

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

District 9

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
(Underground Coal Mine)

INJURY COAL MINE (BOUNCE) ACCIDENT

Dutch Creek No. 1 Mine (ID No. 05-00301)
Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.
- Redstone, Pitkin County, Colorado

April 20, 1983

by

Robert L. Huggins
Coal Mine Inspector

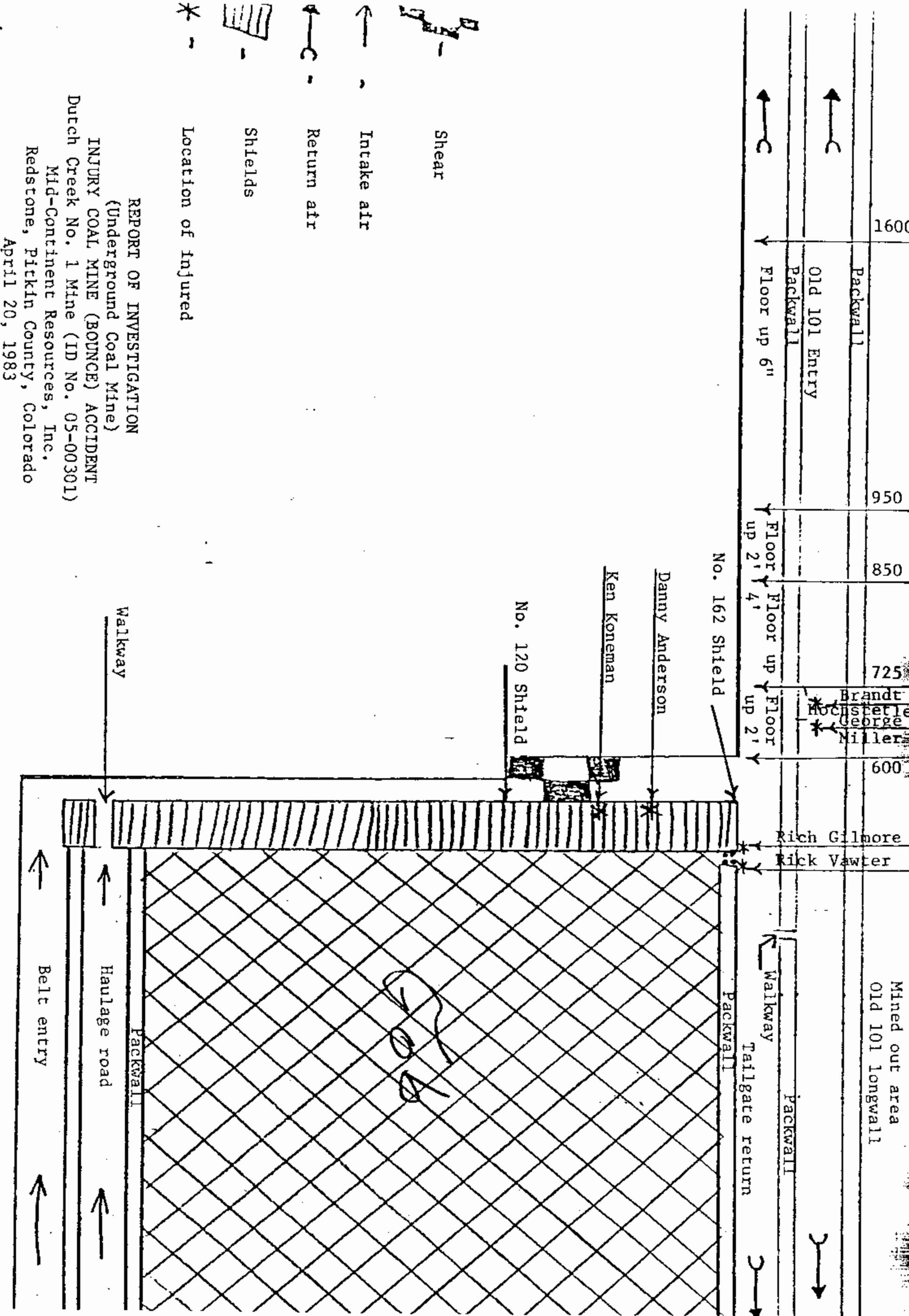
Originating Office - Mine Safety and Health Administration
Drawer J, 575 East First South, Price, Utah 84501
Jensen L. Bishop, Subdistrict Manager

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-  Shear
-  Intake air
-  Return air
-  Shields
-  Location of injured

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Solid Coal

Authority —

This report is based on an investigation made pursuant to the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, Public Law 95-173, as amended by Public Law 95-164.

SECTION A - IDENTIFICATION DATA

Injury Coal Mine

1. Title of investigation: (Bounce) Accident

2. Date MESA investigation started: 04/20/83

3. Report release date: 05/10/83

4. Mine: Dutch Creek No. 1

5. Mine ID number: 05-00301

6. Company: Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.

7. Town, County, State: Redstone, Pitkin Co., CO

8. Author(s): Robert L. Huggins

SECTION B - MINE INFORMATION

9. Daily production: 1,500 Tons

10. Surface employment: 2

11. Underground employment: 93

12. Name of coalbed: Coal Basin "B"

13. Thickness of coalbed: 84 Inches

SECTION C - ORIGINATING OFFICE

18 Mine Safety and Health Administration
 Coal Mine Health and Safety District No. 9
 Address: Drawer J, Price, UT 84501

SECTION D - STATISTICAL INFORMATION

FREQUENCY RATE (FSAG) (per 100 man-years)

14. Industry: 9.95

15. This operation: 18.07

16. Training program approved: Yes

17. Mine Profile Rating:

SECTION E - ABSTRACT

On Wednesday, April 20, 1983, at 11:00 a.m., a bounce occurred in the face area of the 102 longwall section. The accident occurred due to the overburden which is in excess of 2,000 feet. Six persons were taken to the hospital and released. Forty shields were damaged.

