

Mine Name	Mine ID	Operator	Activity Type	Region	Activity Date
Grosvenor Coal Mine	MI02976	Anglo Coal (Grosvenor Management) Pty Ltd	Investigation - Continued	Central	13/09/2016

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.

I attended Grosvenor Mine at 6:30am today, Tuesday 12 September 2016. My attendance was as a continuation of the investigation into the roof-fall in MG 102 'C' Heading which occurred at 22:10pm Sunday 5 June 2016 detail of which is recorded in my MRE dated 6 June 2016.

1.0 Introduction

I was met by Mr Adam Foulstone (SSE) and Mr Wayne Bull (UMM).

My intention was to conduct interviews with the two crews A and B who were engaged in roadway drivage immediately after the change in support and B crew on the shift when the strata failure occurred.

I was provided facilities by the Mine to conduct the interviews.

In discussing my intentions with each crew they were comfortable with me addressing each crew as a group since there were no issues that the individuals concerned felt they needed to speak of in confidence.

The process followed did not detrimentally affect my investigation. I provided my telephone number, informing all personnel that if there were any items which they wished to talk to me about individually then they should make contact using that number. I also reminded them that at any time, any coal mine worker can make representation about a safety matter and maintain their anonymity. It is a duty of an inspector to investigate that complaint and provide feedback to the person in question and to protect their anonymity. Such a representation from a coal mine worker should not be false or frivolous.

2.0 Interviews

I spoke with a total of 18 coal mine workers including the two ERZ Controllers covering each crew. The discussions commenced at 7am and concluded at 9am.

There was consistent feedback that -

- Neither crew were consulted following recognised risk assessment which should have been triggered by the change of management process
- Both crews were aware that the change was likely and had been briefed before they commenced the shifts on which the change took place, and, when the early signs of roof movement were detected
- No person predicted nor expected the rapid deterioration and roof failure that followed
- There was total reliance in the technical expertise applied during the change management process
- It was understood by the crews that the monitoring of tell-tales used in the reasoning for the change related to roadways where megabolts had been installed and that there was no data associated with convergence measurements relating to only 8x 1.8m steel bolts alone
- Specific reference was made to items discussed with management post failure -
 - was elevated in situ methane content related to ply 1 & 2 given consideration?
 - was there an interim support pattern/system which might have been considered?
 - why was the change initiated immediately after 18ct conditions were seen as very heavy even in comparison with previous cut throughs?

I spoke, after the interviews with Mr Adam Foulstone, regarding his response to my last MRE dated 6 September 2016 which sought further explanation of geotechnical issues posed by Inspector Deon Esterhuizen.

I indicated that he should respond as soon as possible and that would allow some consideration of the matter before Inspectors Shaun Dobson and Jacqui Vinnicombe attend the Mine next Wednesday 21 September 2016.

3.0 Close-out Meeting

I briefed Wayne Bull in regard to the matters above and thanked him for the cooperation and facilities provided throughout the investigation so far.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Gouldstone", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Gouldstone
Inspector of Mines
Central Region