

§ 71.100

submitted as required by this part, and not voided by MSHA.

(s) *Work position* means an occupation identified by an MSHA code number describing a location to which a miner is assigned in the performance of his or her normal duties.

Subpart B—Dust Standards

AUTHORITY: Secs. 101 and 103(h), Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, Pub. L. 95-173 as amended by Pub. L. 95-164, 91 Stat. 1291 and 1299 (30 U.S.C. 811 and 813(h)).

SOURCE: 45 FR 80757, Dec. 5, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

§ 71.100 Respirable dust standard.

Each operator shall continuously maintain the average concentration of respirable dust in the mine atmosphere during each shift to which each miner in the active workings is exposed at or below 2.0 milligrams of respirable dust per cubic meter of air. Concentrations shall be measured with an approved sampling device and expressed in terms of an equivalent concentration determined in accordance with § 71.206 (Approved sampling devices; equivalent concentrations).

§ 71.101 Respirable dust standard when quartz is present.

When the respirable dust in the mine atmosphere of the active workings contains more than 5 percent quartz, the operator shall continuously maintain the average concentration of respirable dust in the mine atmosphere during each shift to which each miner is exposed at or below a concentration of respirable dust computed by dividing the percent of quartz into the number 10. Concentrations shall be expressed in milligrams per cubic meter of air as measured with an approved sampling device and in terms of an equivalent concentration determined in accordance with § 71.206 (Approved sampling devices; equivalent concentrations).

Example: The respirable dust associated with a designated work position contains quartz in the amount of 20%. Therefore, the average concentration of respirable dust in the mine atmosphere associated with that designated work position shall be continuously maintained at or below 0.5 milligrams

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of respirable dust per cubic meter of air (10/20=0.5 mg/m³).

Subpart C—Sampling Procedures

AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 811, 813(h), and 957.

SOURCE: 45 FR 80757, Dec. 5, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

§ 71.201 Sampling; general requirements.

(a) Each operator shall take respirable dust samples of the concentration of respirable dust in the active workings of the mine as required by this part with a sampling device approved by the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services under part 74 (Coal Mine Dust Personal Sampler Units) of this title.

(b) Sampling devices shall be worn or carried directly to and from the designated work position to be sampled and shall remain operational during the entire shift or for 8 hours, whichever time is less.

(c) Upon request from the District Manager, the operator shall submit the date on which collecting any respirable dust samples required by this part will begin.

(d) During the time for abatement fixed in a citation for violation of § 71.100 (Respirable dust standard) or § 71.101 (Respirable dust standard when quartz is present), the operator shall take corrective action to lower the concentration of respirable dust to within the permissible concentration and then sample each normal work shift until five valid respirable dust samples are taken.

(e) Upon written request by the operator, the District Manager may waive the rain restriction for a normal work shift as defined in § 71.2 (Definitions) for a period not to exceed two months, if the District Manager determines that:

(1) The operator will not have reasonable opportunity to complete the respirable dust sampling required by this part without the waiver because of the frequency of rain; and

(2) The operator did not have reasonable opportunity to complete the respirable dust sampling required by this part prior to requesting the waiver.