

(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 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 for this purpose; and

(6) The fan and tubing shall be inspected at least twice during each working shift.

(d) (1) In General. The main intake air current shall be divided into splits utilizing air crossings, where needed, to ventilate effectively any part of the mine. The number of workers on a split shall be limited to 75. The quantity of air reaching the last open crosscut in any pair or set of entries shall not be less than 6,000 cubic feet a minute. However, the quantity of air reaching the last open crosscut in any pair or set of entries in pillar sections may be less than 6,000 cubic feet a minute, if at least 6,000 cubic feet of air a minute is being delivered to the intake end of the pillar line. Mines operating without the prescribed quantity of air in the last open crosscut of each pair or set of entries, on July 1, 1973, may continue to operate in this manner, but prompt action shall be taken to deliver the required amount of air in the last open crosscuts of each pair or set of entries in the mine.

(2) Dilution of Smoke. The air current at every working face shall have a sufficient volume and velocity to dilute and carry away smoke from blasting and any flammable or harmful gas.

(3) Measurement. At least once each week, the mine foreman, his assistants, or another competent person designated by the mine foreman, shall measure the volume of air near the main intake or main return, the amount passing through the last open crosscuts of entries, and the volume of air in each split. A record of these measurements shall