MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Pneumoconiosis Among Coal Mine Workers; Appointment of Advisory Committee Members; Meeting

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of appointment of members to the Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Pneumoconiosis Among Coal Mine Workers; and notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the appointment of members to the Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Pneumoconiosis Among Coal Mine Workers, and announces the date, time, and place for the first meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, room 631, Arlington, Virginia 22203; phone 703-524-4000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Appointment of Members

This notice announces the appointment of members to the Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Pneumoconiosis Among Coal Mine Workers, established pursuant to sections 101(a) and 102(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

The Secretary of Labor appointed this advisory committee to develop recommendations for improved standards or other appropriate actions addressing: permissible exposure limits to eliminate black lung disease and silicosis; the means to control respirable coal mine dust levels; improved monitoring of respirable coal dust levels and the role of the miner in that monitoring; and the adequacy of operator sampling programs to determine the actual levels of dust concentrations to which miners are exposed (60 FR 5947). The Advisory Committee is chartered through September 30, 1996 (60 FR 55284). The members were selected on the basis of their experience and knowledge in mine health and safety and related fields. Consistent with the Mine Act, the membership of the committee and the categories of interest represented are as follows:

Neutrals

- Dr. David Wegman (Chair of the Advisory Committee), Chairman of the Department of Environment at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, Massachusetts.
- Dr. John Dement, Associate Professor in the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina.
- Dr. Kathleen Kreiss, Director of the Occupational Health and Environmental Medicine Division at the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine, Denver, Colorado.
- Dr. Raja Ramani, Head of the Department of Mineral Engineering at Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania.
- Dr. Carol Rice, Associate Professor of Environmental Health at Kettering Laboratory, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Dr. J. Davitt McAteer, Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health.

Labor

- Joseph Main, Administrator of the Department of Occupational Health and Safety at the United Mine Workers of America, Washington, DC.
- Dr. James Weeks, Associate Research Professor in the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the George Washington University, Washington, DC.

Industry

- Dr. John Gibbs, Vice-President of Health Management and Corporate Medical Director of the Kerr-McGee Corporation, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- Joseph Lamonica, Vice-President for Health, Safety, and Training at the Bituminous Coal Operators’ Association, Inc., Washington, DC.

B. Notification of First Meeting

Under sections 101(a) and 102(c) of the Mine Act, a public meeting of the advisory committee will be held between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on February 21 and 22, 1996 at the Quality Hotel—Arlington (Madison Room) located at 1200 North Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201; phone 703-524-4000.

The purpose of the meeting is: (1) to give a historical overview on the respirable coal mine dust program and the risk to miners of coal workers’ pneumoconiosis; (2) to allow the committee members to become familiar with the issues involved; and (3) to set an agenda for the committee to follow during its six-month tenure.

The public is invited to attend. The chairperson will provide an hour at the end of the meeting to allow interested persons to make comments. Official records of the meeting will be available for public inspection at the above address.

Dated: January 19, 1996.
J. Davitt McAteer, Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health.

BILLING CODE 4510–43–P