

(4) Procedure When Fan in Gassy Mine Stops. If the main fan of a gassy mine fails or stops, immediate action shall be taken to cut off the power and withdraw the men from the face region of the mine. If ventilation is restored in a reasonable time, a certified or capable supervisor shall reexamine the face region and any other place methane is likely to accumulate. If the region is found free from explosive gas, power may be restored and work resumed. If ventilation is not restored in a reasonable time, every underground employee shall be removed from the mine.

(5) Protection From Fires. Main fan installations shall be protected from wood fire, grass fire, and rubbish for at least 100 feet in any direction from the fan installation if physical conditions permit.

(6) Daily Inspection and Record Thereof. The fan shall be inspected daily and a record kept of the inspection. The record is open for examination by any interested person.

(7) When Operated. A main mine fan shall be operated continuously except if the mine is shut down with all workers out of the mine. After the fan has been started, the mine shall be examined for gas and other hazards and made safe before workers, other than the examiners, are permitted in the mine.

(b) The installation of booster fans is not permitted, unless the director of the bureau finds that the installation is necessary for the safe operation and proper ventilation of the mine, that it would not materially increase the hazard of the mine, and that the conditions and safeguards he may prescribe will be complied with. In mines where booster fans are being used, their use may be continued, but they shall be surrounded with the following safeguards:

(1) The fan motor shall be an enclosed type, the surroundings of the fan fireproofed, and the fan installed and located to prevent recirculation of air;

(2) Passageway by the fan installation shall be by means of an air lock, with doors having at least a 30 square feet cross-sectional area and opening automatically when the fan stops operating;

(3) Inspection at least twice each shift and provision of a signal light, audible signal, or constant attendance.

In case of booster fan stoppage, the procedure contained in this subtitle with respect to stoppage of main fans applies to the section of the mine affected.

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

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