



State of West Virginia
Joe Manchin III, Governor

WV Office of Miners' Health, Safety & Training
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MEMORANDUM

TO: All West Virginia Underground Coal Mine Operators
FROM: Ron Wooten, Director *RLW*
RE: Diesel Equipment Operator Training
DATE: October 6, 2008

It has recently come to my attention that there is some confusion as to the applicability of sections: 196-1-23.1, 196-1-23.1(h), and 196-1-22.2 of the West Virginia Code of Regulations, which relate to "diesel equipment operator training".

Section 196-1-23.1 requires that any person who operates underground diesel equipment must receive "equipment-specific" hands on orientation training in an area of the mine where the equipment will be operated. Section 196-1-23.1(h) states that the operator must receive driving practice, which shall include supervised operation of the machine. In order to comply with the "equipment-specific" this training must be conducted on each specific machine.

Pursuant to Section 196-1-22.2 of the above referenced "Code", any persons conducting any diesel training session including "equipment-specific" training and driving practice must be certified by the State of West Virginia as a Qualified Diesel Instructor. Further Section 196-1-22.2 provides that all training course instructors shall be approved by the West Virginia Diesel Commission. In order to become approved by the commission all instructor applicants are required to attend a thirty-two hour "Qualified Diesel Instructor" training course offered by this office. This course is a condition precedent to becoming a Qualified Diesel Instructor.

If you have any questions you may contact Randy Bell in the Oak Hill office.

RLW:ks

CC: WV MHST IAL
WV MHST Inspectors