

Working Around Bins, Hoppers, and Draw-Off Tunnels



Best Practice Series BP-64

Fatalities in the anthracite industry have occurred around bins, hoppers, or draw-off tunnels where miners were using a bar to break frozen lumps that were in the loads being transported from frozen stockpiles.

When working around bins, hoppers, and draw-off tunnels, REMEMBER:

- Establish safe work procedures for any work conducted in these areas.
- Communicate frequently with other miners.
- Never work over frozen material feeding into bins, hoppers, and draw-off tunnels.
- Disconnect and lock out the circuits controlling the feed before entering.
- Always wear a safety belt, lanyards, and/or tag lines when entering these areas, with a second person attending the tag line.
- Avoid working around draw holes to feeders and draw-off tunnels on foot, and if necessary, do not work with your back to steep stockpiled material which could shift and slide without warning.
- Be especially conscious of these hazards during winter months.

**Don't Be the Next Miner
Suffocated!!**

Arrive Home Alive

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