

fumes, and smoke. If damaged, it shall be repaired promptly.

(2) Space Between Brattice and Rib. The space between the line brattice and the rib shall be large enough to permit the flow of a sufficient volume of air to keep the working face clear of flammable and noxious gases.

(3) Construction of Brattice. Flame-resistive material shall be used in the construction of line brattice.

(j) (1) Posting Warnings; Sealing or Ventilating. The entrance to any abandoned working shall be posted to warn any unauthorized person against entering the territory. Every abandoned working shall be sealed or ventilated.

(2) Manner of Sealing. Where the practice is to seal an abandoned working, it shall be done in a substantial manner with incombustible material. In every sealed area, one or more of the seals shall be fitted with a pipe and cap or valve to permit the gas behind the seal to be sampled and provide a means of determining any existing hydrostatic pressure.

(3) Reusing Air in Gassy Mines. In gassy mines, air that passes through or by abandoned sections or ventilates pillar lines may not be reused to ventilate live face workings. Mines that cannot comply with this requirement, on July 1, 1973, may continue to operate until future mine development and ventilation can be changed to permit compliance with this section.

(k) (1) Detection Lamps -- In General. At least two permissible flame safety lamps in proper working condition shall be kept available at each mine for use by an authorized person. Only a permissible flame safety lamp, permissible methane detector, or air sampling and analysis may be used to determine the presence of methane in mine air.

(2) Same -- In Gassy Mine. In a gassy mine, any mine official whose regular duty requires him to inspect a working place shall possess, when underground, a permissible flame safety lamp in safe working condition, for the detection of methane and oxygen deficiency.

(3) Fire Bosses -- Examinations. A fire boss shall examine the mine before other workers are permitted to enter. He shall begin his examination in the first working place in his assigned territory not more than four hours before the first shift enters the mine. However, any certified official or other competent person designated by the mine foreman may make this examination in multiple-shift operations within four hours of the entrance of the next or succeeding shift, but in a mine in which gas has not been found, the examination need be made only before the first shift enters the mine.

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