

U.S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
1100 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22209-3939



**MAR 28 2011**

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

FROM:

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SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: 2010-C-04-[REDACTED]

Deceased: [REDACTED]

Date of Incident: January 21, 2010

Date of Death: January 21, 2010

Operator: West Ridge Resources,  
Inc.

Mine: West Ridge Mine

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.

[REDACTED], a vendor truck driver, was removing the eleventh strap from a flat bed load of bagged rock dust when he collapsed beside the trailer. When [REDACTED] was discovered by mine workers, the emergency response team at the property offered assistance until the ambulance arrived. [REDACTED] was pronounced dead on arrival at a local hospital.

MSHA's investigation found no signs of an accident and also determined that the victim did not appear to be doing any abnormal or strenuous work. There was no evidence of physical or environmental factors that may have contributed to his death. The death certificate indicated that the manner of death was natural and that the cause of death was cardiac arrest secondary to hypertension. No autopsy was performed.

Based on the death certificate and the MSHA investigation, the committee members concluded that [REDACTED] died as a result of natural causes and that his death should not be charged to the mining industry.

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