SECTION F - MINE ORGANIZATION

Company officials:	Name	Address
19. President:	John A. Reeves	P. O. Box 980, Carbondale, CO 81623
20. Superintendent:	Al Davis	P. O. Box 980, Carbondale, CO 81623
21. Safety Director:	Donald Ford	P. O. Box 980, Carbondale, CO 81623
22. Principle officer—H&S:	Donald Ford	P. O. Box 980, Carbondale, CO 81623
23. Labor Organization:	None	
24. Chairman—H&S Committee:	N/A	

Commentary

On Wednesday, April 20, 1983, the day shift mining crew under the supervision of Dennis Bouwens, section foreman, entered the mine and traveled to the 102 advancing longwall section, arriving about 7:30 a.m. Bouwens examined the section and assigned various work assignments to the crew. Regular work commenced until the accident occurred at 11:00 a.m. The shear was cutting towards the headgate when the bounce occurred. The headgate cutting shear wheel of the Eickoff 300 LH shear had just reached the No. 120 shield when the bounce occurred. The bounce affected 49 shields with the damage being to the legs of the shields. Eighty legs were damaged and a possible eight more. The shields are 500 ton capacity with a 150% safety factor. Six persons were taken to the hospital and released after treatment. The six injured were: Brandt Hochstetler and George Miller, methane drillers, Danny Anderson, advancing pan line, Ken Koneman, tailgate shear operator, Rich Gillmore, packwall foreman and Rick Vawter, construction of packwall. The electricity was deenergized when the bounce occurred. The longwall has two methane monitors, one sensor located at the last tailgate shield, and one in the 101 bleeder return entry. The cable was cut into for the methane sensor in the 101 bleeder return entry which caused the power to be deenergized. At the time of the bounce, a MSHA inspector, Robert L. Huggins, was standing next to the shear on the longwall face. The investigation was started immediately.

Discussion and Evaluation

The investigation revealed the following factors relevant to the occurrence of the bounce:

1. The force of the bounce pushed the mine floor up 6 to 12 inches on the face and up to 4 feet in the bleeder return.
2. The bounce did affect ventilation.
3. This seam of coal has considerable overburden in excess of 2,000 feet.
4. The face had been volley fired around the headgate and up to No. 40 shield.
5. The longwall face is approximately 800 feet long and is being mined by the advancing longwall method and with the construction of packwalls to obtain ventilation and haulage entries.
6. The bounce did disrupt the miners normal mining cycle for more than one hour due to the high concentration of methane, the broken roof, and the damage to the shields.

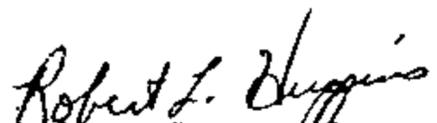
Findings of Fact

Evidence and findings of the investigation indicated there were no violations of Title 30 CFR which contributed to the occurrence of the accident. A 107(a) imminent danger order was issued immediately after the bounce due to the high concentration of methane, the roof condition, and the condition of the shields.

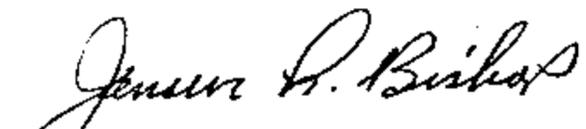
Conclusion

Probable cause of the bounce was a build up of pressures on the longwall face due to overburden which is in excess of 2,000 feet.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert L. Huggins
Coal Mine Inspector

Approved by:


Jensen L. Bishop
Subdistrict Manager

APPENDIX

The investigation was conducted by the Mine Safety and Health Administration and those persons furnishing information and/or present during the investigation were:

Mid-Continent Resources, Inc. Officials

Donald Ford	Safety Director
Al Davis	Superintendent
Dennis Bouwens	Section Foreman
Rodney Pretti	Maintenance Foreman

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Robert L. Huggins	Coal Mine Inspector
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SECTION A—INFORMATION REQUIRED IN ELECTRICAL ACCIDENT REPORTS

1. Voltage of circuit involved: _____

2. Voltage to which victim was exposed: _____

3. Type of supply circuitry (trolley wire, portable rectifier, wye connected secondary, delta connected secondary): _____

4. Type, size, and insulation rating of conductor involved: _____

5. Electrical protection for circuit: _____

6. Ground fault trip value (3 phase only): _____

7. Wiring diagram of circuit involved (attach separate drawing): _____

8. Condition of mine floor: _____

9. Was victim wearing rubber boots? Yes No Condition of boots: _____

10. Was victim wearing gloves? Yes No Type: _____ Condition: _____

11. Type of frame grounding for equipment: _____

SECTION B—INFORMATION REQUIRED IN ACCIDENTS INVOLVING EQUIPMENT

12. Name of manufacturer of machine involved: Eichoff

13. Model, approval number, and type of machine: 300 LH, 2G2927A, Longwall

14. Machine voltage: 950 AC

15. Did design of machine contribute to accident? Yes No

16. Did maintenance deficiencies contribute to accident? Yes No

17. Name of official responsible for maintenance of equipment: John Cerise

18. Experience of operator: 2 years

19. Was machine being operated within safe limits of its capability? Yes No

SECTION C—REMARKS
