

monitoring stations with the date, time, and their initials. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

4. Meadow River Coal Company, Inc.

[Docket No. M-98-109-C]

Meadow River Coal Company, Inc., P.O. Box 7, Dante, Virginia 24237 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.350 (air courses and belt haulage entries) to its Meadow River No. 1 Mine (I.D. No. 46-03467) located in Fayette County, Virginia. The petitioner proposes to use belt entry as an intake airway. The petitioner proposes to install a low-level carbon monoxide detection system in all belt entries used as intake air courses as an early warning carbon monoxide detection system. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

5. Eastern Associated Coal Corp.

[Docket No. M-98-110-C]

Eastern Associated Coal Corp., PO Box 1990, Henderson, Kentucky 42420 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.503 (permissible electric face equipment; maintenance) to its Harris No. 1 Mine (I.D. No. 46-01271) located in Boone County, West Virginia. The petitioner proposes to use a threaded ring and spring-loaded device instead of a padlock on the battery plug connectors for mobile battery-powered machines to prevent the plug connector from accidentally disengaging while under load. The petitioner asserts that application of the standard would result in diminution of safety to the miners. In addition, the petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

6. The Ohio Valley Coal Company

[Docket No. M-98-111-C]

The Ohio Valley Coal Company, 56854 Pleasant Ridge Road, Alledonia, Ohio 43902 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002 (location of trolley wires, trolley feeder wires, high-voltage cables and transformers) to its Powhatan No. 6 Mine (I.D. No. 33-01159) located in Belmont County, Ohio. The petitioner seeks to amend the previously granted petition to include the use of a high voltage shearer. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method

would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

7. G & S Coal Company

[Docket No. M-98-112-C]

G & S Coal Company, 21 E. Wood Street, Pine Grove, Pennsylvania 17963 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1100-2 (quantity and location of firefighting equipment) to its Buck Mt. Slope (I.D. No. 36-08498) located in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner proposes to use only portable fire extinguishers to replace existing requirements where rock dust, water cars, and other water storage are not practical. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

8. White County Coal Corporation

[Docket No. M-98-113-C]

White County Coal Corporation, PO Box 457, Carmi, Illinois 62821 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.503 (permissible electric face equipment; maintenance) to its Pattiki Mine (I.D. No. 11-02662) located in White County, Illinois. The petitioner proposes to use a round eye bolt snap device instead of the presently approved bolt and nut system to secure screw caps in place on plugs of battery operated scoops and tractors. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide no less protection for securing the plugs.

9. Snyder Coal Company

[Docket No. M-98-114-C]

Snyder Coal Company, Box 93, RD #2, Hegins, Pennsylvania 17938 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1202-1(a) (temporary notations, revisions, and supplements) to its N and L Slope (I.D. No. 36-02203) located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner proposes to revise and supplement mine maps annually instead of every 6 months, as required, and to update maps daily by hand notations. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

10. Primrose Coal #2

[Docket No. M-98-115-C]

Primrose Coal #2, 475 High Road, Ashland, Pennsylvania 17921 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.335 (construction of seals) to its Buck Mountain Vein Slope (I.D. No.

36-08698) located in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner requests a modification of the standard to permit alternative methods of construction using wooden materials of moderate size and weight due to the difficulty in accessing previously driven headings and breasts containing inaccessible abandoned workings; a design criteria in the 10 psi range; and installed in pairs permit the water trap to be installed only in the gangway seal and sampling tube in the monkey seal. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail to "comments@msha.gov", or on a computer disk along with an original hard copy to the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before February 16, 1999. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated: January 6, 1999.

Carol J. Jones,

Acting Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

[FR Doc. 99-872 Filed 1-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-43-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Petitions for Modification

The following parties have filed petitions to modify the application of mandatory safety standards under section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

1. Mallie Coal Company, Inc.

[Docket No. M-98-91-C]

Mallie Coal Company, Inc., Rt. 1 Box 173, Woodbine, Kentucky 40771 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.380(f)(4) (escapeways; bituminous and lignite mines) to its Mine No. 4 (I.D. No. 15-17603) located in Knox County, Kentucky. The petitioner proposes to use one twenty or two ten pound portable chemical fire extinguishers on each Mescher Jeep. If two fire extinguishers are used, one ten pound extinguisher would be mounted in the operator's deck with the other mounted

on the jeep for accessibility by the operator and if one fire extinguisher is used, it would be mounted in the operator's deck. The petitioner states that in either case, a total of twenty pounds of fire extinguisher capability would be carried on each Mescher Jeep and readily accessible to the jeep operator. The petitioner proposes to have the equipment operator inspect each fire extinguisher daily prior to entering the mine, maintain records of the inspections, and replace defective fire extinguishers prior to entering the mine. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

