this report. No hazard indicated. 1 pp.

DATE 7/21/76 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Magnolia, Carroll, Ohio OWN. James Brothers Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by inspection

EXT. EFF. by spreading of dirt PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous combustion FUEL coal AGENT dirt EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. N/A

No. 184

Hawthorn Mine (Strip)

Investigation of Coal Mine Stripping Shovel Fire

Shovel used to construct an incline through a spoil bank: was idle due to strike. Pit foreman discovered the fire, confined to lower deck and fought with extinguisher until hydraulic hose broke, ignited and threw him to the ground. Fire department was called. Circumstances suspicious. Lorenzo, L., MESA Vincennes.

DATE 8/3/76 TIME 4:15A DUR. 7½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 40,40 & 30 in. SIZE 5000 TPD 155 Emp. METH. Cont. SEAM Indiana No. 5, 6 & 7

LOC. Sandborn, Greene, Indiana OWN. Peabody Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - Keith Thorton

CAUSE suspicious of arson DETECT during inspection

EXT. EFF. required fire department after hydraulic hose ruptured spreading fire PREV. adequate - equipment of this nature should be better guarded

RESC. None

IG. electrical or arson FUEL cable, insulation, shovel AGENT water EQUIP. shovel

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS 70 cubic yd. stripping shovel PROD. LOSS NS

No. 185

Burning Star No. 3

Report of Surface Coal Mine Investigation of Fire

On Monday, 1/31/77, at 8:00 A.M., smoke was observed issuing from the sealed No. 4 feeder in the draw off tunnel. Coal near the bottom of the clean coal stockpile was apparently ignited by spontaneous combustion and ignited coal in the feeder. No property damage. Coals loaded out and feeder sealed. Summary, J.R., Dona, B.J., MESA Benton, 7 pp.

DATE 1/31/77 TIME NS DUR. 75½ hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 3700 TPD 180 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Schuline, Randolph, Illinois OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Myles Bell Foreman - Dave Martin Saf. Dir. - James Doerr

CAUSE spontaneous combustion DETECT by foreman on preshift

EXT. EFF. hot coals removed and area flushed with water PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous FUEL coal AGENT water, loading out EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. None

No. 186

Antioch Pit Strip Mine

Fire

A fire occurred at the swivel joint on a front end loader. It was extinguished. Repairs were made to electric wires found bare at the joint. The loader again caught fire at the joint. Fire extinguishers were used but the fire went out of control. The loader was destroyed. Blanton, H.E., MESA Barbourville, 2 pp.

DATE 2/17/77 TIME 8:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 30 in. SIZE 400 TPD 17/2 Emp. METH. Strip SEAM Brookwood

LOC. Searls, Tuscaloosa, Alabama OWN. Abston Construction Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - J. Christian

CAUSE arc from electric system DETECT immediately by loader operator

EXT. EFF. fire extinguishers PREV. NS

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL hydraulic fluid, loader AGENT extinguishers EQUIP. front end loader

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS front end loader PROD. LOSS NS

No. 187

Allison Mine

Fire in Cleaned Coal Storage Silo

Spontaneous combustion fire in silo due to compacting required 3 shifts to extinguish and empty silo. Hamko, F., MESA St. Clairsville, 3 pp.

DATE 3/11/77 TIME 3:00P DUR. 24 hrs. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Beallsville, Monroe, Ohio OWN. Youghiogheny and Ohio PERS. NS

CAUSE spontaneous combustion in compacted coal due to infrequent cleaning DETECT smoke observed coming out of silo

EXT. EFF. foam unsuccessful; high pressure water stream from ventilation doors successful after 2 shifts PREV. infrequent cleaning allowed coal to compact

RESC. None

IG. spontaneous combustion FUEL coal AGENT water, foam, EFF. Yes, No EQUIP. coal silo

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. UNK

No. 188

Olga Preparation Plant

Report of Investigation of Mine Fire

Fire occurred in the surface hoisting facilities of the preparation plant when flames from an acetylene-oxygen cutting torch ignited grease and oil. Fire was extinguished by local fire departments. Farley, E.J., MESA Mt. Hope, 4 pp.

DATE 4/20/77 TIME 2:10P DUR. 1 hr. DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 5500 TPD 55 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Coalwood, McDowell, W. Virginia OWN. Olga Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Dwight Strong Foreman - Raymond Crouse Saf. Dir. - James Parrott

CAUSE flames from acetylene-oxygen cutting torch ignited oil and grease DETECT by employee on the skip bucket

EXT. EFF. water from the plant and fire departments PREV. fire extinguishers not provided at work site; accumulations of coal and coal dust present

RESC. None

IG. electrical FUEL grease, oil AGENT water EFF. Yes EQUIP. preparation plant

EQUIP. LOSS no apparent structural damage was sustained PROD. LOSS NS

UNDERGROUND AND SURFACE COAL MINE FIRES

JOURNAL ARTICLE REPORTS

1950 - 1977

This part of the Appendix consists of journal article report forms, which contain information to supplement that contained in selected fire incident reports in Part I of this Appendix. The journal article reports are keyed to the incident reports through index 14.

No. P 1

Foothills Mine

Fighting a Persistent Mine Fire

Oily fog noticed issuing from No. 3 south entry..had been abandoned for 20 years. Working areas were inby. Seals erected repeatedly as heat got around leaks and rib and ignited coal. Shale clay used to pack cracks effectively. Morris, W., Canadian Mining & Metallurgical, Colorado School of Mines Golden, 5 pp.

