



**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET
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**SAFETY ALERT BULLETIN
No. 2 – 2026**

Kentucky Division of Mine Safety SAB No. 2 – Flammable Materials

On March 16, 2026, a non-injury equipment fire was reported in the Pikeville branch.

The incident began when a service truck operator used a forced-air heater to warm a grease reel. The open flame from the heater ignited a grease fire. Initial efforts to extinguish the fire included multiple attempts with hand-held fire extinguishers, followed by the use of dirt and mud applied with a front-end loader in an effort to smother the flames. The local fire department later responded and successfully extinguished the fire using foam.

Scene of the Incident



Recommendations

1. 805 KAR 3:040 Section (1) – No person shall smoke or use an open flame where flammable or combustible liquids or greases are stored or in areas or places where fire or explosion hazards exist.
2. 805 KAR 3:040 Section (2) – Signs warning against smoking and open flames shall be posted so they can readily be seen in areas or places where fire or explosion hazards exist.
3. Train all miners in safe work practices in storing and the use of flammable materials.