

SWVA2020

Problem 2

STATEMENT

Welcome to the Mine Academy No. 2 Mine. We appreciate you answering our call for help. The No. 2 mine liberates over 1.5 million cubic feet of methane every 24 hours and has a history of adverse roof and rib conditions. It also makes a lot of water that requires pumping to keep it controlled. Last night a 3 man bull crew and 3 man maintenance crew went to the section to move belt and do maintenance on the equipment. According to one of the miners that made it to the surface he believes that while cleaning the feeder in preparation for a belt move an acetylene tank was accidentally scooped up and ran through the feeder. The pick breaker of the feeder ignited the tank and possibly a pocket of methane. Methane has been known to accumulate in high places in the roof that are created when draw rock falls out during the mining process. Stoppings were knocked out for several breaks out by the feeder disrupting ventilation. Three miners made it to the surface and three miners are still missing. State and federal mining agencies were notified and mine rescue teams were called in. All miners except for 3 made it safely out of the mine. Mine rescue teams have explored up to the section but still have not found the three missing miners. A new fresh air base has been established and you will start exploration of the rest of the mine from this location.

The fan is currently off but can be started whenever needed by asking the Superintendent. The fan is an exhausting fan that intakes up the #3 entry and returns down the #1 entry. Once running the fan can be stopped and reversed but cannot be stalled. The mine map is up to date. Power to the fresh air base pump switch is currently off due to the breaker for the pump circuit being replaced. The breaker is located on the surface. You will be notified when the breaker is replaced. After being repaired you can have the pump circuit energized and de-energized by asking the Superintendent. Thank you and good luck.