2023 Loveland Day #1 TEAM BRIEFING

Thank, you for responding to our continuing mine emergency. As you know, yesterday your teams accounted for 3 of the 7 missing miners. You are located at a new fresh air base established in 11 South development section. The drifts are numbered from left to right 1, 2 and 3. Fresh air is coming across the FAB from # 2 to # 1 then going out 1 drift. A command Center has been set up outby the FAB and is in constant communication with this FAB.

We are a single-level longwall Trona Mine that operates at the 500-foot level. We produce ore 24 hours a day 365 days a year. We are classified as a class 3 mine in which noncombustible ore is extracted which liberates a concentration of methane that is explosive or can form an explosive mixture with air or have the potential to do so based on the history of the mine. We have water issues in places throughout our mine. If your team encounters roofed water you are not to advance through it if pumped down until our engineers determine the condition of the back. Most of the time our back is competent, but we have some faults in this area. In this area the Trona is considered waste due to an incursion of sulfur. The sulfur in the strata when in contact with any water creates large amounts of hydrogen sulfide. Yesterday, we pumped the roofed water and our engineers had the back supported in 1and 2 drifts but we ran into problems and could not finish pumping and re-supporting 3 drift. When attempting to continue exploration during the roof work, teams encountered H2S and had to withdraw. Pay attention to the explosive range of hydrogen sulfide which is 4.3% - 45%. We have meters for your use capable of reading high concentrations of H2S if needed.

The mine is accessed by shafts and ventilated by one large main shaft fan on the surface and several smaller return or upcast shafts which provide additional exhaust ventilation where necessary. The main mine fan is equipped with an airtight automatic closing door which closes when the fan is off. There are no upcast ventilation shafts inby this area. Our pillar sizes are 15 feet by 15 feet with 10-foot entries, and crosscuts. We use no explosives.

We still have had no contact with the 4 remaining unaccounted for miners.

This area also has a permanent refuge chamber. If you are unfamiliar with a RC it consists of 3 permanent stoppings with doors in 2 and a purge valve between the doors. The area between the doors is known as an airlock. A couple of team members enters the airlock and closes the outer door then opens the purge valve for about 5 seconds which purges any harmful gases from the airlock then can open the inner door to access any miners in the refuge. Any purge of air is not considered a ventilation change.

We have been taking atmospheric gas samples from our main shaft and all samples have been clear. All federal and state agencies have been briefed on our current conditions and have approved us to send teams underground.

All the mine maps are current and up to date.

Our main mine fan is currently running but can be turned on and off, if necessary, from the command center. The main fan cannot be stalled or reversed. All the power to the mine has been locked out and is being guarded. If power is required, switches are available in the command center. There is currently 2 back up teams stationed and ready to assist if needed.

Objective:

- Explore all accessible areas of the mine if it can be done safely
- Extinguish or seal any fires
- Locate all missing miners
- Bring all survivors to the surface
- Do not stall the main mine fan
- Water roofed areas must not be traveled through if you have means to pump.

Please be careful and good luck!!