Mackay District Office

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| Mine Name | Mine ID | Operator | Activity Type | Region | Activity Date |
| North Goonyella | M101157 | PEABODY (BOWEN)PTY LTD | Postal Mine Record | Central | 01/03/2017 |

Vision: Our Industries Free of Safety and Health Incidents

# Mine Record Entry

This report forms part of the Mine Record under s68 of the Coal Mining Safety and

Health Act 1999. It must be placed in the Mine Record and displayed on Safety Notice Boards.

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 a meeting was held at the Nelson Street Office of the DNRM with the Mines

Inspectorate and senior management members of North Goonyella Coal Mine. The meeting was to discuss the details of the analysis of the atmospheric monitoring data for Longwall 9N return airway.

This data was requested following a recent inspection at an underground coal mine with a

Longwall operation which identified that the general body accumulation of methane in the Longwall return had the potential to present an unacceptable level of risk which was also in breach of regulatory requirements.

CMSH Regulation 366 Withdrawal of persons in case of danger (1) For section 273 of the Act, a part of an underground mine required to be ventilated under section 344(1)(b) that has a general body concentration of methane of at least 2.5% is taken to be dangerous.

CMSH Act section 273 Withdrawal of persons in case of danger (1) If a coal mine is dangerous, all persons exposed to the danger must withdraw to a

place of safety.

1.0 In attendance were -

Mr Russell Albury — Chief Inspector of Coal Mines

Mr Shaun Dobson — Acting District Inspector

Mr Paul Brown — Inspector of Mines

Mr Richard Gouldstone — Inspector of Mines

Mr Mike Carter - SSE & GM

Mr Marek Romanski - UMM

Mr David Craft - VO

Mr Phil Reed - Safety & Health Manager

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2.0 Items discussed

2.1 Results of analysis

Following the initial data analysis a number of other documents were also requested which were supplied.

Inspector Dobson summarised the findings from the data and information provided regarding

* Real time and tube bundle and gas monitoring data
* ERZ Controllers Statutory and Production reports
* Control room environmental alarm logs
* Monthly Ventilation reports
* TARP's 024 and 025
* Risk assessments

The significant points that were apparent and brought to the attention of the North Goonyella representatives were as follows:

* Numerous occasions where the Tailgate general body methane concentrations exceeded 2.5%. This was followed by failures to conduct withdrawals to a place of safety and continuing with production operations whist methane was in excess of 2.5%.
* Inconsistent alarm responses with the application of TARPs 024 and 025.
* Inadequate investigations into triggered alarms from tube bundle monitoring points.

e The continuation of production for 7.5 hours when the real time monitoring point for the Tailgate was in bypass.

* Risk assessment NG-MlN-RSK-LW029 which was a review of the TARP 024 to reduce the trigger levels. This was dated as being conducted on the 9th February which was 10 days after the letter from the Chief Inspector was issued in relation to the matter of 2.5% general body methane concentrations.

The lack of adequate hazard identification in this risk assessment was concerning given that the only "Unwanted Event/ Hazard Release" was the " Escalation of methane levels in the Longwall return to >2.5% resulting in the loss of the TG as an escapeway" . The three reported HPl's from the 30th and 31st of January were also reported as sub section 7 of Schedule IC "an unplanned event that causes only 1 escapeway from the mine to be available for use". The hazard of methane explosibility had not been considered.

* Inconsistent inspection and recording of environmental readings for the Tailgate. This also includes goafstream sample results at the time of taking this sample.
* No evidence on the statutory officials reports of re-inspecting the work area after the withdrawal of coal mine workers due to the TARP level being triggered.

 The undertaking of Ventilation changes on night shifts when TARP triggered elevated methane events have occurred.

Mine representatives responded to the above matters which the Inspectors acknowledged that the TARP 024 now had methane levels that were not in breach of legislative requirements. However due to the aforementioned matters not demonstrating effective consistent management of these matters at all levels the following Directives were verbally given to the SSE by Inspector Dobson:

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168 Directive to review safety and health management system and principal hazard management plans

To review the Principal Hazard Management Plan for Gas Management which shall include the review of risk assessments, Trigger Action Response Plans, and to implement effective adequate controls for the management of flammable gas. This includes demonstrating the training and competence of all persons with obligations for this hazard.

166 Directive to reduce risk

To review the application of adequate controls to ensure that any general body concentrations of flammable gas that exist in any workings do not eventuate in concentrations that present an unacceptable level of risk. This requires the implementation of controls that are in accordance with the hierarchy of controls with respect to the magnitude of this hazard.

The due date for both Directives was 16th March 2017.

The Mine representatives explained that for the month of February there had been no further exceedances and that extra methane drainage capacity had been utilised.

The Inspectors expressed the concern that the documentary evidence showed that there was a risk that the presence of elevated methane levels had become 'normalised' and the Mine needed to deal with the issue as a matter of urgency.

 Number Directive Due Date

Pursuant to section 168 of the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999

 I Procedures for Methane management 16/03/2017

To review the Principal Hazard Management Plan for Gas Management which shall include the review of risk assessments, Trigger Action Response Plans, and to implement effective adequate controls for the management of flammable gas. This includes demonstrating the training and competence of all persons with obligations for this hazard.

 Number Directive Due Date

Pursuant to section 166 of the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999

 2 Control of methane accumulations 16/03/2017

To review the application of adequate controls to ensure that any general body concentrations of flammable gas that exist in any workings do not eventuate in concentrations that present an unacceptable level of risk. This requires the implementation of controls that are in accordance with the hierarchy of controls with respect to the magnitude of this hazard.

Please provide a written status report on each Directive together with the actions taken to address each item by h due dates

Shau Dobson Richa Gouldstone Russell Albury

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| Inspector of Mines | Inspector of Mines (Coal) | Chief Inspector of Coal Mines |
| Central Region | Central Region |  |

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