



NM BUREAU OF MINE SAFETY

July Newsletter 2010

Zero accidents at mine sites is not only possible, it is the only acceptable goal.

- Terence Foreback, State Mine Inspector



Mine Safety

Guarding

Recently I sent a report titled Guarding Conveyor Belts at Metal & Nonmetal Mines. Some of you were unable to open the report so here is the address to pull it off the MSHA website:

<http://www.msha.gov/newsinfo.htm>

Many of you who were able to open it responded enthusiastically about the information. Due to that response I am working on setting up a 6 hour course in conjunction with the MSHA Mine Academy on guarding. We would have 4 classroom hours followed by lunch and then an hour or two at a nearby mine site. We would try to hold this at 3 locations in the state such as Roswell, Albuquerque and Taos. The current timeframe is early November.

Please let me know your thoughts on the course and what you would like to see covered. More information will be coming.

July 4th weekend

Please remind everyone tomorrow about safety considerations for this July 4th weekend. There are many to think about including:

- Fireworks safety (see attachment at the end of the letter)
- Drinking and driving and driving safely
- Water safety (60 children have drown in the U. S. since the beginning of summer)
- Camping safety and wildlife awareness

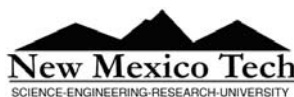
You all know the drill. Enjoy the weekend, but do it safely and remind those at work to do likewise.

Discussion Draft of Mine Safety Regulation

A discussion draft of mine safety regulation has been released by the U. S. House Committee on Education and Labor and can be accessed at:

<http://edlabor.house.gov/blog/2010/06/making-work-safer-for-americas.shtml>

Major changes affecting the NM Bureau of Mine Safety involve federal certification requirements (including MNM) and new training requirements. While only a draft, it may be worth your time to



801 Leroy Place ♦ Socorro, New Mexico 87801
Phone: (575) 835-5460 ♦ Fax (575) 835-5430 ♦ www.bmi.state.nm.us

review and pass on your positive and negative comments to those who can have an effect on the legislation.

News

BMS – NMMA Safety Awards

We will present the 2009-2010 safety awards again in conjunction with the New Mexico Mining Association at the annual NMMA conference to be held September 15, 16 and 17, 2010. The reporting period for the awards is July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 as explained on the forms attached to this email. If you have any questions regarding the awards, please call or email.

New Mexico Mine Health and Safety Conference

We will continue to upgrade our conference program to bring New Mexico's miners information that can be used to make our mines the safest in the nation. A special thanks goes out to the New Mexico mining industry for their contributions that make this conference so successful. Please mark your calendars for 2011. Our conference will be held May 2, 3 and 4. Our 1st planning meeting for 2011 will be August 5th in Socorro. We welcome all who would like to contribute to planning our 2011 event.

New Mexico Mining Safety Board Meeting

The New Mexico Mining Safety Board (MSB) will meet:

August 26, 2010 – 10:00 AM
Workers' Compensation Administration
2410 Centre Ave SE
Albuquerque, NM

A hearing will be held on new rules in response to legislative changes that including an appeal process for SMI decisions and requirements for certification of coal mine officials. The MSB will then consider the outcome of the hearing and may vote on the rules. Other business will also be discussed including the status of MSB funding and the MSB Open Meeting Act resolution.

Training

The current Training Schedule through July can be found on our web site:

<http://www.bmi.state.nm.us/navTrng.htm>

Please take time to look it over. **We still have open dates in July for training.** To schedule a class, please call Chris at (505) 553-1535.

Focus on Safety, 24-7

Terence Foreback
State Mine Inspector
Bureau of Mine Safety

KNOW YOUR FIREWORKS!

Consumers Warned of Illegal Explosives and urged to Follow Consumer Fireworks Safety Tips

Everyone enjoys fireworks, particularly in the festive Fourth of July season. But fireworks can be dangerous. The National Council on Fireworks Safety recommends that you only buy consumer fireworks from a licensed store or stand. Never buy fireworks from an individual's house or from someone on the street. Such fireworks are likely to be illegal explosives that can seriously injure you. Consumer fireworks regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission are packaged in bright colors and have safety warnings on the packaging. The packaging sets forth the country of origin, which is normally China. Typical consumer fireworks include fountains, cones, sparklers, fire crackers, bottle rockets and multiple tube products. Illegal explosives are often unpackaged and are wrapped with plain brown paper. They are very unlikely to have any safety warnings, or place of manufacture. Many of them are hand made in basements or illicit factories. If someone approaches you to sell one of these illegal explosives, politely decline and then call your local police department.

Consumer fireworks, if used in accordance with their instructions, are very safe. Injuries from consumer fireworks have shown a dramatic decrease over the past twenty years, despite an astonishing increase in usage by consumers. Some form of consumer fireworks are now allowed in 45 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. The National Council urges consumers to follow these other important safety tips:

- Only use fireworks outdoors.
- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Children under age 16 should only use fireworks with ADULT SUPERVISION.

- Always have a bucket of water, or water hose nearby.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix!

Parents should pay special attention to children using sparklers. Sparklers reach temperatures up to 1800 degrees Fahrenheit. Children should not touch the lit portion of sparklers, throw them or play games with them. Sparklers can be dangerous, if used improperly.

Many times consumers don't prepare for the evening's fireworks display. The designated shooter should prepare a shooting area, assess how many people will be watching the display and lay out a spectator area that is far enough away from the shooting site. The shooter should carefully read the label of each firework and understand exactly what it will do. Preplanning will make for a safe and fun backyard fireworks display.

Enjoy celebrating the heritage of our great country with fireworks, but

KNOW YOUR FIREWORKS!