DATE 4/10/50 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 2-510 in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM Val d 'or

LOC. Dunsmuir, Ontario OWN. Canadian Collieries Ltd. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT oily fog noticed out of entry

EXT. EFF. seals erected and rebuilt constantly PREV. NS

RESC. Area not recovered

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT seals EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. almost 2 months

No. P 2

Colonial Mine

The Colonial Mine Fire

Belt had been idle for 2½ hours previous. Examiner discovered fire and notified surface. A main fan stopped due to electrical breakdown at the same time. Roof falls and poor ventilation made early containment impossible. Fire fought by systematically erecting seals, timbers, and flooding sections with water. It was a major attempt which, fortunately, succeeded. Production resumed 1/10/51. Snell, W.D., Colorado School of Mines, 4 pp.

DATE 10/31/50 TIME 3:20P DUR. 55 days DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv. SEAM NS

LOC. Fayette County, Pennsylvania OWN. U.S. Steel Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK - suspected electric malfunction DETECT by examiner

EXT. EFF. centered around erecting seals, pumping water PREV. NS

RESC. rehabilitation progressed with fire

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT seals water EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS - belt rehabilitated PROD. LOSS 55 days

No. P 3

New York Times

14 in Shaft Rescued in Indiana Mine Fire

Fire broke out, with 14 miners below and about 26 above the point of fire, when friction in a belt line ignited the belt and then coal. The fourteen below were a mile from the mine head and were rescued less than 3 hours after it started. There was alternate escape by-passing the flames. Fire brought under control soon after. U.P.I., Sullivan, Indiana, 1 pp.

DATE 1/24/51 TIME 10:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 40 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM NS

LOC. Sullivan, Indiana OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - H.C. McCullum

CAUSE friction on a belt line carrying coal to tipple DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. mine rescue teams brought 14 miners through 2 entries by-passing the flames

IG. friction FUEL coal, belt AGENT NS EQUIP. belt

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 4

Blackhawk Mine

Blackhawk Mine Fire Fight Ends

Fire of unknown cause was discovered by shift arriving to working sections after 5:00 P.M. After unsuccessful attempts to effect ventilation changes and load out burning coal, the Bicknell Mine Rescue team was called. A section boss was overcome by smoke. The room was finally sealed. Terre Haute Star, MESA Vincennes, 2 pp.

DATE 3/21/51 TIME 5:10P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE 2400 TPD 280 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Blackhawk, Indiana OWN. Blackhawk Coal Corp. PERS. Supt. - C. Fitzpatrick Foreman - S. Johnson

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. seals PREV. smoking permitted: fire runs not made this occurrence

RESC. N/A - mine will be abandoned if permanent seals must be built

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT seal EQUIP. None

EFF. (?)

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS 5 days or permanent

No. P 5

Mammoth No. 4

Fighting Fire with Flood

Mine had been dewatered 5 years previous after 18 years inundation. Fire discovered looking through borehole. Extent discovered by long hole drilling and preparations made to flood the section. Dams erected. Dewatering commenced 10/12/51. Coal Age, Colorado School of Mines.

DATE 5/17/51 TIME NS DUR. 5 months DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM Mammoth

LOC. Lansford, Pennsylvania OWN. Lehigh Navigation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Norman Richards Foreman - Anthony Arreta Gen. Mgr. - W.J. Parton

CAUSE UNK DETECT by official looking through drill hole between chutes

EXT. EFF. area damned and flooded PREV. NS

RESC. area dewatered, haulage erected and operations resumed

IG. UNK FUEL coal AGENT water EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 5 months

No. P 6

Pluto Coal Mine

Coal Mine Fire Smothered New York Times

Firemen bottled up a coal mine fire in the Pluto coal mine near Boulder by pushing tons of dirt over the mine shaft opening with a bulldozer. The flames had raced up the 300 ft. timbered air shaft. U.P.I., New York Times, 1 pp.

DATE 2/23/52 TIME 1:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Boulder, Colorado OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. dirt bulldozed down shaft PREV. NS

RESC. none needed

IG. UNK FUEL timber AGENT dirt EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. P 7

No. 3 Mine

Prevention of Fires in Belt Conveyor Installations Including a Report of the Fire at the No. 3 Mine

Crew, while removing supplies from section observed smoke, smelled burning rubber, and noticed main belt stopped. A workman opened the remote control switch. Another travelled outby on intake and applied 5 or 6 bags of rock dust and put the fire out. Belt was burnt in two and was spliced. Sisk, A.D., Proceedings of the 43rd Convention of Mine Inspectors Institute of America, Birmingham, Alabama, 6/53, University of West Virginia, Morgantown, 8 pp.

