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MEMORANDUM FOR NEAL H. MERRIFIELD
Administrator for Metal and
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FROM:

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SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: 2011-M-53

Deceased:

Date of Incident: March 22, 2011

Date of Death: March 22, 2011

Operator: Thiele Kaolin Company

Mine: Main Processing 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. [REDACTED], a 47 year old maintenance superintendent, collapsed inside the maintenance office at the mine. The deceased had complained of chest pain earlier in the day. He told a co-worker that he felt light-headed shortly after eating lunch. He walked several feet to a nearby office when he complained of being short of breath. Co-workers eased him to the floor and summoned emergency response personnel. Paramedics arrived and transported him to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The death certificate indicated that the manner of death was natural and was due to a pulmonary embolism. The MSHA investigation did not find any physical or environmental factors that could have contributed to the death. No indication of over-exertion was found.

Based on the findings of the death certificate 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
Anthony C. Mayville