



# News Release

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## MSHA announces results of January impact inspections

**ARLINGTON, Va.** – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Mine Safety and Health Administration today announced that federal inspectors issued 198 citations and 11 orders during special impact inspections conducted at 11 coal mines and three metal and nonmetal mines in January.

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. The inspection details of two mines are listed below:

On Jan. 2, MSHA conducted an impact inspection during the evening shift at Baylor Mining Inc.’s Beckley Crystal Mine located in Raleigh County, W.Va. Twelve enforcement actions were issued, including one unwarrantable failure citation, four unwarrantable failure orders and one [104\(b\) order](#) for failure to abate a hazardous condition in a timely manner. This impact inspection was the first one conducted at this mine.

After arriving on mine property, two MSHA inspection personnel secured mine communications, and the inspection party split up to travel to the working section and a belt segment. Their inspection included producing sections and belt conveyers, and they traveled the intake air course and alternate escapeway.

During the inspection of the belt conveyor, a [104\(d\)\(1\) citation](#) was issued for failure to lock and tag the belt drive at the power source to guard against motion, and a 104(b) order was issued for failure to abate this condition within the prescribed time period. Immediately before the 104(b) order was issued, miners were observed on top of the belt toward the working face. A 104(d)(1) order was issued for accumulations of coal float dust, coal fines and loose coal along the entirety of the belt, in the crosscuts along the offside of the belt and behind the take-up. A 104(d)(1) order was issued for an inadequate on-shift examination of the belt. Hazardous conditions, such as coal and float dust accumulations and the bottom belt rubbing against the belt stands, stuck training roller and bottom roller brackets were obvious and not recorded in the record book.

On the working section, inspectors issued a 104(d)(1) order for the operator’s failure to follow the approved ventilation plan requiring the maintenance of the maximum curtain setback distance of 20 feet. Enforcement personnel found that the operator had been mining up to 30 feet from the deepest point of penetration without the placement of line curtains within the maximum distance of 20 feet to ventilate hazardous dust away from miners. The extendable line curtain in the entry did not touch the mine roof or the mine floor as required in the approved ventilation plan. These violations, which put miners at elevated risk for black lung, resulted in a revocation of the deep cut plan at this mine.

Seven [104\(a\) citations](#) were issued for ventilation, electrical and health violations. Following the MSHA closeout, the operator developed and implemented a corrective action plan and made improvements to the mine’s ventilation plan.

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Beginning Jan. 13, MSHA conducted an impact inspection at Norlite LLC's Cohoes Mine and Mill in Albany County, N.Y. This surface shale operation employs approximately 85 miners. MSHA issued 41 citations and orders to the mine operator and seven citations to independent contractors.

On two different occurrences, a miner was observed under a suspended load of materials. Miners were exposed to inadvertent contact with a rotating conveyor tail pulley due to a missing guard that was lying approximately two feet away from the conveyor. A cover on the energized 480-volt wire tray was not secured in place, thereby exposing the inner conductors to damage. Such damage could create a ground fault condition and the potential for a fatal electrical shock.

A miner was observed moving an air compressor with a forklift without securing it with safety chains, causing the potential for it to fall and roll uncontrollably. Inspectors observed a 480-volt power cord with damage to its outer protective jackets, which could expose miners to electrical shock. Several other hazardous conditions were found, such as: missing handrails, defective ladders, and oxygen and acetylene cylinders left open and unattended.

Since April 2010, MSHA has conducted 714 impact inspections and issued 11,760 citations, 1,087 orders and 49 safeguards.

*Editor's Note: MSHA's Monthly Impact Inspection List for January 2014 is attached to this email.*

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## MSHA Monthly Impact Inspection List

(January 2014)

January 2014

Impact

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	OH	3301159	Robert E Murray	The Ohio Valley Coal Company	Powhatan No. 6 Mine	22	2	0	24	11	13	24	45.83%	22	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	1										
District 04	WV	4609325	James O Bunn; Franklin D Robertson	Coal River Mining LLC	Fork Creek No 10 Mine	6	0	0	6	4	2	6	66.67%	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6											
District 05	VA	4400649	SunCoke Energy Incorporated	Jewell Smokeless Coal Corp	Coronet Jewell Prep Plant #2	32	1	0	33	11	22	33	33.33%	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	33											
District 06	KY	1516855	Ronald Wright	Cry Baby Mining LLC	#1	22	2	0	24	5	18	23	21.74%	22	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	24											
District 06	KY	1519167	Jeffery A Hoops	Revelation Energy, LLC	S-10	9	1	0	10	7	3	10	70.00%	8	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10		1									
District 07	IN	1518966	Arch Coal Inc	ICG Hazard, LLC	East Mac & Nellie	13	0	0	13	2	11	13	15.38%	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13											
District 08	IN	1202215	Alliance Resource Partners LP	Gibson County Coal LLC	Gibson Mine	3	0	0	3	1	2	3	33.33%	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3											
District 09	CO	0504591	Bowie Resources Partners LLC	Bowie Resources LLC	Bowie No 2 Mine	12	0	0	12	1	11	12	8.33%	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12			1								
District 10	KY	1502709	Patriot Coal Corporation	Highland Mining Company LLC	Highland 9 Mine	13	0	0	13	5	8	13	38.46%	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13											
District 11	AL	0101247	Walter Energy Incorporated	Jim Walter Resources Inc	No 4 Mine	6	0	0	6	5	1	6	83.33%	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6											
District 12	WV	4608829	Robert L Worley	Baylor Mining Inc	Beckley Crystal	8	4	0	12	3	8	11	27.27%	7	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	1										
<b>11</b>						<b>National Totals</b>				<b>146</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>35.71%</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

January 2014

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				
NE	NY	3000292	Tradebe Northeast LLC	Norlite, LLC	Cohoes Mine and Mill	40	1	0	41	13	28	41	31.71%	39	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	41												
NE	PA	3600033	Gary Bruce	Bradys Bend Corp.	Kaylor Mine #3 & Plant	8	0	0	8	3	5	8	37.50%	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8			1									
SE	AL	0100040	Lhoist Group	Lhoist North America of Alabama, LLC	Montevallo Quarry & Mill	4	0	0	4	1	3	4	25.00%	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	1			
<b>3</b>						<b>National Totals</b>				<b>52</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>32.08%</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>						<b>National Totals</b>				<b>198</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>34.78%</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>