DATE 12/6/52 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 29-39 in. SIZE 2550 TPD 490/2 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Elkhorn

LOC. Evanston, Breathitt, Kentucky OWN. Pond Creek Pocahontas Company PERS. Supt. - M.M. McCormick Foreman - Ken Fields Saf. Dir. - E.E. Linkous

CAUSE belt friction at drive pulley when roller fell from materials pile and jammed tailpiece pulley DETECT by crew removing supplies nearby

EXT. EFF. 5 or 6 bags of rock dust applied PREV. overcurrent relay set too low

RESC. N/A

IG. friction FUEL rubber, coal, dust AGENT rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS belt burned in two and then spliced PROD. LOSS. None

---

No. P 8

No. 3 Mine

Prevention of Fires in Belt Conveyor Installations Including a Report of the Fire at the No. 3 Mine

Fire occurred at belt drive during non-producing shift. Two men recovering equipment discovered fire and applied rock dust unsuccessfully. Help arrived and fire was fought while search for 4 trapped men went on. Two bodies found shortly. Ventilation changes were made and two other bodies found. Meanwhile, fire was spreading faster than it could be quenched and loaded, so the area was sealed. Sisk, A.D., Proceedings of the 43rd Convention of Mine Inspectors Institute of America, Birmingham, Alabama, 6/53, University of West Virginia, Morgantown, 8 pp.

DATE 12/12/52 TIME 12:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 4 INJ. 0

HT. 29-39 in. SIZE 2550 TPD 490/2 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Elkhorn

LOC. Evanston, Breathitt, Kentucky OWN. Pond Creek Pocahontas Company PERS. Supt. - M.M. McCormick Foreman - Ken Fields Saf. Dir. - E.E. Linkous

CAUSE belt friction at drive pulleys DETECT by two miners enroute to recover equipment

EXT. EFF. two discoverers applied rock dust, crew applied rock dust, extinguisher and water, and then ventilation changed and water applied; area sealed PREV. belt run unattended, no centrifugal switches, inadequate ventilation, no self-rescuers, no sectionalized circuit breakers, belts dirty, no fire training, no emergency plan

RESC. first two bodies found easily; major ventilation changes effected to find other two

IG. friction FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, powder, rock dust, seals EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS until 12/22/52

No. P 9

Two Dead, Two Missing in Kentucky Mine

Fire broke out because of a shorted trolley wire, spread to the coal, trapping 4 miners, the only men in the mine. The missing men were somewhere between the flames and the face. An unidentified spokesman laid the blame to the trolley wire. There is pure air along the route, leaving hope for survivors. A.P., New York Times.

DATE 12/13/52 TIME 2:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 2 INJ. 2

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Salyersville, Kentucky OWN. Kentucky Division, Pond Creek Pocahontas Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE shorted trolley wire DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT NS EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 10

Osage No. 3

Blazing Mine Sealed in W. Virginia

Six hundred men safe above ground after fire broke out on a belt in 2 west 8 south. The area was sealed (entire mine) 6/4/55. Pittsburgh Press, HSAC Denver.

DATE 6/3/55 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. NS OWN. NS PERS. Supt. - H. Suter

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. fire teams fought all day Friday 6/3/55 PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. friction (?) FUEL rubber, coal AGENT water, seals, rock dust EQUIP. belt

EFF. No, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. P 11

No. 19 Mine, Wanamie Colliery

Recent Mine Fires & Explosions, Their Causes & Prevention

(Within this article is an account of the fire). The fire originated on bottom lift passing branch of No. 14 slope, an abandoned area and discovered by a slope footman and workman. Mine cars, some with explosives were present so the two ran for help. Ventilation changes were required due to dense smoke, then fire was fought direct with soda acid and water. Area sealed. Edwards, John D., Mine Inspectors Institute of America Proceedings June, 1957, Pittsburgh Mine Safety Research Center, 2 pp.

DATE 1/30/57 TIME 2:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 8' in. SIZE NS METH. Conv. SEAM Bottom Baltimore

LOC. Wanamie, Luzerne, Pennsylvania OWN. Glen Alden Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE (opinion) roof fall caused feeder and trolley wire to short DETECT by footman and workman travelling slope bottom

EXT. EFF. ventilation was changed, soda-acid and water applied, but roof falls forced sealing PREV. NS

RESC. N/A

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, seals, soda-acid EQUIP. None

EFF. No, Yes No

EQUIP. LOSS None PROD. LOSS. 18 days

No. P 12

Koehler Mine

Fire Fighting Experience: The Koehler Mine

Smoke discovered out of 2 intake air courses. Investigation showed fire to be inby intersection of 2 main haulageway 6900' inby main portal. Caving had already occurred. Sealing began. By accident, fire had consumed temporary brattice during overcast reconstruction, short-circuiting its smoke to return. Hiers, R.G., Dennison, W.K., Coal Age 46:61-4 July 1960, Colorado School of Mines Golden, 4 pp.

DATE 6/8/58 TIME NS DUR. 14 months DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 5-10' in. SIZE 1500 TPD 1 section METH. Cont. SEAM NS

LOC. NS OWN. Kaiser Steel Corp. PERS. Supt. - W.K. Dennison, Jr.

CAUSE UNK DETECT smoke sighted in canyon area

EXT. EFF. sealing, CO2 injection, foam plugs and finally flooding PREV. NS

RESC. begun 6/23 but exposed sandstone retained heat giving temperature of 189°F. Bypass entry constructed, caves outloaded and seals and timbering erected. Rekindling encountered often. Seals finished 6/29 and area flooded to roof

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT CO2, foam, water, seals, EQUIP. None

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS 14 months

No. P 13-a

Holden 22

18 Feared Lost in Coal Mine Fire

A small slate fall caused a trolley wire to short and start coal burning trapping the miners. Two escaped via a circuitous route they could not convince others to follow. An unidentified spokesman said rescue attempts would be made again, after an initial attempt was turned back. For a time, communications were open with the trapped men, until fire burned the phone. A.P., New York Times.

