



DEC 15 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR KEVIN G. STRICKLIN
Administrator for Coal
Mine Safety and Health

FROM: GEORGE M. FESAK *George M. Fesak*
Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources

EDWARD P. CLAIR *Edward P. Clair*
Associate Solicitor for Mine Safety and Health

JEFFREY A. DUNCAN *Jeffrey A. Duncan*
Director for Educational Policy and Development

Mark E. Skiles
MARK E. SKILES
Director of Technical Support

NANCY M. SAHAKIAN, MD *Nancy Sahakian*
Senior Program Management Consultant, Clinical Operations,
Federal Occupational Health Service, United States Public
Health Service

SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: C-2008-32 [REDACTED]

Deceased: [REDACTED]

Date of Incident: August 12, 2008

Date of Death: August 12, 2008

Operator: Blaschak Coal Corp.

Mine: Blaschak Breaker

Decision: Not Chargeable

In a unanimous decision, the Fatality Review Committee has determined that the death of [REDACTED] should not be charged to the mining industry. MSHA's investigation revealed that [REDACTED] was employed as a preparation plant operator at the Blaschak Breaker. He collapsed while standing on a landing deck observing repair work and speaking to two other workers. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation was administered by coworkers until paramedics arrived. [REDACTED] was then transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. MSHA investigators did not identify any hazards that could have contributed to [REDACTED] death. The Autopsy Report indicates that the cause of death was hypertensive atherosclerotic coronary heart disease and complications thereof (sudden cardiac death).

Based on the Autopsy Report and the results of MSHA's investigation, the committee members concluded that [REDACTED] died from natural causes and his death should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Richard E. Stickler
John Pallasch
Robert M. Friend