



MAR 12 2012

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.: 2011-C-11

Deceased:

Date of Incident: April 18, 2011

Date of Death: April 18, 2011

Operator: Red River Coal Company,  
Inc.

Mine: No. 1 Prep 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 37 year old mine foreman, was working at a coal preparation plant cutting scrap metal and loading it into a truck. He complained of heartburn earlier in the day and after eating lunch on the tailgate of his truck collapsed to the ground. Co-workers began cardiopulmonary resuscitation and an ambulance transported him to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead.

According to the initial autopsy report, the manner of death was natural and was caused by hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. A subsequent toxicology report found the presence of methamphetamine. The autopsy report was amended to indicate the cause of death was acute methamphetamine intoxication. An MSHA investigation found no indication of environmental or external factors which may have contributed to the death.

Based on the findings of the autopsy report and 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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Patricia W. Silvey