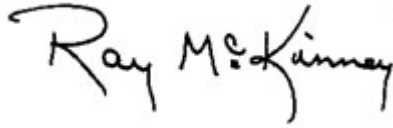


EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/19/05

EXPIRATION DATE: 03/31/07

PROCEDURE INSTRUCTION LETTER NO. I05-V-03



FROM: RAY MCKINNEY
Administrator for
Coal Mine Safety and Health

SUBJECT: Diesel-Powered Equipment Inventory for Underground Coal Mines

Scope

This instruction letter applies to all Coal Mine Safety and Health enforcement personnel.

Purpose

This PIL explains the procedure for maintaining and updating MSHA's inventory of diesel-powered equipment utilized in underground areas of underground coal mines.

Procedure Instruction

Effective on the date of this PIL, MSHA will utilize the Section 72.520 diesel inventory as the means to track diesel-powered equipment used in underground coal mines. Inspectors will no longer need to provide data concerning initial inventories or inventory updates on MSHA Form 2000-198, Diesel Equipment Inventory. However, during each regular quarterly inspection, inspectors must determine, for each underground coal mine that is using diesel equipment underground, if the mine has submitted the inventory required by Section 72.520. The inspector will obtain a copy of the current Section 72.520 inventory as submitted to the District Manager prior to the quarterly inspection and review the information's accuracy while on the mine site. A printed copy of this inventory is currently available through the District Diesel Coordinator. In the future, it will be available through the IPAL re-design.

The inventory must:

- list all diesel-powered equipment in use in the underground areas of the underground coal mine, and
- provide all of the information required by Section 72.520 for each piece of diesel equipment in use.

The inspection notes must document that the inventory was reviewed and describe any discrepancy. The District Diesel Coordinator shall be made aware of any discrepancies found prior to issuance of any inventory-related citation and to ensure that the diesel inventory database is updated to maintain its accuracy.

The inventory database information must be up-to-date to serve as a tracking system. Inventories and updates that a mine operator submits in writing to the District Manager must be entered into the diesel inventory database by district personnel within 14 days of receipt of such documents. Mine operators may submit the Section 72.520 diesel inventory and subsequent updates electronically through MSHA's E-Gov initiative. This is a paperless avenue that inputs the inventory and updates directly to the diesel inventory database after MSHA acceptance. MSHA personnel must act on the acceptance of E-Gov submittals within five (5) days of receipt.

Background

Chapter 5 of the *Coal Mine Safety and Health – Health Inspection Procedures* required MSHA inspectors to review and update the listing of all diesel-powered equipment utilized at each underground coal mine quarterly. All updates to the inventory were to be sent to the MSHA Approval and Certification Center (A&CC) located in Triadelphia, West Virginia. A&CC personnel entered the MSHA completed inventory data into a diesel inventory database which was then printed and sent to each district.

30 CFR Section 72.520 requires the mine operator to submit, in writing, an inventory of diesel equipment used in each underground coal mine to the District Manager. As equipment or emission controls are changed, mine operators must submit revisions to their inventory "within 7 calendar days" of such change. This inventory must include at least those items specified in 30 CFR Section 72.520(a).

Authority

30 CFR Part 72.

Issuing Office and Contact Persons

Coal Mine Safety and Health
Charles Thomas, (202) 693-9529
Acting Chief, Health Division
Thomas.Charles@dol.gov

Robert Thaxton, (202) 693-9515
Technical Advisor, Health Division
Thaxton.Robert@dol.gov

Internet Availability

This instruction letter may be viewed on the Internet by accessing MSHA's home page at <http://www.msha.gov> and then "Compliance Info" and then "Procedure Instruction Letters."

Distribution

Coal and All Volume Program Policy Manual Holders