



JAN 27 2012

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

FROM:

DENNIS RAYMOND *Dennis Raymond*  
Acting Chief, Program Policy Evaluation Office

HEIDI W. STRASSLER *Heidi W. Strassler*  
Associate Solicitor for Mine Safety and Health

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

LINDA F. ZEILER *Linda F. Zeiler*  
Director of Technical Support

NANCY M. SAHAKIAN, M.D.  
Senior Program Management Consultant, Clinical Operations,  
Federal Occupational Health Service, United States Public  
Health Service

*Nancy M. Sahakian*

SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: 2011-C-23 [REDACTED]

Deceased: [REDACTED]

Date of Incident: April 12, 2011

Date of Death: April 12, 2011

Operator: Sidney Coal Company, Inc. Mine: Halfway Branch Surface 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 53 year old equipment operator, was walking at the beginning of his shift between a front end loader and a bulldozer when he collapsed to the ground. Co-workers began resuscitation efforts and summoned emergency medical personnel. He was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The autopsy report and death certificate both indicated that the manner of death was natural and that the death was due to an acute cardiac dysrhythmia which in turn was due to acute myocardial ischemia and occlusive atherosclerotic coronary artery disease. The MSHA investigation did not identify any physical or environmental hazards.

Based on the findings of death certificate and autopsy report and the results of MSHA's investigation, the 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.  
Patricia W. Silvey