



# News Release

Connect with DOL at  
<http://social.dol.gov>!



U.S. Department of Labor  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, D.C.  
Release Number: 13-754-NAT

For Immediate Release

April 25, 2013

Contact: Amy Louviere

Phone: 202-693-9423

Email: [Louviere.Amy@dol.gov](mailto:Louviere.Amy@dol.gov)

## **MSHA announces results of March impact inspections** *Fewest number of orders issued in nearly 3-year-old initiative*

**ARLINGTON, Va.** – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Mine Safety and Health Administration today announced that federal inspectors issued 155 citations and two orders during special impact inspections conducted at eight coal mines and four metal/nonmetal mines last month, representing the lowest number of orders issued during targeted monthly inspections over nearly three years.

The monthly inspections, which began in force in April 2010 following the explosion at the Upper Big Branch Mine, involve mines that merit increased agency attention and enforcement due to their poor compliance history or particular compliance concerns. These matters include high numbers of violations or closure orders; frequent hazard complaints or hotline calls; plan compliance issues; inadequate workplace examinations; a high number of accidents, injuries or illnesses; fatalities; adverse conditions such as increased methane liberation, faulty roof conditions and inadequate ventilation; and respirable dust.

“While I say this with a word of caution, the results of the latest impact inspections are part of a positive trend in overall mine safety and health compliance that includes reductions in the number of chronic violators and all-time low fatal and injury rates,” said Joseph A. Main, assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health. “We believe that impact inspections, pattern of violation actions and other measures, as well as efforts by the mining industry, are contributing factors. However, there is more to be done, and there are those who still don’t take responsibility for the safety and health of the miners they employ.”

As an example from last month, MSHA conducted an impact inspection March 3-7 at Robinson Nevada Mining Co.’s Robinson Operation, a large surface copper mine in White Pine County, Nev. As a result, inspectors issued 32 citations. The impact inspection was the second conducted at this operation.

Some of the conditions cited during this latest inspection include failure to keep areas free of hazards that could result in miners suffering injuries from slips, trips or falls. For instance, a coiled-up cable from a welding machine, along with 2- to 3 feet of material, impeded travel in a walkway. Additionally, 2- to 3 inches of water had collected in the sump area. Two citations were issued for failure to correct dangerous conditions at the filter crusher, and a starter cabinet had oil-soaked fuses and contactors, creating a fire hazard. At the welding shop, the ground prong of an extension cord was broken off, exposing miners to electrical hazards.

Further, two citations were issued for not maintaining brakes in functional condition on two maintenance trucks. Inspectors found that a 3,200-gallon fuel truck was leaking a large amount of diesel fuel, creating the potential for a fire or explosion. A citation was issued for not performing a pre-shift inspection on a truck before placing it in operation. Inspectors found that the backup alarm was not functional, the fire extinguisher had discharged, and the operator was not wearing his seat belt. Other citations were issued for failure to: identify power switches, provide adequate circuit overload protection, set the parking brake on an unattended truck, properly store hazardous materials and maintain a fire alarm system in working order.

Since April 2010, MSHA has conducted 591 impact inspections and issued 10,191 citations, 948 orders and 43 safeguards.

###

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The information above is available in large print, Braille or CD from the COAST office upon request by calling 202-693-7828 or TTY 202-693-7755.

## MSHA Monthly Impact Inspection List

(March 2013)

March 2013

Coal

Mine Information						Type of Issuance				S&S Information				Issuances - Type of Action									Justifications												
District	State	Mine ID	Controller Name	Operator Name	Mine Name	Cit	Orders	Safe -guards (Coal only)	Total	S&S	Non-S&S	Total	S&S Rate	104(a)	104(b)	104(d)(1) Citation	104(d)(1) Order	104(d)(2)	104(e)(2) Order	314(b)	103(k)	104(g)(1)	103(j)	107(a)	Total	1. Operator Tactics	2. Hazard Complaints /Hotline Calls	3. Plan Compliance Issues	4. Inadequate Exams	5. Accidents, Injuries, Illnesses	6. Fatal Accidents	7. Enforcement History	8. Adverse Conditions	9. Respirable Dust Issues	
District 03	WV	4601433	CONSOL Energy Inc.	Consolidation Coal Company	Loveridge #22	19	2	0	21	13	8	21	61.90%	19	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21										
District 05	VA	4406929	Alpha Natural Resources, Inc.	Paramont Coal Company Virginia, LLC	Deep Mine #26	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	100.00%	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1										
District 06	KY	1519532	Rhino Resource Partners LP	Deane Mining LLC	Access Energy	4	0	0	4	2	2	4	50.00%	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4										
District 07	KY	1519301	Thomas R Hamilton	Nally & Hamilton Enterprises Inc	Bear Branch	19	0	0	19	7	12	19	36.84%	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19										
District 09	WY	4801078	Alpha Natural Resources, Inc.	Alpha Coal West, Inc.	Eagle Butte Mine	2	0	0	2	1	1	2	50.00%	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2											
District 10	KY	1517216	Alliance Resource Partners LP	Warrior Coal LLC	Cardinal	19	0	0	19	5	14	19	26.32%	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19											
District 11	AL	0102901	Drummond Company Inc	Drummond Company Inc	Shoal Creek Mine	5	0	0	5	0	5	5	0.00%	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5											
District 12	WV	4609017	ArcelorMittal	XMV, Inc.	Mine No. 37	23	0	0	23	6	17	23	26.09%	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23											
<b>8</b>						<b>National Totals</b>				<b>92</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>37.23%</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

March 2013

Metal Nonmetal

Mine Information						Type of Issuance				S&S Information				Issuances - Type of Action									Justifications													
District	State	Mine ID	Controller Name	Operator Name	Mine Name	Cit	Orders	Safe -guards (Coal only)	Total	S&S	Non-S&S	Total	S&S Rate	104(a)	104(b)	104(d)(1) Citation	104(d)(1) Order	104(d)(2)	104(e)(2) Order	314(b)	103(k)	104(g)(1)	103(j)	107(a)	Total	1. Operator Tactics	2. Hazard Complaints /Hotline Calls	3. Plan Compliance Issues	4. Inadequate Exams	5. Accidents, Injuries, Illnesses	6. Fatal Accidents	7. Enforcement History	8. Adverse Conditions	9. Respirable Dust Issues		
WE	NV	2601916	KGHM Polska Miedz S A	Robinson Nevada Mining Company	Robinson Operation	32	0	0	32	7	25	32	21.88%	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32											
SC	TX	4100001	J.O. Robinson	Austin White Lime Company	MC NEIL PLT & QY	20	0	0	20	7	13	20	35.00%	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20											
NE	OH	3300090	Cris Sidwell	Cumberland Limestone LLC	Cumberland Limestone LLC	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	0.00%	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2												
NE	MA	1900035	Minerals Technologies Inc	Specialty Minerals Inc	Adams	9	0	0	9	0	9	9	0.00%	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9											
<b>4</b>						<b>National Totals</b>				<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>22.22%</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total</b>						<b>National Totals</b>				<b>155</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>31.21%</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>