DATE 3/9/60 TIME 8:30A DUR. NS DEATHS UNK INJ. UNK

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE small slate fall struck trolley wire DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. foam used first, then wooden partitions PREV. NS

RESC. rescue crews attempted to reach the trapped men via an old slope on the opposite side of the mountain

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT NS EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 13-b

Holden 22

Mine Rescue Team Forced Out by Fire

Smoke and gas forced rescuers to abandon a U-shaped tunnel around the burning area in this coal mine. J.L. Hamilton, Executive Vice President of Island Creek ascertained the fire was not flaming, but under control, in an inspection with Crawford L. Wilson, State Mines Director. Hope to reach 1 group of trapped men was high. A.P., New York Times.

DATE 3/11/60 TIME NS DUR. 60 hrs.+ DEATHS 18 (?) INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Logan, W. Virginia OWN. Island Creek Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. P 14-a

Montour No. 4

Use of High Expansion Foam on an Actual Mine Fire

Fire fought directly until 9:00 P.M. (with water), when foam generator placed in service. Canvas checks were erected across breakthroughs to parallel entries. Fire moved towards mined-out area and generator relocated. Foam unable to extinguish fire beneath roof falls. Foam helped reduce combustible gases and easily moved. Area sealed. Parisi, C.W., Colorado School of Mines, 1 pp.

DATE 6/10/60 TIME 11:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Library, Pennsylvania OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water applied, then foam, then area sealed when fire not extinguished PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, foam, seal EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 14-b

Montour No. 4 Mine

Fighting Fire With Foam at Montour No. 4 Mine

Fire started near automatic car spotter located near discharge end of a conveyor belt in neutral air zone. Smoke prevented direct application of water 30 minutes later when car arrived. Changing stoppings ate up valuable time. Workmen not evacuated yet near air-locks which, if opened, could have helped contain fire. Roof falls were numerous. Area sealed 6/14/60. Parisi, C.W., Mining Engineering Vol. 13, No. 2 Feb. 1961, Colorado School of Mines, 2 pp.

DATE 6/10/60 TIME 11:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 60 in. SIZE 5300 TPD METH. Conv. SEAM Pittsburgh

LOC. Library, Pennsylvania OWN. Pittsburgh Coal Co. PERS. Saf. Dir. - C.W. Parisi

CAUSE UNK DETECT during day shift

EXT. EFF. foam allowed workmen to douse fire by extinguishing open flame and cooling floor. Area sealed as fire was deep. PREV. adequate equipment available

RESC. None

IG. electrical (?) FUEL NS AGENT water, foam, seal EQUIP. belt, spotter

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. P 14-c

Montour No. 4

Use of High-Expansion Foam on a Pa. Coal Mine Fire

Fire discovered in neutral air zone near discharge of conveyor. Nine men inby had to be evacuated before airlock (shorting air to fire) could be opened. Fire quickly got to roof and falls began, as is usually the case in this bed. Water used until 9:10 P.M. Then foam set up. Foam helped reduce smoke and fumes allowing progress with water. Area finally sealed when small enough. McDonald, T.J., USBM IC 8019, Colorado School of Mines Golden, 7 pp.

DATE 6/10/60 TIME 11:30A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 60 in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM Pittsburgh

LOC. Lawrence, Washington, Pennsylvania OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT during normal operations

EXT. EFF. water, then water and foam applied, then area sealed PREV. better than average

RESC. N/A - 9 men removed immediate to discovery

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, foam, seal EQUIP. None

EFF. No, No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 15-a

Federal No. 1

Injected Rock Wool Isolates Mine Fire

Fire and explosions idled mine since Christmas. Rock wool injected as temporary seal. Cameras lowered verified progress, then crew went in and erected permanent seals much sooner due to use of rock wool. Idea had been tested at Bruceton. Boxley, A.P., Colorado School of Mines Golden.

DATE 12/25/62 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Grant Town, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Associated Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE UNK DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. whole mine sealed at first PREV. NS

RESC. rock wool injected as temporary seal to help get affected section sealed permanently so operations could be resumed

IG. UNK FUEL timber, coal AGENT rock wool, seal EQUIP. None

EFF. Yes, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS until 10/63

No. P 15-b

Federal No. 1 Mine

Fire, Explosions & Recovery; Federal No. 1 Mine

Fire bosses discovered fire 800' outby the face. They cut off AC pump circuit (which had already tripped breaker) and notified officials. Foam was used to fight fire, but smoke and heat intense. Explosion occurred and it was decided to seal the mine... completed 6:55 P.M., 12/25. Explosions ripped seals 12/27. Entire mine finally sealed with great difficulty. Staff Coal Age, Coal Age Vol. 68 No. 11, Colorado School of Mines Golden, 11 pp.

DATE 12/25/62 TIME 3:00A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. 82 in. SIZE 8500 TPD, 7 sections, 380 Emp. METH. Conv. SEAM Pittsburgh

LOC. Grant Town, Marion, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates PERS. Supt. - William Laird, Foreman - W.L. Laxton

CAUSE UNK DETECT by fire boss on holiday (idle) shift

EXT. EFF. sealing was always used; first just 6 north mains, then entire mine, then injected rock wool as temporary seals PREV. NS - 6 north had been well rock dusted before Christmas holiday

RESC. 6 north mains sealed; explosions (20) destroyed these. Entire mine sealed.

