

# ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET

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## **EMERGENCY AWARENESS BULLETIN** **(EAB – No. 3 – 2019)**

### **Kentucky DMS – Fatal Accident No.3**

On July 31, 2019 a 62 year-old miner was fatally injured on the surface area of an underground mine in the Madisonville Branch.

The accident occurred while the victim was in the process of constructing a form to be used during the sealing of the mines intake airshaft. While working on the form, a methane ignition occurred causing the victim to fall approximately 355 feet to the bottom of the shaft.

### **Accident Scene**



### **RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT A SIMILAR OCCURRENCE**

1. Follow all safety precautions and procedures in the approved seal plan.
2. Conduct preshift examinations that include testing for dangerous gases in all work areas prior to beginning work.
3. When dangerous levels of gasses are detected, immediately, withdraw all endangered persons.
4. Testing for methane shall be performed prior to and during welding and cutting operations.
5. Train all persons working on seal projects in mine atmosphere gasses and in the use of multi-gas detecting devices.
6. Properly plan all work assignments by conducting a risk assessment and implementing all necessary hazard controls.