§ 57.6605 Isolation of blasting circuits.

Lead wires and blasting lines shall be isolated and insulated from power conductors, pipelines, and railroad tracks, and shall be protected from sources of stray or static electricity. Blasting circuits shall be protected from any contact between firing lines and overhead powerlines which could result from the force of a blast.

§ 57.6605 Isolation of blasting circuits.

from the blast area or to a safe location; or

(b) Underground electrical blasting operations that are capable of being initiated by lightning shall be suspended and all persons withdrawn from the blast area or to a safe location.

§ 57.6605 Isolation of blasting circuits.

Lead wires and blasting lines shall be isolated and insulated from power conductors, pipelines, and railroad tracks, and shall be protected from sources of stray or static electricity. Blasting circuits shall be protected from any contact between firing lines and overhead powerlines which could result from the force of a blast.

§ 57.6700 Nonsparking tools.

Only nonsparking tools shall be used to open containers of explosive material or to punch holes in explosive cartridges.

§ 57.6701 Tamping and loading pole requirements.

Tamping and loading poles shall be of wood or other nonconductive, non-sparking material. Couplings for poles shall be nonsparking.

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§ 57.6902 Excessive temperatures.
(a) Where heat could cause premature detonation, explosive material shall not be loaded into hot areas, such as kilns or sprung holes.
(b) When blasting sulfide ores where hot holes occur that may react with explosive material in blastholes, operators shall—
(1) Measure an appropriate number of blasthole temperatures in order to assess the specific mine conditions prior to the introduction of explosive material;
(2) Limit the time between the completion of loading and the initiation of the blast to no more than 12 hours; and
(3) Take other special precautions to address the specific conditions at the mine to prevent premature detonation.
§ 57.6903 Burning explosive material.
If explosive material is suspected of burning at the blast site, persons shall be evacuated from the endangered area and shall not return for at least one hour after the burning or suspected burning has stopped.
§ 57.6904 Smoking and open flames.
Smoking and use of open flames shall not be permitted within 50 feet of explosive material except when separated by permanent noncombustible barriers. This standard does not apply to devices designed to ignite safety fuse or to heating devices which do not create a fire or explosion hazard.
§ 57.6905 Protection of explosive material.
(a) Explosive material shall be protected from temperatures in excess of 150 degrees Fahrenheit.
(b) Explosive material shall be protected from impact, except for tamping and dropping during loading.
§ 57.7005 General requirements—underground only
§ 57.6960 Mixing of explosive material. (a) The mixing of ingredients to produce explosive material shall not be conducted underground unless prior approval of the MSHA district manager is obtained. In granting or withholding approval, the district manager shall consider the potential hazards created by—
(1) The location of the stored material and the storage practices used;
(2) The transportation and use of the explosive material;
(3) The nature of the explosive material, including its sensitivity;
(4) Any other factor deemed relevant to the safety of miners potentially exposed to the hazards associated with the mixing of the bulk explosive material underground.
(b) Storage facilities for the ingredients to be mixed shall provide drainage away from the facilities for leaks and spills.