



TAKE FIVE



In a time span just over 30 days, there have been five serious accidents which have occurred in District 3 underground coal mines. Any of these accidents could have easily resulted in a fatality. Please “TAKE FIVE” to discuss these five accidents with your employees. MSHA inspectors will also be talking one on one with miners, focusing on these accidents.

- ➔ A miner/bolter operator was struck by a rib roll while standing next to the bumper of the continuous miner. The rib measured approximately 22 feet long by 4.5 feet high by 1.5 feet wide.
- ➔ A roof bolter operator on a full face miner was struck by a rib measuring 6 feet long by 6 feet high and up to 6 inches thick. The rib hit the worker pushing him into the machine. He received a cut on the forehead, a bruised shoulder, and complained of pain in his ankle.
- ➔ A continuous miner operator was seriously injured while tramming a continuous miner. The miner operator was caught between the cable handler and the coal rib.
- ➔ A track bolter operator received first and second degree burns when a hydraulic hose from the roof bolting machine contacted energized trolley wire.
- ➔ A section/mine foreman was seriously injured when he was struck by a shuttle car entering a cross cut. The foreman was walking between the line curtain and the rib. The operator's deck of the shuttle car was located on the side opposite the line curtain.

These were accidents which were 100 percent preventable. Please reinforce to all employees the need to adequately examine work areas, communicate with one another, comply with all regulations, company safety policies and to take necessary precautions to prevent accidents.

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