2. M & M Anthracite Coal Company

[Docket No. M-98-99-C]

M & M Anthracite Coal Company, 245 Second Street, Joliet, Pennsylvania 17981-1315 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1400 (hoisting equipment; general) to its L.V. #3 Vein Slope (I.D. No. 36-08744) located in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner proposes to use a slope conveyance (gunboat) in transporting persons without installing safety catches or other not less effective devices but instead use increased rope strength/safety factor and secondary safety rope connection in place of such devices. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

3. Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation

[Docket No. M-98-100-C]

Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, One Oxford Centre, 301 Grant Street, 20th Floor, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1410 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.804(a) (underground high-voltage cables) to its Willow Creek Mine (I.D. No. 42-02113) located in Carbon County, Utah. The petitioner proposes to use specially designed high-voltage cables on longwall equipment that would comply with existing standard 30 CFR 75.804(a), or would use type CABLE/BICC Anaconda brand 5KV, 3/C type SHD+GC; AmerCable Tiger Brand, 3/C, 5KV, type SHD-CGC; Pirelli 5KV, 3/C, type SHD-CENTER-GC; or similar 5,000 volt cable with center ground check conductor, manufactured to the ICEA Standard S-75-381 for type SHD, three-conductor cables. The petitioner states that the cable would be MSHA accepted as flame-resistant; that the ground check conductor would not be

smaller than a No. 16 AWG stranded conductor; that the cable construction shall be symmetrical 3/C, 3/G, and 1/GC; that all electrical personnel who perform maintenance on the longwall would receive training in the installation, splicing and repair, and permissibility requirements of these high-voltage cables; and that proposed revisions for its part 48 training plan would be submitted to the District Manager within 60 days after the proposed decision and order becomes final. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

4. Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation

[Docket No. M-98-101-C]

Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, One Oxford Centre, 301 Grant Street, 20th Floor, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1410 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002 (location of trolley wires, trolley feeder wires, high-voltage cables and transformers) to its Willow Creek Mine (I.D. No. 42-02113) located in Carbon County, Utah. The petitioner requests that the Proposed Decision and Order (PDO) be amended for its previous Petition for Modification, docket number M-95-167-C to use high-voltage longwall mining systems to power permissible longwall equipment. The petitioner requests that the PDO be amended to clarify the petition and to conform the requirements of the PDO to the equipment being used. The petitioner requests changes to Item No. 22 to provide information to the miners that adequate means to secure the mid-face box and on-line connector has been installed to provide secure connections to the high-voltage cables to allow the petitioner the option of using either of these items; and to change Item No. 24 to clarify that high-voltage personal equipment is needed to handle energized high-voltage cables and provide information concerning storage facility for protective equipment. The petitioner requests that Items No. 34 and 35 be combined to provide information to warn miners that the high-voltage controller contains capacitors that must be discharged and grounded and that all circuits are not deenergized, and to address caution labels for the power center, controller, and shearer in one stipulation instead of two. The petitioner requests a new Item No. 35 be added to include information that would warn the miners of 4,160 volt cables on board the shearer before opening any covers. The petitioner

requests that Item No. 36(c) be changed because at this time capacitors are not installed at the power center; that Item 38 be changed because capacitors are installed on the load side in the controller; that Item 39 be revised to add a stipulation at the end of paragraph (d); and that Item 40 be changed to facilitate locating grounded phase, or open conductors within the cable. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

5. Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation

[Docket No. M-98-102-C]

Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, One Oxford Centre, 301 Grant Street, 20th Floor, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1410 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.350 (air courses and belt haulage entries) to its Willow Creek Mine (I.D. No. 42-02113) located in Carbon County, Utah. The petitioner requests that its previously granted petition, docket number M-95-166-C be amended to allow the use of belt air to ventilate working sections with more than two entries. The petitioner proposes to install a carbon monoxide monitoring system in all belt entries utilized as intake air courses as an early warning fire detection system. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

6. CONSOL of Kentucky, Inc.

[Docket No. M-98-103-C]