IG. UNK FUEL rubber, timber, coal AGENT rock wool, seal EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. until 9/3/63

No. P 16

Osage No. 3

How Osage No. 3 Fire Was Fought With Water

Smoke detected on mainline just outby 6 north. Investigations showed fire raging at bottom of a borehole. Water and rock dust applied even after top fell. Water pumped down borehole. Foam generator used in two places, then 2 machines used, and air currents used to carry off excessive smoke. Loading and foam continued until 5/6/65. Staff Coal Age, Coal Age Vol. 70 No. 7 July 1965, Colorado School of Mines Golden, 3 pp.

DATE 4/27/65 TIME 6:15P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv. SEAM NS

LOC. NS OWN. Christopher Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit between borehole casing and conductor DETECT smoke detected in mainline haulage

EXT. EFF. foaming, water pumped down borehole, material outloaded as progress was made PREV. adequate

RESC. Material outloaded

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT foam, loading, EFF. Yes, Yes EQUIP. None

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS 9 days

No. P 17-a

Mars Mine

Miner Dies After Rescue, 6 Trapped

One miner was found alive, but died on the way to the hospital during attempts to locate 7 miners trapped in a burning mine. Roof falls and burning timber and smoke-filled passageways hampered efforts. A.P., New York Times.

DATE 10/18/65 TIME 11:00P DUR. 21 hrs. DEATHS 1 INJ. 6

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Sardis, W. Virginia OWN. Clinchfield Coal Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE NS DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. NS FUEL timber, coal AGENT NS EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 17-b

Mars # 2

Directions scribbled on ribs in chalk led rescue teams to the bodies of the 6 remaining miners trapped in this burning mine. Their fresh air supply evidently gave out in the room they had barricaded themselves into. Evidently, a coal-digging machine cut an electrical cable. The last scribbled message only 4 hours after fire broke out.

DATE 10/19/65 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 7 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont. SEAM NS

LOC. Clarksburg, W. Virginia OWN. NS PERS. NS

CAUSE short circuit caused by broken cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT NS EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. P 18

Humphrey # 7

12 Men Are Rescued in Burning Mine

Twelve men, lead by their foreman, attempted to escape and were met by a rescue team. All but the 12 had been lifted to safety soon after the fire began. The foreman was able to telephone their location. They had been able to erect a barricade and were in fresh air. (The foreman had actually set out alone and met the rescue team). A.P.

DATE 1/28/69 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 1

HT. NS in. SIZE 138 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. NS OWN. C.C.C. PERS. Foreman - Mr. Brock

CAUSE cave-in triggered electrical fire DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. sealing the area PREV. NS

RESC. 3 teams explored the mine knowing approximate location of trapped men

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT sealing EQUIP. shuttle car

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 19-a

Blacksville No. 1

Mine Fire Blamed on Equipment Movement

Consol cited for negligence in moving continuous miner through low clearance and assigning work duties inby. Fire was fought haphazardly without use of available water line. Coal Age, Nov. 1972, University of W. Virginia, Morgantown, 1 pp.

DATE 7/22/72 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 9 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. NS OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert Minor
Foreman - Herman Liddle

CAUSE continuous miner contacted trolley wire while being moved through poor clearance DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS - generally assumed water and rock dust applied PREV. inadequate precautions for moving equipment; men assigned to work inby operation; unorganized fire-fighting procedures; available fire hoses not used immediately

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, coal AGENT water, rock dust, EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. No, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. P 19-b

Blacksville No. 1

9 Missing as Fire Breaks Out at Coal Mine in W. Virginia

A continuous mining machine evidently cut an electric cable and started a fire. Thirty-one men escaped unharmed. The nine still below had been contacted, but communications were broken by the fire, under control at the time of report. Special to New York Times, New York Times.

DATE 7/22/72 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 40 Emp. METH. Cont. SEAM NS

LOC. Blacksville, W. Virginia OWN. C.C.C. PERS. NS

CAUSE broken electrical cable DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL NS AGENT NS EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 19-c

Blacksville # 1

Hope Dims for 9 Missing in Mine Fire

Evidently maintenance men (with 02 supplies on their backs) were moving an assembled continuous miner (violation of Section 17 - W. Virginia law) when it touched a cable setting the fire. Rescue teams from this and other mines were attempting to extinguish the blaze and reach the men. U.P.I., New York Times.

DATE 7/23/72 TIME 8:30P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont. SEAM NS

LOC. Blacksville, W. Virginia OWN. C.C.C. PERS. NS

CAUSE electrical DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. foam met with little success PREV. NS

RESC. 14 rescue teams battled smoke and fumes; boreholes were drilled with geophones to detect movement

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT foam EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

No. P 19-d

Blacksville # 1

Blast Ends Hunt for 9 Coal Miners

An explosion today ended hope of finding. A borehole to a tunnel where the miners were thought to be showed nothing. Special to New York Times, New York Times.

DATE 7/25/72 TIME 3:00P DUR. since 7/23 DEATHS 9 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Cont. SEAM NS

LOC. Blacksville, W. Virginia OWN. C.C.C. PERS. NS

CAUSE trolley wire contacted by moving continuous miner DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. NS PREV.

RESC. 14 rescue teams exploring, borehole drilling

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT foam EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 19-e

Blacksville # 1

Mine Fire Blamed on Equipment Movement

Short article the result of hearings at USBM details the fault of Consol in inadequately preventing and fighting the disaster. Coal Age, Coal Age Nov. 1972 Vol. 77 # 11 pp. 25-26, 2 pp.

