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MEMORANDUM FOR NEAL H. MERRIFIELD

Acting Administrator for Metal and
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FROM:

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SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: 2009-M-40- [REDACTED]

Deceased: [REDACTED]

Date of Incident: September 16, 2009

Date of Death: September 16, 2009

Operator: Fordyce Company

Mine: Showers Plant

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. The deceased, a 41 year old equipment operator, was replacing a part of a shaker machine. When he complained about not feeling well he was told to rest in the air conditioned control room. He was found soon after on the floor with a slow pulse and was not breathing. CPR was administered by co-workers and he was transported by ambulance to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. The death certificate indicated that the death was due to atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and that the death was due to natural causes. The autopsy showed a 95% occlusion of one of the coronary arteries and a 80% occlusion of another, there was also enlargement of the heart (cardiomegaly). Although the weather was the hot the day of the incident, no dehydration was noted.

Based on the death certificate, the autopsy report and the results of MSHA's investigation, the Fatality Review Committee members concluded that [REDACTED] died from natural causes and that his death should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Joseph A. Main
Gregory R. Wagner, M.D.
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