

Mine Name	Mine ID	Operator	Activity Type	Region	Activity Date
Grosvenor Coal Mine	M102976	Anglo Coal (Grosvenor Management) Pty Ltd	Site Meeting	Central	20/10/2017

Vision: Our Industries Free of Safety and Health Incidents

Mine Record Entry

Note that inspection or audit activities conducted by the Mines Inspectorate are based upon sample techniques. It remains the primary responsibility of Mine Personnel to identify hazards, and risks associated with Operations and ensure those risks are at an acceptable level.

Today, I, Inspector of Mines, Leslie Marlborough, attended a meeting at Grosvenor mine to collect data requested from the mine in a postal mine record entry issued to the mine by myself on 13 October 2017. Attending the meeting were Mr Adam Garde, SSE and Mr Michael Webber, Ventilation Officer.

I provided a hard drive for Mr Garde to transfer the gas data and other information onto, which he did. The screen shots requested were provided on PowerPoint slides which would be sufficient and the gas data was supplied as SPW files as requested by myself.

ALL GAS READINGS REQUESTED UPLOADED

We held a discussion regarding the TG gas levels and the TARP which was the subject of a Directive issued by myself to the mine on 12 September 2017 and the subsequent response by the mine received on 3 October 2017. I explained that it was not acceptable to move the LW Shearer when the general body Methane concentration in the TG return is equal to or greater than 2.5%. I pointed out that the gas monitoring screen shots previously provided by the mine show that the shearer position in the Tailgate Shuffle zone does not generate excessive amounts of methane in the Tailgate. The risk of methane ignition was discussed and I showed sketch drawings of TG layout with the air sweeping around the shearer and the likely methane concentrations to be found around the end of the TG AFC drive area.

SHEARER POSITION IN TAILGATE DOES NOT GENERATE ADDITIONAL GAS FROM GOAF.

LEAVES ONLY FALLS IN GOAF, BAROMETRIC FALLS AND FACE EMISSIONS AS THE SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL METHANE THAT SENDS GENERAL BODY > 2.5% IN THE TAILGATE.

WERE THE FACE EMISSIONS PART OF THE DIAGRAM?

POWERING UP AND MOVING THE SHEARER IN >2.5% METHANE FOUND TO BE AN UNACCEPTABLE RISK BY DNRME.

RISK ASSESSMENT TO REVIEW THE TARP DUE NEXT WEEK.

ONE QUESTION IS HAS THE MINE SHMS CONTINUED TO ALLOW THE POWERING UP AND MOVING THE SHEARER IN >2.5% METHANE?

WHAT STEPS HAS Mr MARLBROUGH (DNRME) AND Mr GARDE TAKEN TO ENSURE WHAT THE INSPECOR HAS FOUND TO BE AN UNACCEPTABLE RISK?

IT HAS BEEN 5 WEEKS SINCE THE SECTION 168 DIRECTIVE WAS ISSUED

Mr Garde stated that the mine was holding a risk assessment to review the TARP the following week, with a view to revising the TARP to satisfy the terms of the Directive issued to the mine on 12 September 2017. Mr Garde stated that he was very aware that the next Longwall block may be different in gas characteristics as there will be an adjacent goaf alongside which the first Longwall did not have.

Mr Garde explained the actions being taken by the mine in development to try to predict and minimise the effects of floor heave that had been experienced in the past. The mine is to be congratulated for its pro-active approach to this issue.

HAS THE FLOOR HEAVE MECHANISM BEEN DETERMINED YET?

IS IT GEOTECHNICAL STRESS RELATED OR GAS PRESSURE RELATED?

HAS THE DECISION TO REMOVE THE LOWER PART OF THE SEAM IN THE LAST BLOCKS OF LW101 ALSO COINCIDED WITH THE END OF >2.5% METHANE GB IN THE TAILGATE?

Les Marlborough
Inspector of Mines
Central Region