DATE NS TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS NS INJ. NS

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Blacksville, W. Virginia OWN. Consolidation Coal Co. PERS. Supt. - Robert Minor
Foreman - Herman Liddle

CAUSE continuous miner contacted energized trolley wire DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. water hoses not even used until several hours after outbreak PREV. inadequate precautions for moving machine and men worked inby during the movement, known to be close; no timely & accurate escape instructions furnished to victims

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL insulation, rubber, coal, timber AGENT water, seal, EQUIP. continuous miner

EFF. No, Yes

EQUIP. LOSS continuous mining machine and loader PROD. LOSS. NS

No. P 20

Joanne Mine

Coal Mine Fire Proves Safety Training Pays

Article describes the remote and outside sealing operations in combating the fire. Recovery began 6/18/74 with the construction of permanent seals at the fire area. Debris was then removed and the mine began production by July. Sands, Arthur P., National Safety News, January 1976, Pittsburgh Mine Safety Research Center, 3 pp.

DATE 1/14/74 TIME 1:05A DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Farmington, W. Virginia OWN. Eastern Gas & Fuel Associates PERS. NS

CAUSE wrecked car contacted trolley wire DETECT immediate

EXT. EFF. sealing of 4 air shafts, 3 fan openings and 14 boreholes, then remote sealing of fire area with fly ash PREV. NS

RESC. all 59 men in the mine evacuated easily

IG. electrical FUEL coal AGENT fly ash seal EQUIP. utility vehicle

EFF. Yes

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS until 7/74

No. P 21

Cambria No. 32

Fire: A Two-month Battle is Over

Article documents extinguishing efforts in this fire: water and foam contained the fire but drove combustibles level up and probes always broke down, forcing evacuation; remote sealing using casing boreholes with liquified fly ash and nitrourethane. Finally the mine was flooded 1¼ x ¼ miles area using steel reinforced concrete bulkheads. Staff, Coal Age, June 1977 Bol. 82 #6, Pittsburgh Mine Safety Research Center, 3 pp.

DATE 2/6/77 TIME NS DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE NS METH. Conv. SEAM NS

LOC. Ebensburg, Pennsylvania OWN. Bethlehem Steel Corp. PERS. NS

CAUSE roof fall caused trolley wire to short DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. See summary PREV. NS

RESC. NS

IG. electrical FUEL timber, coal AGENT water, foam, flood, remote seal EQUIP. NS

EFF. No, No, Yes, No

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS. $14 million in lost tonnage and 2 - 3 months time

Buckeye Mine

Mine Fire Yields No Signs of Life

Drilling of a 350 borehole to the last known working place of Richard Randolph, 63, yielded no signs of life and indicated a large roof fall. Two more holes were to be sunk during the night by a new mobile mine rescue drill (by Westinghouse will be used). The fire still rages. Special to New York Times, New York Times.

DATE 3/28/77 TIME 1:00P DUR. NS DEATHS 0 INJ. 0

HT. NS in. SIZE 350 Emp. METH. NS SEAM NS

LOC. Nemacolin, Pennsylvania OWN. Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. PERS. NS

CAUSE overheated compressor DETECT NS

EXT. EFF. None PREV. None

RESC. borehole drilling

IG. engine heat FUEL coal AGENT None EQUIP. NS

EFF.

EQUIP. LOSS NS PROD. LOSS NS

UNDERGROUND COAL MINES

NON-REPORTABLE FIRES

1950 - 1977

This section of the Appendix contains a listing of non-reportable fires in underground coal mines. Information in the listing was obtained through interviews with a number of mine safety directors.

UNDERGROUND COAL MINES

NON-REPORTABLE FIRE INCIDENT DESCRIPTIONS

:IDENT NO.	DESCRIPTION
UN 1	Friction between conveyor belt and block of wood supporting belt rope ignited wood. Extinguished with water by supervisor and crew.
UN 2	Frozen belt roller ignited spilled coal. Extinguished in 10 minutes with water by belt walker.
UN 3	Frozen belt roller ignited coal dust. Extinguished in 5 minutes with water.
UN 4	Leads to batteries on Goodman locomotive shorted and caught fire. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher by operator.
UN 5	Leads to battery of scoop tram shorted and caught fire. Extinguished with rock dust and hand portable extinguisher by operator.
UN 6	Short in defective breaker in power box caused electrical fire. Power was disconnected and fire extinguished with hand portable extinguisher.
UN 7	Bearing on panel belt conveyor tail rotor overheated due to excess accumulation of loose coal dust around tail roller igniting coal dust. Extinguished with water by mine examiner.
UN 8	Frozen bearing on return belt roller overheated and ignited loose coal and coal dust. Extinguished with water by repairman.
UN 9	Conveyor belt running too loose rubbed loose rock and return roller hangers. Friction ignited accumulated coal dust. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher and water by mine foreman and chief of maintenance.
UN 10	Batteries on Kersey personnel car caught fire for unspecified reason. Extinguished with rock dust.
UN 11	Trailing cable on shuttle car overheated and ignited insulation. Extinguished in 5 minutes when installed fire suppression system activated.
UN 12	Batteries being charged on scoop either overcharged or shorted igniting batteries. Extinguished by machine operator by de-energizing battery charger and applying hand portable extinguisher.
UN 13	Frozen bottom roller overheated and ignited accumulated coal dust. Coal dust removed and fire extinguished with rock dust by Safety Manager.
UN 14	Head roller of conveyor belt overheated and ignited accumulated coal dust. Coal dust removed and fire extinguished with water.

