

Miller, Diane M. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

From: Bob.Leeming@hse.gsi.gov.uk
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2009 3:19 AM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Subject: 174 - Recent Coal Dust Particle Size Surveys and the Implications for Mine Explosions

Dear NIOSH

UK legislation requires incombustible matter in a range dependant on volatile content from 50% at 20% volatiles, to 75% at >35% volatiles. In practice, most of the industry works to at least 75%. The National Coal Board imposed a standard in all its mines of >80% irrespective of volatile content, which is still followed by those mines now in private ownership. The UK has not had a coal dust explosion in a mine since 1934 (Gresford Colliery, 265 killed).

Relevant legislation is The Coal Mines (Precautions Against Inflammable Dust) Regulations 1956, SI 1956 No. 1769.

Best wishes

Bob Leeming

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