

MSHA Job Safety Tips

ELECTRICAL

The anthracite industry has experienced an alarming increase in electrical fatalities in recent years.

Three of the nine fatalities that occurred from 1993-1995 were electrocutions.

All three occurred to miners doing routinely assigned work duties not associated with electrical work.

Two of the three occurred on the surface; one of the three involved contact with an energized highvoltage line by a crane.

Two of the three involved double phasetoground faults and ungrounded 480volt Delta systems.

REMEMBER:

- Thorough electrical inspections are needed to locate most electrical faults.
- All electrical work must be performed or observed by a qualified electrician.
- Wet conditions, present in most anthracite mines, significantly increase the need to inspect and maintain electrical equipment.
- All electrical conductors are assumed to be energized and direct contact should be avoided where possible.

U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration