

APPENDIX 5-3

COAL MINE WASTE FIRE EXTINGUISHING PLAN

Appendix 5-3
Coal Processing Waste
Fire Extinguishing Plan

General

The following is a general plan to be followed in the event of a fire on the coal processing waste area (refuse pile). Keep in mind that the refuse pile is actually incised by native earth and covered with 4' of suitable material. The refuse is actually filling a low area and is not above ground level, it is more like an inverted pile encompassed completely by native soil. No part of the refuse pile will protrude above ground level. Proper handling of the waste should prevent any combustion from occurring; however, in the event of a fire, the following plan will be followed:

Fire Fighting Plan

The mine supervisor will be notified immediately. The operations manager or chief engineer will also be notified.

The supervisor will examine the fire area and determine its severity. He will then confer with the operations manager or chief engineer to determine the extinguishing method to be employed. The permitting manager or chief engineer shall contact the regulatory authority and MSHA to discuss a plan for extinguishing the fire. In lieu of other suggestions or plans, the following method will be used.

- 1) In areas where the refuse has not yet been covered: The best way to extinguish a fire is to smother the fire by spreading and compacting borrow over the burning area to eliminate the air supply. If the fire is in an area that has not been covered the heat or fire will be covered by the previously stockpiled soil designated for use as 4' cover material. The material will be compacted in 12" lifts eliminating the air supply.
- 2) In areas where the refuse has been covered. It will be necessary to begin removal of the burning material. The removed material will be spread in thin layers onto a soil-stripped area for extinguishing. This area will be within that proposed for refuse disposal and pre-stripped as per the plan. Water will be employed only if the spreading material is not sufficient to prevent further burning. Once a fire is extinguished, the material will be returned to the low areas from which it was removed and the material removed from over the fire will be replaced with compaction of 12" lifts eliminating the air supply.

Only the mine supervisor and operators or others designated by him will be allowed to participate in fire extinguishing procedures. All authorized persons will be familiar with the above techniques prior to working around a fire, and adequate safety measures will be employed to ensure the safety of the fire fighters and the public in general.

Burned Waste Utilization

It is currently not anticipated that any burned coal waste, other materials, or refuse is to be removed from any disposal area. However, should this become necessary, a plan for removal shall be certified by a qualified engineer and approval obtained from the regulatory authority.