

[7-406.

For purposes of ventilation, the operator of any mine shall see that proper break-throughs are made between entries or in room pillars, at a distance apart of not more than 35 yards, nor less than 16 yards, as the district mine inspector by written safety order requires.]

[7-407.

(a) There shall be at least two travelable passageways, designated as escapeways, from each working section to the surface, whether the mine openings are shafts, slopes, or drifts. They shall be kept in safe condition for travel and reasonably free from standing water and other obstructions. One of the designated escapeways may be the haulage road, provided, that one of the escapeways is ventilated with intake air.

(b) If a designated escapeway is a shaft:

(1) It shall be equipped with hoist and cage, or with travelable stairways or ladders. A shaft sunk more than 30 feet deep may not be equipped with ladders.

(2) Stairways shall be of substantial construction, set at an angle not greater than 45° from the horizontal and equipped on at least one side with a suitable handrail. Landing platforms shall be at least 2 feet wide and 4 feet long and railed properly.

(3) Ladders shall be anchored securely.

(4) If ladders, or stairways are installed in an angle greater than 45°, their use may be continued provided they are of substantial construction, with platforms at intervals of not more than 30 feet and equipped with a handrail in the case of stairways. If a designated escapeway is a slope of not more than 45°, it shall be equipped with a stairway or adequate walkway with cleats. If the slope is more than 45°, stairways shall be installed. Direction signs shall be posted conspicuously to indicate mainways and designated escapeways.]

[7-408.

(a) Minimum standards for systematic timbering suitable to the roof conditions and mining system of each mine shall be adopted by the Bureau and complied with by workers and officials. Additional timbering shall be done wherever necessary to afford adequate protection.

(b) (1) At or near the face workings of each mine, the management shall provide an ample supply of timber and cap pieces or wedges of proper size with which to timber any working place in a safe manner.

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