CONSOL of Kentucky, Inc., Consol Plaza, 1800 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15241-1421 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.701 (grounding metallic frames, casings, and other enclosures of electric equipment) to its Big Springs #16 Mine (I.D. No. 15-17957), its E3RF Mine (I.D. No. 15-17894), its Motts Branch Mine (I.D. No. 15-18012), and its Big Springs No. 17 Mine (I.D. No. 15-17996) all located in Knotts County, Kentucky; and its Wiley (MC) Mine (I.D. No. 15-17220), its E3-MC Mine (I.D. No. 15-17720), and its Loves Branch Mine (I.D. No. 15-17814) located in Letcher County, Kentucky. The petitioner proposes to use a low and medium voltage, three-phase, alternating current for use underground from a portable, diesel-driven generator and to connect the neutral of the generator's transformer secondary through a suitable resistor to the frame of the diesel generator. The petitioner states that the frame of the diesel

generator would not have solid connection to a borehole casing, a metal waterline, or a grounding conductor with a low resistance to earth; that the resistor used to connect the neutral of the transformer secondary to the frame of the diesel generator would be rated for continuous duty and would limit the phase-to-frame fault current for each of the low and medium voltage circuits to a maximum of 0.5 amperes; that each outgoing power circuit of the diesel generator would be protected by a circuit breaker; that each outgoing power circuit of the diesel generator would be equipped with a relay that would monitor the phase-to-frame fault current and trip the appropriate circuit breaker when the phase-to-frame fault current exceeds 0.1 amperes; that the 995-volt circuits would be equipped with a sensitive ground fault relay that would cause the respective circuit breaker(s) to trip and shut down the diesel engine when a phase-to-frame fault of 90 milliamperes or higher occurs; that a 1/0 A.W.G. or larger external ground conductor would be solidly connected between the frames of the diesel generator and mining equipment being powered and between the trailing cable coupler and the frame of equipment where the cable coupler connects to the coupler of the equipment; that the cable power from the generator to the equipment would be type SHD-GC on machines greater than 660 volts and would have a minimum of 2,000 volt rating and an outer jacket that has been MSHA approved as flame-resistant; that strain relief would be provided on each end of the shielded cable that extends between the generator and the piece of equipment being powered; that prior to moving each piece of equipment and upon start-up of the diesel generator, a functional test of the ground fault and ground wire monitor systems would be performed and a record would be maintained on the results of the tests; that all circuit breaker settings would be adjusted to provide short-circuit protection; and that prior to using the diesel generator system, "hands on" training would be provided to all qualified persons on proper testing procedures and incorporated into the part 48 training plans. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

7. U.S. Steel Mining Company, LLC

[Docket No. M-98-104-C]

U.S. Steel Mining Company, LLC, P.O. Box 338 Pineville, West Virginia 24874 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002 (location of trolley wires, trolley feeder wires, high-voltage cables and transformers) to its No. 50 Mine (I.D. No. 46-01816) located in Wyoming County, West Virginia. The petitioner proposes to use 4,160 volt cables to supply power to permissible longwall mining equipment. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

8. Windsor Coal Company

[Docket No. M-98-105-C]

Windsor Coal Company, P.O. Box 39, West Liberty, West Virginia 26074 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.364(b)(1) (weekly examination) to its Windsor Mine (I.D. No. 46-01286) located in Brooke County, West Virginia. Due to deteriorating roof and rib conditions in certain areas of the intake air course, traveling the affected area would be unsafe. The petitioner proposes to establish evaluation points to monitor the air and gas measurements in the affected area; to maintain the evaluation points in safe conditions; to have a certified person test for methane and the quality and quantity of air at both evaluation points; and to have the person making the examinations and test place their initials, date, and time at the evaluation points and in a book on the surface made available for interested persons. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail to "comments@msha.gov", or on a computer disk along with an original hard copy to the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before February 16, 1999. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated: January 6, 1999.

Carol J. Jones,

Acting Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

[FR Doc. 99-781 Filed 1-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 99-014]

NASA Advisory Council (NAC), Task Force on International Space Station Operational Readiness; Meeting

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces an open meeting of the NAC Task Force on International Space Station Operational Readiness (IOR). This meeting will be conducted via teleconference.

DATES: Thursday, January 28, 1999, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Central Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: NASA Johnson Space Center, 2101 NASA Road 1, Building 1, Room 920L, Houston, TX 77058.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Holly Stevens, NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX 77058, 512-863-2579 or 281-483-3655.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Members of the public may attend the meeting at the location listed above. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Discuss the IOR Task Force Final Report on the Shuttle-Mir Program.
- Review findings and recommendations related to International Space Station issues that will be contained in the IOR Task Force Final Report on the Shuttle-Mir Program.
- Review the results of the fact-finding meetings conducted by the IOR Task Force and the Utkin Advisory Expert Council held January 18-22, 1999, in Moscow, Russia.

It is imperative that the meeting be held on this date to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants.

Dated: January 8, 1999.

Mathew M. Crouch,

Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-882 Filed 1-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P