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EMERGENCY AWARENESS BULLETIN

(BULLETIN – NO. 2 – 2022)

Kentucky DMS – Fatal Accident No. 2

On Sunday March 20, 2022, a 33-year-old underground miner with 13 years of mining experience was fatally injured while working at an underground mine in the Harlan Branch.

The accident occurred while the victim was observing a co-worker in the process of removing a permanent stopping with a battery powered scoop. After a portion of the stopping was removed, a large section of the mine roof, measuring approximately 20 feet wide and 50 feet long and being 5 feet thick, collapsed resulting in fatal blunt force trauma type injuries.



Recommendations

- 1.) Mine roof and ribs shall be properly examined in all areas prior to performing work.
- 2.) Frequent roof evaluations shall be conducted to ensure adequate support is being maintained.
- 3.) Miners shall not congregate in the area while stoppings or standing support is removed.