Kentucky DMS – Serious Accident No. 1
On Wednesday March 24, 2021, a 64-year-old surface miner with 7 years of mining experience was seriously injured while working at a surface mine in the Pikeville Branch.

The accident occurred while the victim was retrieving a sample from the top of the fire clay coal seam, near the base of a wall of shot rock. The victim received blunt force trauma type injuries when struck by debris (loose material) that fell from the wall.

The Accident Scene

The injured miner was located at the base of the wall

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Pre-shift examinations of all work areas shall be conducted by a certified foreman and recorded in the record book for that purpose prior to the conducting of work.
2. Hard hats shall be worn at all times when in active works.
3. Sampling shall only be conducted in areas where the wall has been taken down to a safe height prior to sampling.
4. No equipment will be operated within 100 feet from a sampling location while persons are present at the sampling location.