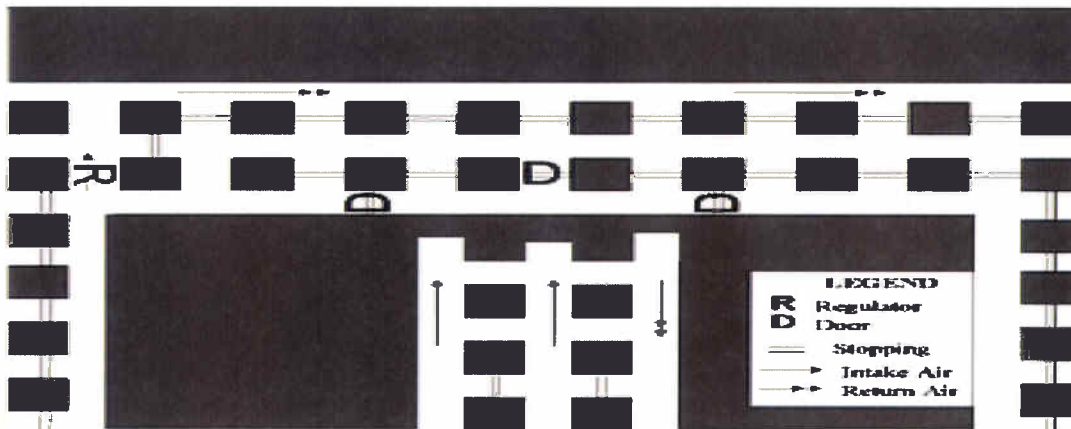


U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration
Protecting Miners' Safety and Health Since 1978

SAFETY ALERT!!!
BLEEDER VENTILATION HAZARDS

Obstructions such as roof falls and standing water in bleeder systems can severely restrict ventilation and prevent proper weekly examination to evaluate the effectiveness of the bleeder system. Mine explosions have been attributed to lack of adequate ventilation.



- > Make a complete examination of the bleeder system that includes measurements of methane, oxygen, air quantity and determine if air is moving in its proper direction.
- > Use approved and properly calibrated hand held gas detectors and constantly monitor for methane and low oxygen while traveling bleeders.
- > Follow the Emergency Response Plan for communication and tracking procedures when conducting examinations of bleeders.
- > Clean up any roof falls that obstruct airflow in bleeders.
- > Keep bleeders free of water accumulations.
- > Monitor fan records for increase in ventilation pressure which could indicate an airway obstruction.
- > Establish caches of SCSRs in the bleeder entries to accommodate the number of persons traveling the bleeder systems.



REMEMBER:
Safety depends upon what you
DO or DON'T DO.