



*J. F. McManus*

• August 7, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: J. F. McMANUS  
Subdistrict Manager, Richlands

FROM: S. E. GASPERSICH *SEH*  
Coal Mine Safety Specialist

SUBJECT: Report of Investigation of Coal Outburst, Beatrice Mine,  
Beatrice Pocahontas Company, Keen Mountain, Buchanan  
County, Virginia, July 21, 1980

Information relayed from J. F. McManus, Subdistrict Manager, Richlands, Virginia, was received by the writer about 8:15 a.m., July 22, 1980, concerning a coal outburst that occurred in No. 4 plow section (No. 3 development No. 2 north) of the subject mine and an investigation was made the same day. The outburst was discerned when the "owl" shift arrived in the section after midnight, July 22, 1980. The last day the mine worked was July 19, 1980, and it could not be determined when the outburst occurred.

The outburst occurred along the tailgate entry chain pillar immediately outby survey station No. 10833. Due to the presence of a swag in conjunction with changes in coal thickness, the ribs of three chain pillars were blasted previously where resistance to heaving was apparent outby the retreating longwall face. Heaving floor continued along the next chain pillar in combination with adverse roof conditions and blasting was suspended. Fractured and heaved floor continued for more than 400 feet outby the pillar outburst and additional strong outbursts are not likely. The overburden based on coalbed elevations and topographic map data is about 2,190 feet thick over the outburst area. Periodic visits will be made to detect any changes in physical conditions as mining progresses and to use counter measures where conditions conducive to outbursts develop.

Attachment:  
Sketch of outburst area

cc: H. H. Potter

RECEIVED

AUG 11 1980

M. E. S. A.

Richlands, Virginia 24641

2800 NO. 76

2900

Coal Ribs Blasted 3000

3100

3200

3300

3400

3500

3600

Heaved Floor

13

COAL OUTBURST  
BEATRICE MINE

BEATRICE POCAHONTAS COMPANY

KEEN MOUNTAIN, BUCHANAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA

July 21, 1980

Scale 1" = 100'

