DIVISIONS
ENERGY
GAS AND OIL
MINED LAND RECLAMATION
MINERAL MINING
MINERAL RESOURCES
MINES
ADMINISTRATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy
P.O. Drawer 900
Big Stone Gap, Virginia 24219-0900
(276) 523-8100
FAX (276) 523-8148

MEMORANDUM DM 10-02

TO: All Coal Mine Operators

FROM: *Frank A. Linkous*
Frank A. Linkous, Chief Division of Mines

SUBJECT: Nineteenth Annual Virginia Coal Mine Safety Awards

DATE: February 3, 2010

The Virginia Coal Mine Safety Board and Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy are now accepting applications for the 2009 Virginia Coal Mine Safety Awards. Applications may be submitted for the following categories:

- Large Underground Mine
- Small Underground Mine
- Large Surface Operation
- Small Surface Operation
- Special Safety Award (recognizing the efforts of an individual or group)

Surface operations may include strip, auger, preparation plant, construction crew, and similar operations. Special safety awards will be considered for consecutive years without a lost time injury by individuals or operations, or other outstanding individual achievements in promoting mine safety.

Applications and a listing of eligibility criteria are enclosed for your information. **You must apply and meet minimum requirements to be considered for an award.** Applications will be accepted thru **March 31, 2010**. Applications can be hand delivered, e-mailed to becky.moore@dmme.virginia.gov or mailed to the attention of Becky Moore at the Division of Mines' offices in Big Stone Gap (P.O. Drawer 900, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219) or Lebanon (P.O. Drawer 159, Lebanon, VA 24266).

The Virginia Coal Mine Safety Awards publicly recognize outstanding safety achievements in the state's coal mining industry. We would like to see Virginia mine operators and employees receive the recognition they deserve for their mine safety achievements, and we encourage you to submit an application for consideration.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact any Division of Mines representative or call me at (276) 523-8226. Thank you.

rlm
Enclosures (3)

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION
Application For Consideration

NOTE: Please give complete information, including occupations(s) of individual and the total number of years without a lost time injury.

Name and Occupation of Miner recommended for award:

_____

Last four (4) digits of Social Security No. _____

Name of Employer: _____

Address: _____

Virginia Mine Index No. _____ **MSHA I.D. No.** _____

Individual Categories: (Indicate One)

[ ] **Individual working 40+ Years or longer without a lost time injury**

[ ] **Individual working 30 Years or longer without a lost time injury**

[ ] **Individual working 20 Years or longer without a lost time injury**

[ ] **Individual working 10 Years or longer without a lost time injury**

[ ] **An underground mine working five consecutive years without a lost time injury; all miners will be recognized with a plaque.**

[ ] **A surface operation working ten consecutive years without a lost time injury; all miners will be recognized with a plaque.**

NOTE: Individuals may receive only one safety award within each category

Period of time worked by miner. (Give dates and locations worked and account for required time within category applied for.)

_____

_____

_____

Person Completing Application _____
Signature

_____
Title

_____
Date

_____
Telephone

Application Deadline
March 31, 2010

VIRGINIA COAL MINE SAFETY AWARD

Application For Consideration

Calendar Year _____

Category (Indicate One):

☐ **Large Underground** ☐ **Large Surface**

☐ **Small Underground** ☐ **Small Surface**

Company Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Name or Number of Mine, Unit, Crew, etc. _____

Virginia Mine Index No. _____ **MSHA I.D. No.** _____

Average Number of Employees During Year: _____

Total Employee-hours Worked (Do Not Include Clerical or Office Workers): _____

Number of Days Worked During Year: _____

Number of Lost Time Accidents: _____ **NFDL Rate:** _____

****

I hereby certify that the information submitted on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Person Completing Application _____

Signature

_____

Title

_____

Date

Application Deadline
March 31, 2010

_____

Telephone

VIRGINIA COAL MINE SAFETY AWARD CRITERIA

Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy
Virginia Coal Mine Safety Board

Large Underground Mine Category

- **Eligibility Range:** 100,001 + employee-hours for the calendar year
- **Minimum Requirements:** 100,001 employee-hours for the calendar year

Small Underground Mine Category

- **Eligibility Range:** Up to 100,000 employee-hours for the calendar year
- **Minimum Requirements:** 20,000 employee-hours for the calendar year

Large Surface Category (Strip, Auger, Prep. Plant, Construction Crew, etc.)

- **Eligibility Range:** 50,000 + employee-hours for the calendar year
- **Minimum Requirements:** 50,000 employee-hours for the calendar year

Small Surface Category (Strip, Auger, Prep. Plant, Construction Crew, etc.)

- **Eligibility Range:** Up to 50,000 employee-hours for the calendar year
- **Minimum Requirements:** 10,000 employee-hours for the calendar year

Individual Categories

Individual Virginia Miners who have outstanding safety performance may be nominated for awards by the Board.

- **Individuals** working 20+ years without a lost time injury will receive a plaque.
- **Individuals** working 10 years or longer without a lost time injury will receive a framed certificate.
- **An underground mine** working five consecutive years without lost time injury, **all** miners will be recognized with a plaque.
- **A surface operation** working ten years without a lost time injury, **all** miners will be recognized with a plaque.

NOTE: Individuals may receive only one safety award within each category.

All Applicants Must Meet The Following Requirements

- Employee-hours should not include clerical and office work
- Minimum of 180 days worked during calendar year
- Must have a Virginia Mine Index Number and/or MSHA I.D. Number

After review by the Virginia Coal Mine Safety Board, the mine/operation having the highest number of employee-hours, with zero (0) lost time accidents in each category, will receive the Mine Safety Award. Any other mines which meet the minimum requirements in their category and have zero (0) lost time accidents will be given Certificate Awards.

If no mine which meets the minimum requirements for consideration has zero (0) lost time accidents during the calendar year, an Award will be given to the mine having the lowest NFDL Rate for the calendar year in that category.

A responsible individual with the mine will be required to sign an affidavit stating that the submitted information is true and correct. MSHA and DM accident files will be reviewed by the Board prior to selection of the award winners.