



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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Victim in Letcher County Mine Accident Identified *Victim struck by machinery*

FRANKFORT, Ky. – (Nov. 7, 2011) – Authorities have identified the miner killed this morning in an accident at the Hubble Mining Company No. 9 mine at Eolia in Letcher County as 47 year-old Jerry Britton of Pound, Va. Britton was a mine foreman.

Initial reports from investigators of the Kentucky Office of Mine Safety and Licensing (OSML) indicate Britton died when struck by a personnel carrier in the underground mine. The accident was reported at 9:40 Monday morning. Britton was taken to Whitesburg Regional Hospital where he was pronounced dead from his injuries.

Because of the recent increase in both surface and underground mining accidents, OMSL Director Johnny Greene says he will instruct mine safety analysts to provide enhanced on-site training and safety reminders to miners and mine operators throughout the state beginning Monday of next week. Green says he hopes to make miners more aware of safety issues that have resulted in the increase in accidents. This is Kentucky's seventh mining fatality in 2011.

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