

*Margaret*  
400-0222

# COAL NONFATAL

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

District 9

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
(Underground Coal Mine)

NONINJURY OUTBURST OF COAL ACCIDENT

Dutch Creek No. 2 Mine (ID No. 05-00469)  
Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.  
Redstone, Pitkin County, Colorado

July 30, 1980

by

Phillip R. Gibson, Jr.  
Coal Mine Inspector

*Handwritten notes:*  
10/1/80  
10/1/80  
10/1/80

*Handwritten notes:*  
P. R. Gibson  
30/21

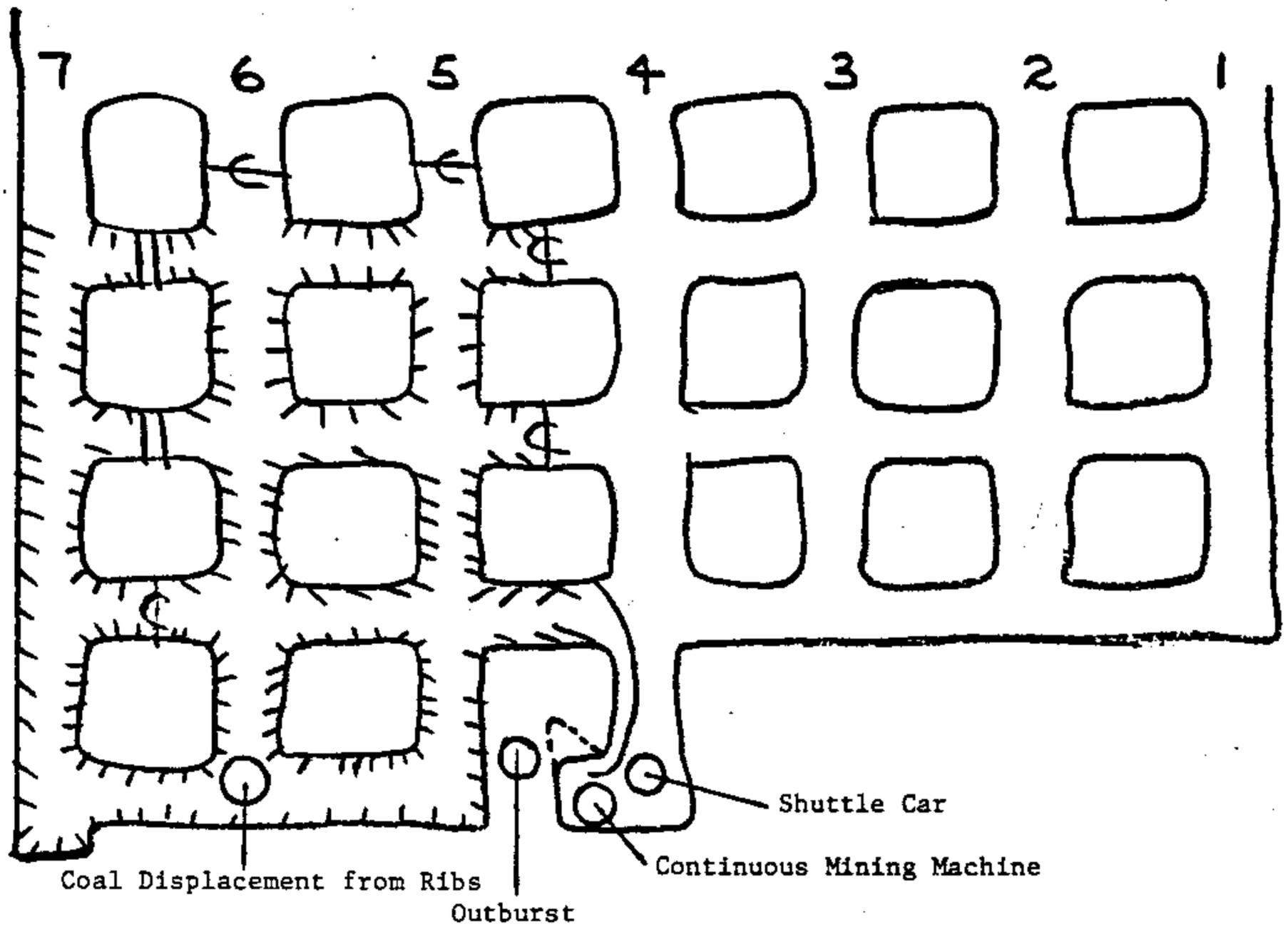
Originating Office - Mine Safety and Health Administration  
Drawer J, 575 East First South, Price, Utah 84501  
Jensen L. Bishop, Subdistrict Manager

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
(Underground Coal Mine)

NONINJURY OUTBURST OF COAL ACCIDENT

Dutch Creek No. 2 Mine (ID No. 05-00469)  
Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.  
Redstone, Pitkin County, Colorado