INCIDENT NO.	DESCRIPTION
UN 15	Batteries being charged on jeep overheated and ignited wiring insulation. Power to charger removed and fire extinguished with rock dust.
UN 16	Wiring on locomotives short due to vibration, worn and cracked insulation, and coal. Extinguished by removal of power and application of hand portable extinguisher. Multiple occurences.
UN 17	Trailing cables on shuttle cars overheat, crack insulation and short out igniting insulation. Extinguished by removal of power and application of hand portable extinguishers. Multiple occurences.
UN 18	Friction due to misaligned belt ignites accumulated coal dust. Extinguished by water. Multiple occurences.
UN 19	Friction due to jammed belt and slip switch failure ignites accumulated coal dust. Extinguished by water. Multiple occurences.
UN 20	Pump motor froze while mine inactive and overheated igniting coal and oil. Extinguished by hand portable extinguisher and water.
UN 21	D.C. cable from rectifier on surface broke where connected to track. Arc ignited floor coal. Extinguishment not specified.
UN 22	On long shuttle car runs inner wrap of cable reel overheats, igniting insulation, because not exposed to air. Extinguished by removing power and applying dry chemical extinguisher. Multiple occurences.
UN 23	Battery charger overcharge cut-off device failed causing Unitrack Scoop Tram batteries to overheat and ignite. Extinguished with installed fire control system activated by operator. Scoop Tram down for two shifts.
UN 24	Battery charger for Unitrack Scoop Tram overheated and ignited when safety cut-off device failed. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher and rock dust by scoop tram operator. Charger badly damaged and later junked.
UN 25	Small motor that maintained trailing cable tension on Goodman Motor (15 ton locomotive) overheated and ignited cable insulation. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher and rock dust by equipment operator. Three occurences. Reel of cable replaced and two shifts of production lost. Use of reel later discontinued.
UN 26	Trailing cable on Joy shuttle car overheated between shifts and ignited cable insulation. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher and rock dust by next shift equipment operator. Cable reel replaced and two shifts production of vehicle lost. Problem eliminated with policy of pulling cable off of reel at end of shift.

SURFACE COAL MINES

NON-REPORTABLE FIRES

1950 - 1977

This section of the Appendix contains a listing of non-reportable fires in surface coal mines. Information in the listing was obtained through interviews with a number of mine safety directors.

SURFACE COAL MINES

NON-REPORTABLE FIRE INCIDENT DESCRIPTIONS

CIDENT NO.	DESCRIPTION
SN 1	Diesel fuel poured onto smoldering coal in shanty heating stove ignited causing flash fire involving diesel fuel fumes in shanty. Fire extinguished with hand portable extinguisher. Five men received first and second degree burns. Incident reported to authorities by mine officials but study project crew unable to locate MESA report.
SN 2	Welder was welding in inner sleeve of swinger motor housing of Marion 7400 dragline when a spark ignited oil and grease accumulation in lower segment. Fire extinguished with three hand portable extinguishers.
SN 3	Electric motor on Wabco scraper ignited and burned while vehicle removing dirt. Cause of fire and extinguishing efforts not specified. Electric motor total loss and scraper down for two days.
SN 4	Michigan 475 front end loader with non-functional transmission was being pushed into maintenance shop when transmission locked, throwing a gear through the transmission gear housing. Transmission fluid ignited from unknown source. Fire extinguished quickly by vehicle operator by unspecified method, probably hand portable extinguisher.
SN 5	Coal in raw coal silo began to smolder from spontaneous combustion due to long storage period caused by employee contract negotiations and work stoppage. Coal transferred through prep plant to wash coal and extinguish fire.
SN 6	Hydraulic hose on Kress Haulage truck ruptured and hydraulic fluid ignited by unspecified source. Extinguished by hand portable extinguisher. Multiple incidents.
SN 7	Cutting torches in prep plants ignited coal dust. Extinguished by hand portable extinguishers. Multiple incidents.
SN 8	Haulage truck tire rubs against bed and friction ignites tire. Extinguishing method not specified. Multiple occurences.
SN 9	Caterpillar D9 bulldozer hydraulic line ruptured and hydraulic fluid ignited by manifold. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher. One incident per year out of eight large mines.
SN 10	Scraper overturned spilling diesel fuel. Manifold ignited fuel which was extinguished by hand portable extinguisher.
SN 11	Grease cartridge storage area in stripping shovel ignited by cutting torch. Cartridges removed and fire extinguished with hand portable extinguisher.

