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**From:** mdcarter@charter.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2006 12:36 PM  
**To:** zzMSHA-Standards - Comments to Fed Reg Group  
**Subject:** RIN 1219-AB44

To who it may concern;

International Coal Group and the Norwest Corp. have been in touch with me about the Transponders for the location of miners in underground mines.

I have put them in touch with a company that has done some work with transponders in underground mines. The GnuCo Technology Corp. Gary Carroll will be e-mailing you also.

I also have been working on a Rescue Chamber for some time. I have some manufactures working on the manufactory of a rescue chamber. We are trying to get the cost down with out compromise the safety of the miners as your question here are some comments

#### D. Rescue Chambers

A rescue chamber is an emergency shelter to which persons may go in case of a mine emergency for protection against hazards. A rescue chamber could provide, among other things, an adequate supply of air, first aid, and an independent communication system.

1. Should rescue chambers be required for coal mines?

YES

2. What characteristics should they have?

Quickly inflatable, air lock pouch to test air outside camber, windows to keep the miners from feeling like there are barricaded inn. Air in side the inflatable structure should be breathable in the event of air shortage.

2b Should they be mobile? not always in the event of a emergency the location of the camber would be known. 2c Should the rescue chamber be semi-permanent, or built into the mine?

I don't think so at this time until a committee can conclude this matter

3. How long should they support a breathable environment?

As long as possible, compressed air or oxygen should be stored at the camber on a sled with the rescue camber. The Rescue Camber could be located at a core hole that is predrilled in advance of the mining section. This is what is so time consuming in an emergency. There should be air and a phone line for communication could be already in place at the core hole. As the section advances the camber sled could be left behind for a safety station for half way points.

4. How many people should they support?

A sled should be at the safety station for every ten men. 5. How many rescue chambers should be required--how far apart should they be located?

a sled for every ten men, the distance should be made by a committee, this would also determined on the distance for the core holes.

I hope this can be of help to further the safety of miners. I have worked as a miner for 20 years, been a coal operator, worked union and non-union mines I also worked as a research tech in Colorado.

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