

**U.S. Department of Labor**

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
201 12th Street South  
Arlington, Virginia 22202-5452

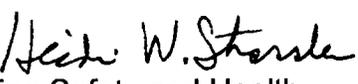


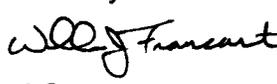
MAR 02 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR NEAL H. MERRIFIELD  
Administrator for Metal and  
Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health

FROM:

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

HEIDI W. STRASSLER   
Associate Solicitor for Mine Safety and Health

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Reviewing Medical Officer, Contractor  
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Program Support Center  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

SYED HAFEEZ   
Director, Program Evaluation and Information Resources

SUBJECT: Chargeability Review Committee Decision

**Case No.:** 2015-M-41-

**Deceased:** 

**Date of Incident:** August 29, 2015

**Date of Death:** August 29, 2015

**Operator:** Newmont USA Limited

**Mine:** Leeville

**Autopsy Conducted:** Not Performed

**Death Certificate Released:** December  
08, 2015

**Decision:** Not chargeable

In a unanimous decision, the Chargeability Review Committee has determined that the death of [REDACTED] should not be charged to the mining industry. Mr. [REDACTED], a 68-year old fixed maintenance mechanic, was assigned to repair a slurry line at the batch plant when he began to feel overheated and thirsty. He was taken to the shop for water and when he began to vomit he was transported to a local hospital. He was treated and released. Later the same day he had difficulty breathing and collapsed at his home. He was transported again to a local hospital but resuscitative efforts failed and he was declared dead.

MSHA's investigation was conducted between September 01, 2015 and September 11, 2015. No physical or environmental factors that could have contributed to the death were identified. The death certificate indicated that the cause of death was cardiac arrest of unknown etiology. An autopsy was not performed.

Based on these findings, the committee members concluded that Mr. [REDACTED]'s death should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Joseph A. Main  
Patricia W. Silvey  
Laura V. McClintock