

## **SAFETY ALERT**

# **Surface Water Inundation Hazard**

Heavy spring rains increase the potential for the inundation of underground coal mines from surface runoff. Even moderate rainfall coupled with melting snow can result in significant runoff.

Mine operators must protect all underground mine openings from flooding:

30 C.F.R. 75.380(e) Surface openings shall be adequately protected to prevent surface... flood water from entering the mine.

### **BEST PRACTICES:**

Monitor surface waters during severe or prolonged storms.

Back-up power must be available for critical pumps.

Maintain ditches, culverts, sumps and ponds to prevent blockages and flooding.

Train all responsible persons to manage inundation emergencies.

Practice mine inundation evacuation scenarios with all miners.

Evacuate the mine before flooding endangers miners.



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