

other obstruction. They shall be provided at switch throws, except where more than [six] 6 feet of clearance are maintained and at room switches. A shelter hole at least [ten] 10 feet deep, [four] 4 feet wide, and [six] 6 feet high shall be provided at each landing of a slope where men are passing and cars are handled.

7-422.

(a) A man trip shall be operated at a safe speed consistent with the condition of the road and type of equipment used. The speed may not exceed [six] 6 miles per hour.

(i) If belts are used to transport workers, a minimum clearance of 18 inches shall be maintained between the belt and the roof or crossbars, projecting equipment, cap pieces, overhead cables, wiring, and other objects. However, where the height of the coal bed permits, the clearance may not be less than 24 inches. The belt speed may not exceed 250 feet per minute while workers are loading, unloading, or being transported. The space between any two workers riding on a belt line shall not be less than [five] 5 feet. Loading and unloading stations shall be illuminated properly.

7-425.

(c) Blower fans with tubing used in gassy mines shall be surrounded with the following safeguards:

(1) The fan shall be powered with a permissible driving unit and installed on the intake air side of the entrance of the place to be ventilated not less than 16 feet from the nearest rib;

(2) The volume of air in which the fan is placed shall be at least [two] 2 and one-half times the manufacturer's maximum rated capacity of the fan;

(3) The fan and tubing shall be maintained in good condition. The discharge end of the tubing shall be kept within 35 feet of the face, and not more than 300 feet of the tubing shall be extended from the fan;

(4) A certified official or other competent person designated by the mine foreman shall examine for methane in places ventilated by means of a blower fan before the fan is started at the beginning of the shift and after the interruption of fan operation for five minutes or more during the shift;

(5) Accumulations of methane may not be moved by a blower fan and tubing; only line brattice shall be used