INCIDENT NO.	DESCRIPTION
SN 12	Catalytic converter on pickup trucks ignite brush fires. Extinguished by dirt and hand portable extinguishers. Multiple occurences.
SN 13	Cutting torch in shop area ignites grease and oil. Extinguished by hand portable extinguishers. Multiple occurences.
SN 14	Electrical shorts in Dragline lower compartments ignite oil and grease. Extinguished with hand portable extinguishers. Multiple occurences.
SN 15	Bucyrus Erie 3850 shovel was moving with two propel motors out. Circuit breakers overloaded and flash ignited oil and grease in lower frame. Extinguished with two hand portable extinguishers.
SN 16	The Number 1 generator of a Bucyrus Erie 1450 dragline flashed and ignited oil and grease from leaking bearings. The fire was extinguished within 20 minutes by use of two 10-pound CO_2 extinguishers and several 20-pound and 30-pound dry chemical extinguishers.
SN 17	Cutting torch acetylene and oxygen tanks ignited by torch at oilers workbench inside house of Bucyrus Erie 3850 shovel. Help summoned by radio and fire extinguished by two 150 pound and twelve 20 pound dry chemical extinguishers along with two 200 pound CO_2 units.
SN 18	Cutting torch ignited grease and oil soaked rags in circle rail area of Bucyrus Erie 3850 shovel. Extinguished with one 20 pound dry chemical extinguisher.
SN 19	Electic motor on 50-R drill shorted igniting canvas dust cover. Extinguished with two 20 pound hand portable dry chemical extinguishers.
SN 20	A loose wire terminal on one of the breakers in the control panel of the A.C. control room of a Bucyrus Erie 1450 dragline shorted and started electrical fire. Extinguished in 20 minutes by two 150 pound CO_2 units applied through trapdoor above control room.
SN 21	Battery cable on D-16 motor grader shorted and ignited hydraulic fluid that had spilled and/or leaked from tank. Fire occured on hydraulic fluid tank. Extinguished by ten 10 pound dry chemical extinguishers.
SN 22	Control box for overload conveyor belt overheated and burst into flame after repeated attempts to start belt clogged with heavy frost. Extinguished with one 10 pound hand portable dry chemical extinguisher.
SN 23	An electrical short on the underside of the deck of a 50-R drill ignited spilled diesel fuel on underside of tank. Extinguished in 15 minutes with light 10 pound hand portable dry chemical extinguishers.
SN 24	Electrical short due to poor spring pressure on contactor in electrical panel of the rotary compressor of a 50-R drill caused electrical fire. Fire self-extinguished in two minutes.

NCIDENT NO.	DESCRIPTION
SN 25	Hydraulic line of D-9 tractor ruptured, spraying hydraulic fluid on turbocharger manifold. Fluid ignited and equipment operator extinguished fire with three 20 pound hand portable dry chemical extinguishers in 10 minutes.
SN 26	A wire to the circuit breaker controlling the generator set shorted and caused short electrical fire in the electrical cabinet of a Marion 8900 dragline. The fire was extinguished by automatic actuation of the halon system.
SN 27	Electrical short ignited hydraulic fluid from ruptured hose under the floorboard of a 992 front-end loader. Extinguished by operator using two 20 pound hand portable dry chemical extinguishers.
SN 28	Overheated transmission in 3/4 ton Dodge pickup ignited leaking oil while driving. Extinguished with one 10 pound hand portable dry chemical extinguisher.
SN 29	Oil circuit breaker in dragline overheated igniting oil and injuring two men. Extinguishing efforts not specified.
SN 30	Friction ignited diesel fuel on diesel fuel tank while being dragged. Total loss valued at $2300.
SN 31	Coal dust, grease and hydraulic fluid collected on engine of Cat 834 Pushdozer ignited by turbocharger manifold heat. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher.
SN 32	Coal dust and hydraulic fluid collect in electric wheel motors and are ignited by electrical shorts. Difficult to extinguish. Multiple occurences.
SN 33	Shorts in vehicle dash panels cause small electrical fires. Extinguished by disconnecting power. Multiple occurences.
SN 34	Bulldozer rippers left in down position while being driven out of maintenance shop ruptured natural gas line. Gas ignited by friction and extinguished by supply shut-off and hand portable extinguishers.
SN 35	Cutting torch ignites cans of ether in garbage cans in maintenance shops. Extinguished by hand portable extinguishers. Multiple occurences.
SN 36	Engine heat ignites greasy rags left on diesel powered crawler drills engines. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher.
SN 37	Engine heat ignites greasy rags left on haulage truck engines. Extinguished with hand portable extinguisher.
SN 38	Friction from drive line brake left engaged when driving ignited accumulated oil and grease. Extinguished with hand portable extinguishers. Multiple occurences.
SN 39	Ether cans thrown in dozer blade pedistal ignited by cutting torch. Extinguished by hand portable extinguisher. Multiple occurences.

INCIDENT NO.	DESCRIPTION
SN 40	Mack 140 ton truck-mounted crane overturned spilling diesel fuel which was ignited by a spark from the battery. Extinguished by hand portable extinguisher.
SN 42	Cutting torch ignited airborne coal dust near conveyor belt transfer. Fire burned welder and self extinguished.
SN 43	Battery short in 950 front-end loader ignited accumulated oil and grease. Secondary fire started in on vehicle flare. Operator unable to extinguish fire until flare removed. Extinguished with hand portable dry chemical extinguisher.
SN 44	Turbocharger manifold on 150 ton haulage truck ignited hydraulic fluid from ruptured hose. Extinguished by mechanic in 16 minutes with hand portable extinguisher. $43,000 in damage.
SN 45	Diesel fuel tank leak in D-9 bulldozer caused fuel to collect in belly plate. Mechanics started engine before shift due to cold weather. Fire started from unknown source discovered later and extinguished by hand portable extinguishers.
SN 46	Cutting torch ignited coal dust on ground near belt. Smoldering fire extinguished with water.