

(b) Where the practice is to seal abandoned workings, the sealing shall be done in a substantial manner with incombustible material. In every sealed area, one or more of the seals shall be fitted with a pipe and cap or valve to permit the gases behind the seals to be sampled and also to provide a means of determining any existing hydrostatic pressure.

(c) In gassy mines air that has passed through or by abandoned sections or that has been used to ventilate pillar lines shall not be reused to ventilate live face workings. Mines that cannot comply with this requirement may continue to operate as at present until future mine development and ventilation can be changed to permit compliance with this Section.

104D. Examinations for Gas and Dangerous Conditions

(a) Not less than two permissible flame safety lamps in proper working condition shall be kept available at each mine for the use of authorized persons. Only permissible flame safety lamps, permissible methane detectors, or air sampling and analysis shall be used for determining the presence of methane in mine air.

(b) In gassy mines, mine officials whose regular duties require them to inspect working places shall have in their possession when underground, a permissible flame safety lamp in safe working condition, for the detection of methane and oxygen deficiency.

(c) Fire bosses shall make examinations of all mines before other men are permitted to enter, and they shall begin their examination in the first working place in their assigned territory not more than 4 hours before the first shift enters the mine; however, such examinations in multiple-shift operations may be made by certified officials or other competent persons designated by the mine foreman within 4 hours of the entrance of the next or succeeding shift, provided that in mines in which gas has not been found, such examination need be made only before the first shift enters the mine.

(d) The duties of the fire boss shall be to visit every live working place in the mine; test with a permissible flame safety lamp for methane, noxious gases, and oxygen deficiency; examine seals and doors, test and inspect the roof, face, and rib conditions on active roadways and travelways, approaches to abandoned workings, examine accessible falls in active sections for explosive gas and other hazards; be certain that the air is traveling in its regular