

(e) MSHA Informational Report IR 1240 (1996) referenced in paragraph (a) of this section is incorporated-by-reference. This incorporation-by-reference was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be inspected or obtained at MSHA, Coal Mine Safety and Health, 1100 Wilson Blvd., Room 2424, Arlington, Virginia 22209–3939 and at each MSHA Coal Mine Safety and Health district office. Copies may be inspected at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202–741–6030, or go to: http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html.

[45 FR 80769, Dec. 5, 1980, as amended at 64 FR 43286, Aug. 10, 1999; 67 FR 38386, June 4, 2002; 71 FR 16669, Apr. 3, 2006]

§ 90.205 Approved sampling devices; operation; air flowrate.

(a) Sampling devices approved in accordance with part 74 (Coal Mine Dust Personal Sampler Units) of this title shall be operated at the flowrate of 2.0 liters of air per minute, or at a different flowrate as prescribed by the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the particular device.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, each approved sampling device shall be examined each shift by a person certified in accordance with § 90.202 (Certified person; sampling) during the second hour after being put into operation to assure that the sampling device is operating properly and at the proper flowrate. If the proper flowrate is not maintained, necessary adjustments shall be made by the certified person.

(c) Each sampling device shall be examined each shift by a person certified in accordance with § 90.202 (Certified person; sampling) during the last hour of operation to assure that the sampling device is operating properly and at the proper flowrate. If the proper flowrate is not maintained, the respirable dust sample shall be transmitted to MSHA with a notation by the certified person on the dust data

card stating that the proper flowrate was not maintained.

(d) Paragraph (b) of this section shall not apply if the approved sampling device is being operated in a breast or chamber of an anthracite coal mine where the full box mining method is used.

§ 90.206 Approved sampling devices; equivalent concentrations.

The concentration of respirable dust shall be determined by dividing the weight of dust in milligrams collected on the filter of an approved sampling device by the volume of air in cubic meters passing through the filter and then converting that concentration to an equivalent concentration as measured with an MRE instrument. To convert a concentration of respirable dust as measured with an approved sampling device to an equivalent concentration of respirable dust as measured with an MRE instrument, the concentration of respirable dust measured with the approved sampling device shall be multiplied by a constant factor prescribed by the Secretary for the approved sampling device used, and the product shall be the equivalent concentration as measured with an MRE instrument.

§ 90.207 Compliance sampling.

(a) The operator shall take five valid respirable dust samples for each part 90 miner within 15 calendar days after:

(1) The 20-day period specified for each part 90 miner in § 90.100 (Respirable dust standard);

(2) Receipt of notification from MSHA that any respirable dust sample taken in accordance with § 90.208 (Bimonthly sampling) exceeds 1.0 milligram per cubic meter of air or the respirable dust standard established by § 90.101 (Respirable dust standard when quartz is present); and

(3) Implementing any transfer after the twentieth calendar day following receipt of notification from MSHA that a part 90 miner is employed at the mine.

§ 90.208 Bimonthly sampling.

(a) Each operator shall take one valid respirable dust sample for each part 90 miner during each bimonthly period

beginning with the bimonthly period of February 1, 1981. The bimonthly periods are:

February 1–March 31
 April 1–May 31
 June 1–July 31
 August 1–September 30
 October 1–November 30
 December 1–January 31.

(b) When the respirable dust standard is changed in accordance with §90.101 (Respirable dust standard when quartz is present), respirable dust sampling of part 90 miners shall begin on the first shift on which the miner is performing normal work duties during the next bimonthly period following notification of such change from MSHA.

(c) Upon issuance of a citation for a violation of §90.100 (Respirable dust standard) or §90.101 (Respirable dust standard when quartz is present), paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall not apply to that part 90 miner until the violation is abated in accordance with §90.201(d) (Sampling; general requirements).

§ 90.209 Respirable dust samples; transmission by operator.

(a) The operator shall transmit within 24 hours after the end of the sampling shift all samples collected to fulfill the requirements of this part in containers provided by the manufacturer of the filter cassette to: Respirable Dust Processing Laboratory, Pittsburgh Safety and Health Technology Center, Cochran Mill Road, Building 38, P.O. Box 18179, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15236-0179, or to any other address designated by the District Manager.

(b) The operator shall not open or tamper with the seal of any filter cassette or alter the weight of any filter cassette before or after it is used to fulfill the requirements of this part.

(c) A person certified in accordance with §90.202 (Certified person; sampling) shall properly complete the dust data card that is provided by the manufacturer for each filter cassette. The card shall have an identification number identical to that on the cassette used to take the sample and be submitted to MSHA with the sample. Each card shall be signed by the certified person and shall include that person's

certification number. Respirable dust samples with data cards not properly completed will be voided by MSHA.

(d) All respirable dust samples collected by the operator shall be considered taken to fulfill the sampling requirements of part 70, 71 or 90 of this title, unless the sample has been identified in writing by the operator to the District Manager, prior to the intended sampling shift, as a sample to be used for purposes other than required by part 70, 71 or 90 of this title.

(e) Respirable dust samples received by MSHA in excess of those required by this part shall be considered invalid samples.

(Pub. L. No. 96-511, 94 Stat. 2812 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.))

[45 FR 80769, Dec. 5, 1980, as amended at 58 FR 63529, Dec. 2, 1993; 60 FR 33723, June 29, 1995; 60 FR 35696, July 11, 1995]

§ 90.210 Respirable dust samples; report to operator.

(a) The Secretary shall provide the operator with a report of the following data on respirable dust samples as soon as practicable:

- (1) The mine identification number;
- (2) The mechanized mining unit, if any, within the mine from which the samples were taken;
- (3) The concentration of respirable dust, expressed in milligrams per cubic meter of air, for each valid sample;
- (4) The average concentration of respirable dust, expressed in milligrams per cubic meter of air, for all valid samples;
- (5) The occupation code;
- (6) The reason for voiding any samples; and,
- (7) The Social Security Number of the part 90 miner.

(b) Upon receipt, the operator shall provide a copy of this report to the part 90 miner. The operator shall not post the original or a copy of this report on the mine bulletin board.

§ 90.220 Status change reports.

If there is a change in the status of a part 90 miner that affects the respirable dust sampling requirements of this part (such as entering a terminated, injured or ill status, or returning to work), the operator shall report the change in the status of the part 90