MEMORANDUM:

To: Coal Mine Operators, U.M.W.A. and all Other Interested Persons
From: Eugene White, Director
Subject: Allowing the Transportation of Persons in Scoop Buckets

It has been brought to my attention that scoops have been utilized as readily available emergency vehicles in several recent accidents. The West Virginia Code 22A-2-38(c) states in part, "that no one will ride on the tops of machinery or equipment or on the sides of machinery or equipment except for operators of such machinery or equipment."

The Office of Miners’ Health, Safety and Training will continue to apply this section of law to the use of scoop buckets for human transportation.

I encourage all operators to re-access their readily available emergency vehicles to make sure said vehicles are capable of transporting sick or injured persons.

Eugene White, Director