



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Inspectors-at-Large

FROM: Bart B. Lay, Jr., Director
Health, Safety and Training

DATE: November 28, 1990

SUBJECT: Mine Pre-Shift Examinations

Mine pre-shift examinations required under 22A-2-14 and 22A-2-20 of the WV Code shall be made in all active working places in active working sections, active roadways and travelways, approaches to abandoned workings, seals on intake air, accessible falls in active sections and other areas of the mine where miners will be working. Within three hours prior to the beginning of a shift. The mine pre-shift examination must be repeated in it's entirety if the ventilation of the mine is interrupted for longer than fifteen minutes. This situation is addressed by 22A-2-3(a) of the WV Code.

Inactive working sections where miners will not be working, and areas of the mine where electrical installations or equipment are, or will be energized, shall be examined during each shift. Whenever an on-shift examination of an inactive working section where miners will not be working, and areas of the mine where electrical installations or equipment are, or will be energized, has not been made during the preceding shift, a pre-shift examination shall be made of these areas prior to the energization of equipment; or before any miner is allowed to enter these areas. A danger board shall be placed at the entrance to inactive working sections at all times unless a pre-shift exam has been conducted prior to that shift.

Examinations for belt conveyors and belt conveyor entries shall be made in accordance with WV Code Chapter 22A, Article 2, Section 39, subsections (e) through (h). This section of the code is clear and concise and requires little, if any, explanation.

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