



**Fatality #6 - March 23, 2012**  
**Electrical - Underground - Alabama**  
**Drummond Mining Company - Shoal Creek Mine**

**COAL MINE FATALITY** - On Friday, March 23, 2012, a 37-year old electrician, with approximately 3½ years experience (approximately 1½ years as an electrician), was killed when he contacted the energized conductors of a shuttle car trailing cable. He was making the final electrical connections for a replacement cable reel when he was electrocuted.



**Best Practices**

- Develop a hazard analysis work plan before conducting repairs.
- Always lock and tag-out electrical equipment prior to electrical work.
- Perform your own lock and tag-out procedure. Never rely on others to de-energize or disconnect a circuit for you.
- Use proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for all electrical work.
- Ensure that all electrical circuits and circuit breakers are identified properly before troubleshooting or performing electrical work.
- Use properly rated non-contact voltage testers to ensure that circuits are de-energized.
- Eliminate personal distractions when working on equipment.

For more information related to Lock and Tag safety, click on the following link on the MSHA Web site: [Lock and Tag Safety](#)

This is the sixth fatality reported in calendar year 2012 in the coal mining industry. As of this date in 2011 there were two fatalities reported in the coal mining industry. This is the first fatality classified as an Electrical accident in 2012. At this time in 2011, there was no fatality in this classification.