July 30, 1980



SLOPE SECTION

SKETCH: Not drawn to scale

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
 (Underground Coal Mine)  
 NONINJURY OUTBURST OF COAL ACCIDENT  
 Dutch Creek No. 2 Mine (ID No. 05-00469)  
 Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.  
 Redstone, Pitkin County, Colorado  
 July 30, 1980

# Abstract of Investigation

U.S. Department of Labor  
Mine Safety and Health Administration



**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 95-104.

**SECTION A - IDENTIFICATION DATA**

Noninjury Outburst

1. Title of investigation: of Coal

2. Date MESA investigation started: 07/30/80

3. Report release date: September 2, 1980

4. Mine: Dutch Creek No. 2

5. Mine ID number: 05-00469

6. Company: Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.

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

8. Author(s): Phillip R. Gibson, Jr.

**SECTION B - MINE INFORMATION**

9. Daily production: 840 tons

10. Surface employment: 3

11. Underground employment: 64

12. Name of coalbed: Middle Bed

13. Thickness of coalbed: 76 inches

**SECTION C - MINE OPERATING OFFICE**

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

**SECTION D - STATISTICS**

14. Industry: 11.50

15. This operation: 12.92

16. Training program approved: 05/09/79

17. Mine Profile Rating: 677

**SECTION E - ABSTRACT**

On Wednesday, July 30, 1980, at 9:30 a.m., an outburst of coal accident occurred in the face area of the crosscut being driven from No. 4 slope to No. 5 slope of the slope section. No personal injury or apparent damage to machinery was suffered. The accident occurred because of the tremendous pressure on the coal as a result of up to 2500 feet of overburden.

**SECTION F - MINE ORGANIZATION**

Company officials:	Name	Address
19. President:	<u>John A. Reeves, Sr.</u>	<u>P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623</u>
20. Superintendent:	<u>Max Wareham</u>	<u>P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623</u>
21. Safety Director:	<u>Ron Henderson</u>	<u>P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623</u>
22. Principle officer—H&S:	<u>Max Wareham</u>	<u>P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623</u>
23. Labor Organization:	<u>Redstone Workers Association, 0526 Hwy. 133, Carbondale, CO 81623</u>	
24. Chairman—H&S Committee:	<u>Richard Lane, 0526 Hwy. 133, Carbondale, CO 81623</u>	

### Commentary

On Wednesday, July 30, 1980, the slope section (001) crew under the supervision of Elmer Smallwood, mine foreman, entered the mine about 7:00 a.m. via manhoist. Prior to energizing electrical equipment, examinations for methane were conducted in the working places. Coal production was begun at 8:15 a.m. in the lower portion of the face of the crosscut being driven from No. 4 slope to No. 5 slope. About 9:00 a.m., a small coal bounce occurred in this face which resulted in mining activities being stopped to dilute about 1.2 per cent of methane. After the methane was diluted, production resumed. The continuous mining machine was moved to the upper portion of the face of the crosscut. While loading the third shuttle car of coal from this side of the face, the outburst occurred. The coal was displaced from the uphill rib of the crosscut, pushed the continuous mining machine against the downhill rib, covered the entire continuous mining machine except for 8 feet of the boom. The electrical power was shut off and the men were removed to an area outby the section loading point. The writer was at the mine to conduct a Spot Inspection when the outburst occurred. The investigation was begun immediately.

### Discussion and Evaluation

The investigation revealed the following factors relevant to the occurrence of the outburst of coal:

1. The face of the crosscut was about 40 feet inby the centerline of No. 4 slope.
2. Ventilation was affected.
3. The outburst originated in the uphill rib and upper corner of the crosscut.
4. The outburst extended for about 33 feet outby the face.
5. There was coal displaced from the ribs for 300 feet northward and 300 feet westward (outby).
6. The continuous mining machine was being operated by remote (cable) control.
7. No personal injury was suffered. The continuous mining machine was covered with coal except for about 8 feet of the boom.

Findings of Fact

The investigation did not reveal any violations of Title 30 CFR that contributed to the occurrence of the accident.

Conclusion

The outburst occurred while extracting coal from a solid face.

Respectfully submitted,

*Phillip R. Gibson, Jr.*

Phillip R. Gibson, Jr.

Approved by:

*Jensen L. Bishop*  
Jensen L. Bishop  
Subdistrict Manager

APPENDIX

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

Mid-Continent Resources, Inc. Officials

Max Wareham  
Elmer Smallwood  
M. J. Turnipseed

Superintendent  
Mine Foreman  
Manager of Mines

Mid-Continent Resources, Inc. Employees

Henry Gray

Representative of Miners  
Redstone Workers Association

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Phillip R. Gibson, Jr.

Coal Mine Inspector