



**Fatality #10 - August 20, 2009**

**Fall of Face, Rib, Pillar or Highwall - Underground - Virginia  
Big Laurel Mining Corporation - Mine No. 2**

**COAL MINE FATALITY** - On Thursday, August 20, 2009, a 58 year old electrician/repairman with 33 years mining experience was fatally injured while setting timbers outby the face. He was attempting to support an overhanging brow in the belt entry at a location that had been cut out for a belt drive. A rock approximately 26 feet long by 2.5 feet wide by 5 feet high fell from the rib and struck the victim.



**Best Practices**

- Implement a rib control plan during the roof bolting cycle when conditions warrant.
- Conduct a thorough visual examination of the roof and rib immediately before any work is performed and thereafter as conditions warrant.
- Be alert to any change in roof/rib conditions.
- Identify loose roof/rib material and remove it from a safe location.
- Use the proper tools and materials which are adequate for the job being performed.

This is the tenth fatality reported in calendar year 2009 in the coal mining industry. As of this date in 2008, there were nineteen fatalities reported in the coal mining industry. This is the first Fall of Face, Rib, Pillar or Highwall fatality in 2009. At this time in 2008, there was one fatality in this classification.

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The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary data ONLY and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.

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