



MAY 20 2014

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

FROM:

JEFFREY A. DUNCAN 
Committee Chair
Director for Educational Policy and Development

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Associate Solicitor for Mine Safety and Health


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Senior Program Management Consultant, Clinical Operations,
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ANGELICA HACKNEY
Chief, Office of Program Policy Evaluation

SUBJECT: Fatality Review Committee Decision on Chargeability

Case No.: 2013-C-32-

Deceased: 

Date of Incident: August 30, 2013

Date of Death: August 30, 2013

Operator: Pioneer Aggregates, Inc.

Mine: Shantytown Strip Mine

Decision: Not chargeable

In a unanimous decision, the Fatality Review Committee has determined that the death of [REDACTED] should not be charged to the mining industry. Mr. Stepanski, a 56 year old welder, completed welding a feed hopper and drove his truck to the employee parking area. He exited his truck and was spitting up blood while walking towards the mine office. When he was discovered he was bleeding from his mouth and nose and was without a pulse. Attempts at CPR at the site were unsuccessful. He was transported to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The death certificate indicated that the manner of death was natural and that the cause of death was cardiorespiratory arrest likely due to gastrointestinal hemorrhage. An autopsy was not performed. During the MSHA investigation, no physical or environmental hazards were identified.

Based on the findings of the death certificate and the MSHA investigation, the committee members concluded that [REDACTED] died due to natural causes and that his death should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Joseph A. Main
Patricia W. Silvey
Douglas L. Parker