

4. Boreholes shall be cleaned and checked to see that they are placed properly and are of correct depth, in relation to the cut, before being charged.

5. To prevent blow-throughs, all portions of the boreholes where the height of the coal permits, shall have a burden in all directions of at least 18 inches before being fired.

6. Boreholes shall be stemmed with at least 24 inches of incombustible material, or at least one-half of the length of the hole shall be stemmed if the hole is less than 4 feet in depth.

7. In gassy mines examinations for gas shall be made immediately before and after firing each shot where on-shift shooting is done.

(b) Charges exceeding 1½ pounds, but not exceeding 3 pounds, shall be used only if boreholes are 6 feet or more in depth, and explosives are charged in a continuous train, with no cartridges deliberately deformed or crushed, with all cartridges in contact with each other, and with the end cartridges touching the back of the hole and the stemming respectively, and Class A or Class B permissible explosives are used, provided that the 3-pound limit shall not apply to solid rock work such as solid rock tunnels etc.

(c) Shots shall be fired by certified shot firers in mines using coal-cutting equipment. The shot firer shall comply with the requirements of this Act pertaining to blasting. In mines where charging or shooting is done on shift, each shot or each group of simultaneous shots shall be fired immediately after it is charged.

(d) Only wooden tamping bars shall be used when charging holes. Leg wires of electric detonators shall be kept shunted or the ends twisted together until ready to connect to the firing cable. Shots shall not be fired from the power or signal circuit while any men are in the mine.

(e) Roof and faces of working places shall be tested before and after blasting.

(f) Ample warning shall be given before shots are fired, and care shall be taken to ascertain that all persons are in the clear. Men shall be removed from adjoining working places when there is danger of a shot blowing through.

(g) Adobe (mudcap) or other open, unconfined shots shall not be fired in any mine.