



AUG 12 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR KEVIN G. STRICKLIN  
Administrator for Coal  
Mine Safety and Health

FROM:

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SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: 2009-C-61

Deceased:

Date of Incident: December 11, 2009

Date of Death: December 11, 2009

Operator: Black Beauty Coal Company Mine: Gateway Preparation Plant

Decision: Not chargeable

In a unanimous decision, the Fatality Review Committee has determined that the death of \_\_\_\_\_ should not be charged to the mining industry. \_\_\_\_\_, a contract electrician, was helping cut loose and remove a coal screen on the third floor of a preparation plant. The deceased and another member of the crew made four trips up and down the two flights of stairs during the shift. The deceased complained about a shortness of breath but carried on with the task at hand. His co-worker performed most of the heavy work and the screen was moved with manual chain hoists. As the current job was complete the duties for the next shift were being discussed. The deceased fell to the floor and was found to have no pulse. Emergency service personnel were called but \_\_\_\_\_ was pronounced dead at the emergency room of a local hospital. The MSHA investigation found that the work area was well ventilated and no signs of electrical or mechanical hazards were found. No physical or environmental issues were determined to be factors in this case.

The hospital records and information provided by the local Coroner's office indicated that \_\_\_\_\_ died as a result of cardiac arrest. The deceased suffered from high blood pressure but had not taken his medication for 3 days. Based on the medical documentation provided and the results of MSHA's investigation, the committee members concluded that \_\_\_\_\_ died from natural causes and that his death should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Joseph A. Main  
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